

LARCHMONT TEMPLE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

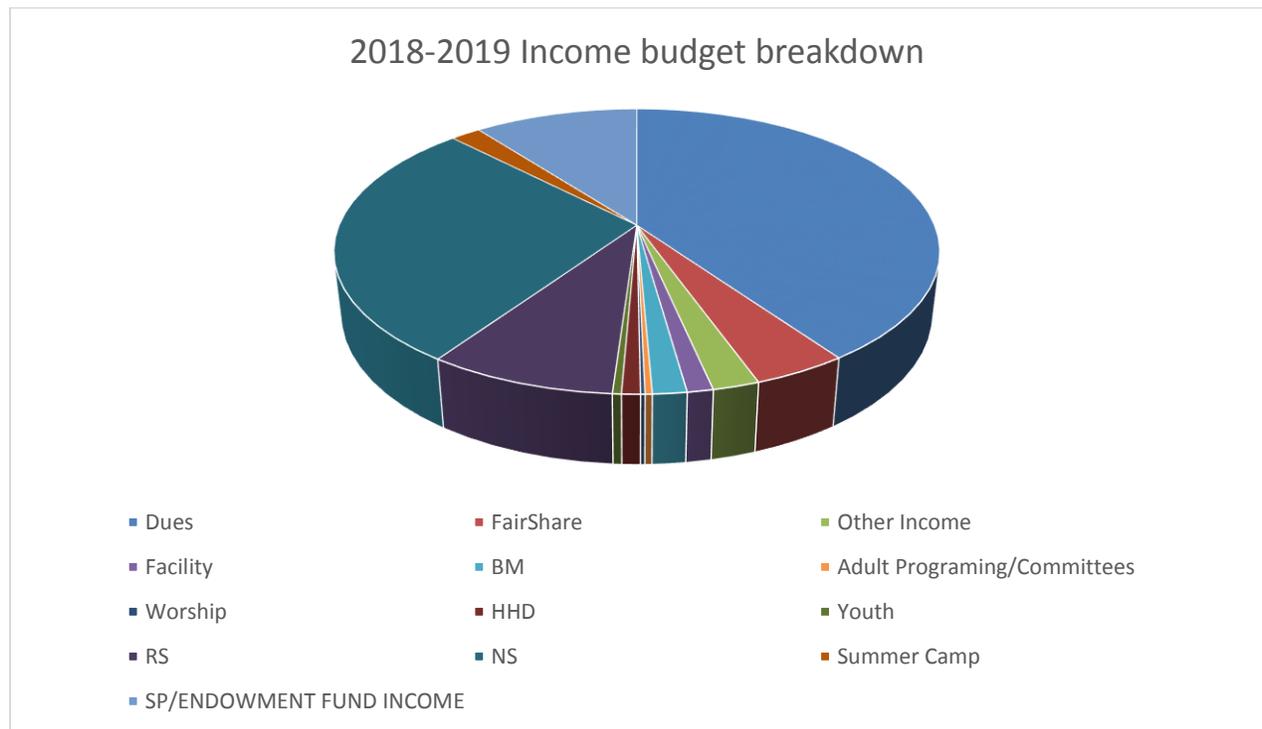
As of May 2018, we are a congregation of 815 membership units. 42 new families joined our Temple since last July while 46 families have departed. Counting children, who are included in family memberships, we serve approximately 3000 individuals.

This year Religious School enrollment was 407, ranging from 23 in our Kindergarten to 57 in 7th grade, from 18 in Confirmation to 20 in Post-Confirmation.

The Nursery School enrolled 147 children. Of these children, 52 are members of Larchmont Temple.

For the Temple's fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the Temple's operating budget was approximately \$4.4 million. We project to end the year with a nice surplus.

For the 2018-2019 budget Fully 74% of the expense budget is related to personnel and fringe benefits (such as social security, pension, health insurance etc.) Certain increases are inevitable to account for cost-of-living increases and, where warranted, merit pay raises. The Temple is projected to spend an additional 26% on non- personnel related expenses. We are grateful that our Dues support 40% of our budget, our Yom Kippur/Fair Share Appeal funds approx. 4% of our budget (The 5778 Appeal raised \$172,000 from donors), our Endowment, Rungs of Vision and Torah Umadah supports 10% of our budget, Religious School supports 9%, and lastly Nursery School and Summer Camp support 30% of our budget.



