



## Save The Date — March 7, 2012

**Kol Ami Disney Purim Carnival March 7 – a whole new world!**

- Carnival
- BBQ Dinner
- Disney Spiel and Megillah reading
- Purim Services

4:00-5:30: Religious School  
Purim Celebration

5:30-6:45: Purim Carnival:  
Games, face painting, Hamantaschen and more!

7:00 PM Purim Services  
Disney Spiel and Megillah Reading

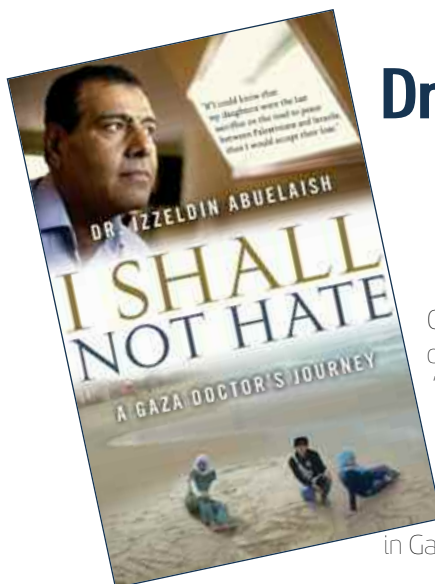
## Don't Miss an Evening with Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish "the Gaza Doctor"

**Synaplex—February 10, 2012**  
**The Main Event 8:15 pm**

### **"A Plea For Peace" from Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, the Gaza Doctor**

Called a Palestinian Martin Luther King, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, was the first Palestinian doctor to complete a formal residency and receive a staff position at an Israeli hospital. Now known simply as "the Gaza doctor" he captured hearts and headlines around the world in the aftermath of horrific tragedy: on January 16, 2009, Israeli shells hit his home in the Gaza Strip, killing three of his daughters and a niece. Instead of seeking revenge or sinking into hatred, his deepest hope is that his daughters will be the last sacrifice on the road to peace between Palestinians and Israelis. Dr.

Abuelaish is the author of the bestselling book, *I Shall Not Hate*, which chronicles his life growing up in Gaza and the development of his outlook on life and peace in Israel and Palestine.



## SERVICES

## Friday, February 3

**YAD B-YAD SHABBAT**  
**5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS** in Gallery  
**6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
 in Main Sanctuary

## Saturday, February 4

**9:00 am SPIRITUAL LIFT** in Chapel  
 Coffee and community  
**9:30 am Study**  
**11:00 am SERVICE**  
**10:30 am SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE:**  
 Bat Mitzvah of Annie Cohen in  
 Sanctuary  
**4:00 pm HAVDALAH HISPANICA**

## Friday, February 10

**SYNAPLEX**  
**5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS** in Gallery  
**6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
 in Main Sanctuary

## Saturday, February 11

**9:00 am SPIRITUAL LIFT** in Chapel  
 Coffee and community  
**9:30 am Study**  
**11:00 am SERVICE**  
**9:00 am B'NAI MITZVAH WORKSHOP**  
**SERVICE & BRUNCH**

## Friday, February 17

**5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS** in Gallery  
**6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
 in Main Sanctuary

## Saturday, February 18

**9:00 am SPIRITUAL LIFT** in Chapel  
 Coffee and community  
**9:30 am Study**  
**11:00 am SERVICE**

## Friday, February 24

**5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS** in Gallery  
**6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
 in Main Sanctuary

## Saturday, February 25

**9:00 am SPIRITUAL LIFT** in Chapel  
 Coffee and community  
**9:30 am Study**  
**11:00 am SERVICE**

## February, March 2

**THIRD GRADE SHABBAT**  
**5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS** in Gallery  
**6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
 in Main Sanctuary

## Saturday, March 3

**9:00 am SPIRITUAL LIFT** in Chapel  
 Coffee and community  
**9:30 am Study**  
**11:00 am SERVICE**  
**10:30 am B'not Mitzvah** of Alice Auerbacher and  
 Mollie Hirschheimer in Sanctuary

## Kol Ami's Inclusion Committee

This committee is here to assist any member or visitor with concerns about accessibility, a specific disability or inclusion in our activities. Please contact any one of us to hear your concerns or suggestions.

Gene Kava, [esquesk@aol.com](mailto:esquesk@aol.com)

Donna Klein, [dklein@donnakleinassociates.com](mailto:dklein@donnakleinassociates.com) or  
 Rachel Feld-Glazman, [rachel.feld-glazman@nyumc.org](mailto:rachel.feld-glazman@nyumc.org).

## Weekly Torah Portions for February

## Week ending February 4, 2012

**Parashat B'shalach Exodus 13:17-17:16**

Pharaoh finally releases the Hebrews from Egypt, only to change his mind again and chase after them with a force of 600 chariots. God parts the waters at the Sea of Reeds, and the Hebrews are freed from slavery once and for all. The Egyptians who are pursuing them are drowned as the Sea once again closes. The liberated Israelite slaves celebrate when they are safe on the other side and are led by Moses' sister Miriam in singing and dancing.