Including all worship services—Tot Shabbats, Kabbalat Shabbats, holidays, festivals, etc.—we conducted over 150 worship services in the current fiscal year. We celebrated 54 of our children as they became B'nei Mitzvah; Rabbis Sirkman and Miller and Cantor Scher performed 15 weddings of congregants or congregants' families, 7 baby namings, 1 conversion and, sadly, they officiated at 31 funerals.

Updates from Cantor Tracey Scher

Shalom Corps – filled most of the Friday night slots. Having a “new member” Shalom Corps training in early June for several more people from Cornerstone and our Board who will join the team. We are looking at varied types of events for next year to particularly welcome our new member families.

LT Arts – changed the mode this year to keep with the theme of celebrating our 70th with celebration. We had a community wide youth choral concert this year which was a huge success and which we will continue next year at another Temple. Next years calendar is already set with several exciting programs happening, some of which is in tandem with our theme of living Jewish Time. Look for your program flyer in late August!

Music at LT – we are working hard to engage more kids to LT through our music program...several teens are now singing on a regular basis. The youth choir has grown to 14 kids in 2 years. We have engaged three new song leading madrichim for next year's RS program. We have a thriving band, youth choir and opportunities for our teens to sing as well. **NEW SCREENS** – made a huge difference – They have been used for Shabbat Services, programming such as Purim, and Religious school t'fillah.

House Committee oversees buildings and grounds **Submitted by Bob Goodman, House Committee Chair**

The House Committee takes care of the buildings, grounds and the capital assets of the temple and the rabbi's house. The committee put together a long-term, mid-term and short-term list to follow and update annually. This year we completed three energy efficiency projects: We replaced the HVAC units for the sanctuary and social hall. This was a big job necessitating a crane to remove the old units and install new units. We also added a new heat zone for the first floor and we replaced the electric bulbs with LED bulbs in many places in the temple building.

In addition we accomplished many maintenance items including repairing and painting the wooden window frames around the building, repairing the Blum Building roof, repairing the doors and outdoor steps leading up to the sanctuary, repairing the roof at Rabbi Sirkman's home and adding many new signs.

Zero Waste at LT

We continue moving our building to zero waste and held 3 successful events, the Purim Carnival, the April Brotherhood Breakfast and the JOES Small Group Dinner. We used

compostable serve ware and generated several large bags of compost that were delivered to the Larchmont Compost Center.

We have now added compostable bins in the Nursery School classrooms and are excited to educate the little ones about composting and recycling.

We will be adding bins labeled “Compost” around the building this summer. They are for the disposal of all food scraps and compostable serve ware. We will eventually be replacing our paper goods with plates and cups that are compostable. They are made of plants and when disposed off in a commercial composting facility, turns into compost in 3 months - nutrient-rich soil that can be added to help grow crops and plants.

Watch for more on our zero-waste project in the fall.

Security Committee Update

A Security Team was reestablished this year to review our current policies in place and discuss any future possible changes recommended as well as improvements needed to our building. Our Emergency Procedure document was reviewed and updated, New locks were installed in our offices and classroom doors to provide the ability to lock the doors from inside in situations of lock down, funds have been added to the budget to increase hours of security personnel in the next program year. The members of the committee are Dan Karson, Gary Kaplan, Jen Prussin, Ed Jacobson, Ben Zoffness, Jeff Wang, Rabbi Eve Rudin and Jane Sable-Friedman.

LT Connects Small Groups Report

Our second year of small groups built on last year’s successes and lessons learned, resulting in a broader and deeper impact! We had 22 groups: some brand new, some continuing for a second year together, and some continuing with open spots for new people. Altogether, almost 250 people participated, and the group experience has indeed strengthened our connections to each other, to Judaism, and to Larchmont Temple. Our end-of-year survey is now collecting people’s reflections and inviting them to assess their personal experience, and we have already received some wonderful testimonials.

- I love most the deep sense of community we have developed, the comfort we feel in sharing memories and moments that have transformed us in some way. There is no judgment -- just trust and encouragement.
- Leading a small group has been wonderful, not only because it has given me an opportunity to explore an interesting topic, but also because it provided me with a connection to a new group of people in a meaningful and purposeful way. It has opened my mind and my heart and ultimately brought me back to the temple as a source for growth, exploration and community.

- This small group experience has deepened my connection to LT in a significant way. The sense of intimacy and community it fosters while furthering my understanding of Jewish life and values has been incredibly fulfilling.
- I love the LT small groups - they've allowed me to get to know and connect with other like-minded people who are culturally very Jewish like I am, but not necessarily religiously observant, in a way that would never have happened at Services alone. And for our hiking group at least, it's in an environment that is often spiritual in a way that only nature can confer.
- Being in a small group has definitely made me feel more connected to LT. Getting to know some people with similar interests has solidified the sense that this is a place we belong.

Our big learning from this year's slate of small groups with even wider ranging interests and activities is that what makes these groups Jewish groups is not necessarily WHAT they do but HOW they operate. The inner workings – the souls of the groups – involve a brit (group covenant), ritualized meetings, relational questions that foster dialogue, and true listening to one another. There is great potential in this model that supports relationship building through intimate, repeat encounters, and shared ownership. Along these lines, we have begun to pilot small groups for parents and children as a potential pathway for Jewish learning. Thank you everyone for your continued support of this new approach, and for sharing your ideas for small groups that you would want to lead or join! We are definitely growing bigger by thinking smaller.

Cornerstone

Submitted by Mark Oster

Larchmont Temple depends on talented, enthusiastic, and dedicated members to fulfill its mission to advance Jewish life and Jewish values for our families and our community. Larchmont Temple has a leadership development program that is called Cornerstone to acknowledge that our volunteers and leaders form the foundation upon which the Temple Community rests, supporting our covenantal pillars of Torah (study), Avodah (prayer), and Gemilut Chasadim (acts of loving kindness). This year saw the fourth cohort of congregants complete a year-long, small group program which is spearheaded by the Leadership Development Committee and is attended by Rabbi Sirkman and the Temple President. We now have 68 Cornerstone graduates who have been added to the reservoir of current and potential future leaders of Larchmont Temple, finding personal fulfillment in a deeper level of engagement across many activities as they help LT to become an ever more successful institution.

LT Cares:

Submitted by Carolyn Kamlet

We met approximately monthly to discuss the areas of mourning, care giving and visiting with our members in need. Attendance was inconsistent, so we plan to re-envision our plans for next year.

New Member Committee

Submitted by Co-chairs Deborah Novick and Alyssa Goldberg

On Rosh Hashanah morning, we gave welcome bags to all new members, containing a round challah, Shabbat candlesticks, a small bottle of kosher wine, and a welcome letter. Those new members who weren't able to collect those welcome bags from us during services, had their welcome bags hand delivered to their homes the following week.

Then on Sunday October 22, we hosted a bagel brunch (schmooze and schmear) for all new members to get to know each other and learn about the various ways they could become involved in congregational life. Leaders of various activities from LT were there to speak about their efforts and invite people to become involved. Several families reported to us that they enjoyed it so much, they were hosting follow-up family Shabbat dinners.

In late January we invited all new members from the last two years to a havdalah gathering at the home of Cantor Scher. It was very well attended and a warm fun event. We asked members to share why they had joined LT and most were so happy to speak about their spiritual journeys. A great group!

Our last event is upcoming on June 15, a new member pre-oneg Shabbat and Aliyah.

2017-2018 Nursery School Parent Association Report

Submitted by Wendy Sayles and Leah Leicht

The Nursery School Parent Association has had another busy and successful year. We continue to adjust our sponsored events and programs, while fine tuning the responsibilities of the Parent Association to best fit the needs of the school. In an effort to continue to engage more parents, we reworked several of the Committee positions in order to allow for larger sub-committees, with less of a time commitment, thus providing ample opportunities for parents to get involved.

Programs:

Green Initiatives and the LTNS Community Garden: This was the seventh year the Parent Association coordinated the Green Initiatives program to formally bring environmental awareness into the curriculum of the nursery school. The PA, together with the classrooms, maintains the LTNS community garden. The children continue to learn about composting, earth worms, planting and gardening, with attention paid to timing garden events to complement the curriculum at LTNS. The produce for the garden is enjoyed by the children at specific events, such as our annual Salad Day. The garden also serves as a focal point for the LTNS camp.

Mitzvah Program: This was the eleventh year the PA helped to coordinate a comprehensive Mitzvah Program. The School was involved in mitzvah projects including: making lunches for

Midnight Run, baking for the Larchmont/Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force Food Pantry, donating pajamas to The Pajama Program, and creating “birthday boxes” for children who would otherwise be unable to fund a birthday party. We also continued a senior reading/buddy program: LT members are invited to read to LTNS classes, supporting a sense of community.

Challah Program: Once again, the Parent Association ran a challah program for the nursery school. We sold challahs weekly and purchased the challahs used during shabbat in school.

Buddy Program: Prior to the start of the school year, every new family entering the School received a phone call from a PA member to welcome them and to answer any questions they might have. The new families always appreciate the chance to have their questions or concerns addressed and the opportunity to make a personal connection before the school year begins.

Caring Community: Largely through the help of class parents, the PA facilitates sending dinners to families with new babies, a sick or injured child, or those who are mourning a loss.

Donations to Nursery School: The Parent Association has gifted funds to each classroom so that the teachers can purchase additional materials, toys and supplies. The PA has also gifted funds to the school at large to facilitate staff development programs.

Newsletter: The Parent Association published two newsletters this year. Each contained updates on school activities, photographs, community information and relevant articles on topics such as child discipline, the Mitzvah and Garden curriculums, and resources for seeking outside support.

Four’s Tiles: As in previous years, we organized a program for all of our graduating 4’s students to decorate ceramic tiles which will be hung on the wall outside the classrooms.

Yearbooks: For the tenth year in a row, the Parent Association published the LTNS's annual yearbook. The yearbook includes class pictures, “interviews” with the 4’s and candid photos from all of our various events and activities. The yearbook documents the school year in a visually creative way as a keepsake for our children and families. The teachers will receive a copy of the yearbook as one of their gifts and a copy will be available to view in the Temple Library.

Events:

Opening Picnic: Our opening picnic in September was extremely well attended by both new and returning Nursery School families. This year each class was able to spend some quality time together while decorating a “Welcome” sign that was proudly displayed outside each classroom on the first day of school. Once again, the Parent Association purchased tote bags for each student to bring their belongings to and from school.

Class Get Togethers: For the tenth year, the PA asked a family from each class either host or arrange an evening for all of the parents in each class. These evenings were well attended.

Family Shabbats: The Parent Association, in coordination with Lisa, Mia, Rabbi Miller and Adam, organized monthly family Shabbats for LT's young families.

Cocktail Party: Our annual fall parents-only cocktail party/fundraiser was again a huge success! We had a great turnout and the event raised a large amount of funds. Most importantly, it helped foster community.

Art Fundraiser: This year the Parent Association hosted the third annual Art & Wine fundraiser. Lisa, Mia, and Katja (the school's art teacher) worked closely with the classes to produce two collaborative pieces of art per class for the auction.

Guest Speakers/Presentations: The PA facilitated a morning drop-in session with the School's consulting psychologist.

Wellness Night: This year, for the first time, two LTNS parents offered to pilot a "Wellness Night": parents were invited to a restorative yoga and reiki night; the event was a large success!

Concert: Matty Roxx, our nursery school music teacher, performed a winter concert. Many families enjoyed the music and we look forward to hosting more musical events next year.

Teacher Appreciation Potluck Luncheon: In one effort to thank our much-appreciated teachers, the Parent Association hosted a Potluck Luncheon during their Wednesday Staff meeting. This provided the opportunity for the members of the Parent Association and school community to put some heart and soul into making dishes for our wonderful teachers to enjoy.

End of Year Celebration: To celebrate the conclusion of another successful year, the families met for a picnic after the 4's moving up ceremony on Friday, June 9th. This final event of the school year brings our year of growth and community spirit full circle.

2017-18 End of Year Limud Noar Report
Submitted by Michele Metsch and Nicole Fiftal

2018-19 LTRS Recap

This year LTRS had 405 learners enrolled and is the second largest religious school in Westchester.

Phil Aarons successfully moved into the full-time educator position last summer and will continue in that role next year.

Before the year began, a full Spiral Curriculum was developed for the K-6 program along with individual grade curriculum guides.

K – 3

The K-3 Shabbat Family Program is a hit! About once a month, Rabbi Miller leads a short service geared to this age-group, followed by dinner, a story and an activity or craft facilitated by part-time teacher Shari Applebaum. Average attendance has been 25-35 learners.

Grades 4 – 7

The 5th and 6th grade curricula was completely rewritten by an outside consultant over the summer and the program has been well followed and received.

The 4th and 5th graders had their inaugural Retreat at Camp Eisner--33 learners attended--with very positive feedback.

The 6th Grade Discovery Program facilitated by Rabbi Miller has been a success with 16 families participating in two small groups. This program will be offered again next year with some tweaks for incoming 6th grade families. A 7th Grade Discovery Program will also be piloted next year as many of the current 6th grade families would like to continue. It will also be open to current 6th grade families that did not participate in the program this year.

Grades 8 -9: LTeen Connects

A new program was launched this year. The menu of activities was very varied. However, participation was low except for in 2 activities, Shevet Achim (a group for boys about values and identity development) and LTech Teens. A high school task force is reviewing the program. Most likely, activities will shift to weekly programs on Tuesday evenings with more focus on social activities and social action.

Grades 9 – 12:

Madrichim (includes Grade 8)

We had over 65 madrichim this year. Additional specialties were added to the madrichim program, including songleading, photography, art, Hebrew and administration. Changes were also made in the training and rules regarding cell phones, timeliness, absenteeism, etc. We hope to enrich this program with ongoing learning opportunities (during the Sunday time) next year.

Confirmation Grade 10

There are 18 confirmands this year studying with Rabbi Sirkman. This continues to be a popular and meaningful program.

LarFTY (Grades 9 – 12 Youth Group)

Highlights include: County-wide Chanukah Ball co-planned with WJC, February Ski Trip, March for Our Lives Trip to DC in March, SAVP's included in LT's Zero-Waste Initiative, and a successful Purim Carnival (first year LarFTY took responsibility for this program).

Grades 11 & 12

Rabbi Sirkman has 2 sets of "Diner Dialogues", where he meets weekly at the diner for dinner and a learning discussion. We also introduced two Spring "Packing for College" Programs. The first was a Zionism and Israel 101 session for learners and parents, and the second was an ADL program addressing BDS, anti-Zionism, anti-semitism and anti-Israel on college campuses for both learners and parents. We hope to expand upon the college-themed sessions next year.

Additional Pilots/Changes for 2018-19

We are planning to pilot a new camp-style program for the entire 2nd grade next year. Our goal is to create a more experiential and activity-based program, centered on small group communities.

Expanding upon some optional family discussions with Rabbi Rudin this year, we would like to create 2-4 “Family Programs” during regular LTRS hours so that parents have the opportunity to interact and experience being Jewish with their children.

We are also currently in discussions about K/1 or 2nd grade alternative model for next year akin to the successful 6th Grade Discovery Program that was piloted this year. The decision to pilot a family-centered program in a younger grade next year will depend on several factors, including family interest, staffing and costs.

Limud Noar

Michele Metsch and Nicole Fiftal took over as co-chairs of Limud Noar at the beginning of the year and will continue next year, along with a core group of new and familiar faces with children of all ages.

One of our focuses this year, which we hope to greatly expand upon next year, is community-building and parent engagement. Piggybacking on Cantor Scher’s Ambassador Program, we would like to create “buddies” for new families at LTRS. We will also be instituting “grade parents” to represent at least each grade K-6 at LTRS. These parents can help answer simple questions that often go to Rabbi Rudin and facilitate grade-wide parent social opportunities. We are hoping to organize an overall LTRS parent social event to welcome everyone back in September. Alongside Rabbi Rudin, we hope to create Family Programs previously mentioned that will allow parents to learn and engage alongside their children during regular LTRS hours.

Our second focus this year has been engaging students in Tikkun Olam as part of their regular program at LTRS. This year’s successes include Pajamakah Chanukah and March Mitzvah Madness. Pajamakah Chanukah was our annual Chanukah celebration but students were encouraged to wear pajamas to LTRS and bring a new pair of pajamas to donate to the Pajama Program. March Mitzvah Madness took the excitement of March Madness and put a very kind spin on it. The month was introduced by parents with a story and discussion of the importance of mitzvot. Students then participated in several mitzvah activities throughout the month. We will also be providing a summer mitzvah calendar to keep LTRS on everyone’s refrigerator over the summer. We are looking forward to partnering more with the Social Action Committee next year to create more opportunities for social action within the classroom.

Ritual Committee

Submitted by Yvette Goorevitch, Committee Chair –

The Ritual Committee continues to meet the first Monday of the month. The Committee welcomed two new members. We continue to focus on the aspects of ritual life in our sacred community. We provide organization along with the Board of Trustees and our Brothers on Brotherhood for greater responsibilities during Shabbat services throughout the year. In order to assist clergy to enhance the workshop services, we continued to review the physical status of the prayer books and make recommendations for return and repair. This year the Ritual Committee is recommending that upon return of damaged Prayerbooks, they be replaced with Mishkan for

Shabbat, a thinner more comfortable book to hold. The fuller Mishkan will continue to be available for Festivals. Members of the committee served as scouts visiting other congregations to bring back discussions and recommendations for improved practices.

The committee organized the Elul daily electronic note to the congregation to assist in preparing ourselves during the Days of Awe leading to the High Holidays. While the Counting the Omer listserv took a vacation this year, we hope to hear from you if you missed it. We are now preparing for the summer services. A few assignments are still available to provide you with the opportunity to join in the leadership of a summer service. A light dinner and training walk through is planned for Thursday, June 7, if you are curious. Join us, perhaps this is the summer you experience the wonderful feeling of helping to lead services and create sacred space.

Summer continues to be a busy time as we turn our attention to preparing the greeter assignments and organizing the Aliyah honors for the High Holiday services. If you are interested in learning more about our work, please call Yvette Goorevitch at 914 522 9662.

2017-18 Larchmont Temple Brotherhood Annual Report **Submitted by David Kahn, Brotherhood President**

Executive Summary

We entered the 2017-18 year with a new executive team but facing the challenges of lack of engagement of board members and declining attendance of breakfasts. Over the Summer of 2017, we met a couple of times to develop a strategy to address our challenges and affirm our commitment to Brotherhood. The result was a commitment to our core programs (Breakfasts, Yom HaShoah candle distribution and Blood Drive) and delivering those with excellence. I am proud to say that we accomplished exactly that and as a result, by all accounts, we had a very positive year culminating in 134 paid Brotherhood members and the appointment of four excellent new board members to help us build upon this momentum for the future.

Core Activities

Breakfasts

The Brotherhood's lox & bagel breakfasts are the foundation of our organization. Our goal is to provide content that is topical, relevant and compelling to the LT Community. This year's breakfasts enjoyed excellent attendance – averaging 70 guests per event – thanks to a very diverse programming line-up of strong speakers. Larry Gutterman led our programming efforts and Jon Birger led the “house” committee which assembles and serves the breakfasts.

October 15th: Joseph Lovett, Director of the film, “Children of the Inquisition”

The Director of the film and the producer, Hilary Steinman, spoke about their passion project, “Children of the Inquisition” and shared a 20 minute clip of the movie which is a documentary film, immersive website, and educational outreach project that unearths 500 years of hidden history. The project looks at what happened to the families forced to convert to Catholicism or flee during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions through the eyes of their contemporary descendants, many of whom are just discovering their often

nuanced Jewish roots. Our thanks to Brotherhood member, Bob Sadowsky, for connecting us to Hilary Steinman.

November 12th: Rabbi Larry Hoffman on The Secret of Jewish Spirituality

As part of the Fall Scholar in Residence program, we welcomed Rabbi Larry Hoffman, the foremost teacher of Ritual/Liturgy in our movement, who helped us explore our approach to spirituality, opening new ways for us to perceive our world.

December 10th: Alan Brill, Sr. Managing Director, Cyber Security & Investigations, Kroll N.A.

Mr. Brill spoke about the threat of cyber crime, from the basic “Internet of things” (your toaster and refrigerator) to state sponsored terrorism. Thanks to Brotherhood member, Dan Karson, for connecting us with Alan.

January 21st: Panel discussion – Anti-Semitism on Campus

Our own Jon Birger produced an excellent panel discussion which was skillfully moderated by Lee Perlman and attended by a dozen LT high school seniors in addition to our breakfast regulars. It featured Emily Shire, a Jewish journalist who writes frequently about about BDS, campus anti-semitism and the pressure young progressives feel to choose between supporting Israel and being included in progressive movements, along with Columbia University student Albert Mishaan, who is also the President of the Students for Israel organization on campus. This sparked a larger discussion in the LT community about how we are (or are not) preparing our students/children for these issues which they are likely to face at college.

February 11th: Michael Kimelman on his book, *Confessions of a Wall Street Insider*.

Convicted of insider trading in a controversial case during the 2008 financial crisis, Michael, an LT member, served 15 months in federal prison before being released. He candidly addressed what it was like to lose his firm, money, degrees, reputation and ultimately his liberty — and the life lessons he learned.

March 11th: Mark Podwal, artist, illustrator and doctor

Through numerous slides, Dr. Podwal chronicled both the development of his work and the amazing collaboration he had with Elie Wiesel. Dr Podwal described the arc of his artistic and intellectual development from simple line drawings to colorful paintings and pastels, to fabric works and tapestries. After the breakfast he signed copies of his book *Reimagined*. Cantor Scher made the excellent suggestion of featuring Dr. Podwal at a breakfast.

April 29th: Spring Scholar-In-Residence Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller

Cantor Schiller, who was a classmate of Rabbi Sirkman’s at HUC, is currently master-teacher of Cantors, Rabbis & Jewish Educators at Hebrew Union College. Cantor Schiller, whose music is an inspiration for the modern Reform movement, delighted breakfast-goers with her music and her storytelling. Sidebar: This was our first Zero-Waste breakfast which Jane Friedman spearheaded and was received well by our eco-aware attendees.

Yom Hashoah Candle Distribution

This was the 21st year that the Brotherhood has distributed these memorial candles to the entire LT membership. It was organized by Ian Spier and Jon Birger who were ably assisted by members of the Brotherhood Board, LARFTY board members and another 10 volunteers from the LT community following the March 11th breakfast.

Blood Drive

Despite a last-minute cancellation by the NY Blood Center, Marty Kanengiser reached out to his contacts at the American Red Cross (ARC) and they jumped in with both feet to save the Spring Blood Drive. We benefited from their resources such as their database and on-line tools but did experience some operational challenges. Despite those bumps, we had excellent results that will be even better in the Fall:

- 48 registered donors – great turnout
- 41 units
- 144 lives impacted!

Ushering/Greeting at Saturday morning B'nai Mitzvah services – Once again, Brotherhood Board members volunteered to greet at least 2X each throughout the year.

Softball Sponsorship – This is the 15th year in a row that the Brotherhood has sponsored an LT team in the Westchester Hebrew Softball League (www.whsl.org). Last year, the team came in 2nd after losing in the finals. We expect to be back in the championship game again in '18!

Special Activities

9/17: Welcome back bagels – For the first time, the brotherhood set up a table in the sitting nook by the Willow Avenue entrance, serving bagels, apples and coffee to welcome back families to the first day of LT religious school

2/28: Haman's Happy Hour – A number of Brotherhood Board members served as bartenders at this fun and well-attended LT event

3/31: Pesach Matzoh Brei brunch – Ian Spier volunteered to cook matzoh brei once again for this special occasion

5/1: Poker with senior citizens – Marty Kanengiser and Ian Spier volunteered to play poker with seniors at Willow Towers assisted living facility in New Rochelle

Financial Contributions

70th Anniversary of LT celebration – The Brotherhood contributed funds to cover the mixed drinks at the party

B'nai mitzvah books – Once again, the Brotherhood sponsored these books which are picked out by Rabbi Sirkman for each of the b'nai mitzvah

MRJ – We rejoined Men of Reform Judaism to show our support for this National organization

A Look Ahead

Nominating Committee: Rabbi Charlie led the Nominating Committee and was ably assisted by Tom Zucker-Scharff and former Brotherhood Presidents Stewart Ross and Scott Riemer. Our four incoming Board Members are

- Chris Belisle
- Andy Lachow
- Rob Master
- John Nathanson

2017-19 Officers/Executive Committee:

President	David Kahn
Executive Vice President (Programming)	Larry Gutterman
1 st Vice President (Membership)	Marty Kanengiser
2 nd Vice President (House)	Jon Birger
Treasurer	Joel Brill
Communications Secretary	Ian Spier

Class of 2019 (New Members Italicized)

Leigh Bass
Adam Deutsch
Cliff Katz
John Nathanson
Ben Zoffness

Class of 2020

Andy Lachow
Rob Master
Darren Levine
Zuriel Raja
Tom Zucker-Scharff

Class of 2021

Chris Belisle
Ron Mash
Val Polikoff
Rabbi Charlie Rabinowitz
Andrew Zucker

2018-19 PROGRAMMING:

2018

Sep 23 - Ted Rosenthal – Composer of Jazz Opera, “Dear Erich” to be performed at Lincoln Center

Oct 14 – Fall Blood Drive

Oct 21 - Amotz Eyal - Founder of independent Israeli news organization, Tazpit

Nov 18 – Martin Tankleff – Successfully sued Suffolk County for 17 years of wrongful imprisonment

Dec 9 - George Latimer, County Executive for Westchester County

2019

Jan 13 - Rachel Fisher, Producer of the film, "I Shall Not Be Silent" about Activist Rabbi, Joachim Prinz

Feb 10 - Chavie Weisberger - Community Engagement Coordinator, Footsteps

Mar 10 - OPEN

Apr 28 - OPEN

Report of Social Action Committee for 2017-18

From Co-Chairs Vickie Ehrlich and Sari Winter, and Treasurer Linda Riefberg

The Coachman Family Center

Social Action hosted five events for the children and teens from the Coachman Family Center in White Plains at Larchmont Temple. Each event hosted 22-25 kids and teens and drew many volunteers from Larchmont Temple including children from the religious school, teens and adults. In many cases, religious school families helped to plan these activities and participated together with the Social Action Committee. These events included a scavenger hunt at Manor Beach, mini-golf at Saxon Woods, pumpkin decorating, Frisbee games, crafts and a Lego building competition, to name a few.

Zero Waste Initiative

We have continued to work towards the goal of making LT a zero waste facility. In addition, LT representatives have been active in our local schools and our larger community to do the same.

Hope Soup Kitchen

We cooked for Hope Soup Kitchen three times this year in September, March and June. LT congregants of all ages donated food and helped to prepare a home cooked meal in the Larchmont Temple kitchen, which included a salad, entree, side vegetable and dessert, and which was served the following day at Hope Soup Kitchen on Washington Avenue in New Rochelle for over 150 people. The menus featured salad, meat loaf, spaghetti and meatballs, apple crisp and roasted vegetables. Because of the generosity of our congregants, seconds were offered and a take home meal was available!

Midnight Run

We were out doing midnight run eight times during this past year, about once every six weeks. We partner with Larchmont Avenue Church on this project. We also work with local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Murray Avenue students in having lunches and blessing bags made. Murray Avenue students donated knapsacks and blankets. The success of the Midnight Run is due to a steady stream of donations of soup, lunches and clothes items by many congregants, including children and young adults. At each run, we provide an average of 100 people with food clothes, blankets and conversation.

Pleasantville Cottages

We visited the residents of Pleasantville residential school this year for a Valentine celebration. We did arts and crafts themed with hearts and messages for friends, family or teachers. We served pizza and snacks and played Bingo with the residents, who range in age from 12 to 18.

Holiday Gift Giving

We continued the tradition of having LT families donate gift cards and presents (some designated for specific children and some based on specific requests to make it more personal for the volunteers) to families and children in need, as selected by the different groups we work with (Hope Community Services, Pleasantville Cottages, Mamaroneck District Pre-K, Coachman). We have many congregants

who donate to make sure everyone can get a bit of holiday spirit in December. We also collected toiletries, robes and slippers for My Sister's Place, and children's slippers for the Head Start program. Dozens of local families were the recipients of the holiday cheer from Larchmont Temple members this year.

Coat Drive

We organized a coat drive among the temple congregants, and we received well over 100 coats. These coats were given to the Midnight Run (Men) My Sister's Place (Women) and Sharing Shelf (Children). We also received many hats, gloves and scarves which were distributed as well.

DOROT

This year we again journeyed into NYC with a small group of volunteers to cook and serve dinner to about two dozen local residents who rely on Dorot for a meal and companionship, which we provided as we joined at the table and shared stories as we dined together.

Sarah Newman

The Social Action Committee led a group of volunteers for a Sunday afternoon of arts and crafts at this local nursing home. We decorated vases with artificial flowers that the residents could bring back to their rooms, and designed planting pots and seeded them for herbal gardens. Not only did we enjoy spending some quality time with the residents, but we watched our junior and adult choirs as they entertained under the leadership of Cantor Scher.

Tzedakah Fund

As the congregation is aware, members have the option of donating to the Social Action fund in a check off that is in addition to their temple dues. When those funds are collected from volunteer participants, the money is allocated to community and national groups. This year, we are donating approximately \$25,000 to a variety of different groups, all of which were vetted and many that have connections to congregants or Social Action projects. Operating funds from the temple used to help ongoing projects such as Midnight Run, Coachman and Pleasantville Cottages. Overall, we believe the tzedakah funds are a worthwhile way to have meaningful outreach and help an assortment of not for profit groups that appreciate our financial support. Anyone interested in seeing the full list of groups that received contributions can contact Linda Riefberg (SAC Treasurer) or the Co-Chairs of the committee, Sari Winter or Vickie Ehrlich for that spreadsheet.

Poker and Mah Jong

This year, we added a new aspect of our activities. We sought volunteers from Brotherhood, who organized a poker game for residents at Willow Towers in New Rochelle. In June, we plan to do a similar activity for Mah Jong players.

Book Drive

We helped launch a literacy project at the Coachman called "Bookbag." . We conducted a book drive for youth of the Coachman. This is an initiative that congregant Elissa Bard created. Hundreds of books were donated to a reading program that were distributed in book bags to Coachman children residents.