## Week ending February 11, 2012

**Parashat Yitro Exodus 18:1-20:23**

Jethro (Yitro), Moses' father-in-law, observes the toll that Moses' leadership of the Hebrews is taking and advises Moses to delegate some of the responsibility and authority. After several weeks of wandering, the people find themselves at the base of Mount Sinai, where God gives Moses the Ten Commandments.

## Week ending February 18, 2012

**Parashat Mishpatim Exodus 21:1-24:18**

This *parasha* continues the Torah's presentation of Divine Legislation. The word *mishpatim* means "case laws" and many such rules - encompassing civil, criminal, and cultic regulations - are enumerated in these chapters. The *parashah* concludes with a covenant ceremony on Mount Sinai.

## Week ending February 25, 2012

**Parashat Teruma Exodus 25:1-27:19**

*Parashat Teruma* describes the construction of the Tabernacle. God gives meticulously detailed instructions regarding the design and elements of the Tabernacle, especially the Holy Ark. Each individual is asked to contribute to its building materials and furnishings as he or she is motivated.

# Raise the Roof

It feels like it was meant to be. I am not one to use the word “*bashert*”, but this feels meant to be, intended, *bashert*. On Yom Kippur, when Tom and I spoke to the vision of a re-imagined sanctuary, Maura Smolover was sitting in the congregation. Maura, her siblings, their spouses and children were at High Holiday services, as they have been for all the years of their lives. The patriarch of the family, Cantor Ray Smolover, was leading the community in prayer. Maura is a glass and metal artist and sculptor, and as we spoke, unbeknown to us, Maura began to sketch.

Months later, as the Design Committee reached out for additional names of artists for the design of a new ark and eternal light, Maura’s name was among those that were suggested. She, of

course, had been thinking about this for months, and who knows, maybe years. Yes, her designs and ideas spoke to the heart of the committee and her ideas have redefined the conversation about sacred space. Maura is a link to our past; her life’s story is connected to this sanctuary which she has loved and which has been her spiritual home. She is also a link to our future; she is a world-renowned artist and a creative and imaginative thinker.

This is what I want to tell you: I want to tell you that we will someday (soon, I hope) have a sanctuary that will take our breath away. The experience of being in the sanctuary, of entering the ark, will bring us closer to the encounter with Light and Grace and Divine Presence than we might have dared imagine.

And when you enter this sanctuary, you will want to say, “I had a part in this.” You will want to say, “I helped make this happen.”



No contribution is insignificant. No contribution is too small or too large. Maura Smolover will be teaching on Shabbat morning, February 25th, in the Schulman Chapel in the Woods. That Torah portion that week recounts the imagining of our people’s first sanctuary in the desert. That sanctuary was built by everyone “whose heart so moved them.” So will ours be. Let your heart be a part of it.

Shira

# A Thank You Note to Our Congregants



One of the honors of being a rabbi is the privilege of acting as your *Shaliach Tzedakah*, that is, one who gives *Tzedakah* as agent for another. Through your generous donations to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund, many individuals are assisted, numerous Kol Ami programs are possible, and worthy causes supported.

Following Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations, weddings, as well as other significant times in your lives, you thoughtfully make the donations that make so much good work possible. I thank you for that privilege.

I thought that I would share with you many of the ways in which your gifts have played a fundamental role in the life of Kol Ami. Over the past year, your

donations to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund have made possible the following:

- Israel Scholarships
- Camp Scholarships
- Family Scholarships to Kol Ami retreat
- Guest Speakers for our High School
- Support for senior and junior youth group activities
- Guest teachers for Congregational Retreat
- Supporting our Drama Club
- Making possible my annual visits to our students’ colleges
- Supporting students with special educational needs
- Assisting families with tuition for Kol Ami Religious School
- Subventing the salary of our Youth Director
- Underwriting the annual high school trip to the Religious Action Center

- Books for individuals
- Supporting the affiliates of the Reform Movement here and in Israel
- Helping individuals in need of financial assistance for immediate medical needs
- Scholarship for the coursework for individuals preparing for conversion

Without your help, we would have fewer students studying, fewer teachers, services without music, students unable to prepare fully for conversion, diminished youth programming, students unable to attend Jewish camps or to study in Israel, and individuals less able to get through a time of crisis.

Thank you for allowing us to build programs and help others,

## Ritual Riches — Weddings



There is a story told by Rabbi Nachman of Bratislav, a 17th century Hasidic master: A group of people who have been to a wedding are on their way home. One says, "It was a beautiful wedding. I liked

the food." Another says, "It was a great wedding. The music was marvelous." Still another says, "It was the best wedding I ever went to. I saw all my good friends there and we had a terrific time."

Rabbi Nachman, who overheard them says, "These people were not really at a wedding."

Then another guest joins the group and says, "Baruch adonai. Blessed is God's name. Thank God those two got together."

At that, Rabbi Nachman says, "Now THAT person was at a Jewish wedding."

At the heart of any wedding is the hope that two people can find their intended with whom they will spend the rest of their lives. In this day and age, the matchmaker could be a friend, pulling up the right stool at the right bar, or, as is often the case, a virtual cupid who pairs couples through various online dating sites.

In looking back at the last 20 couples that I have married, 19 of them have met through an online dating site. If only Rabbi Nachman of Bratislav knew what an impact the internet had on bringing people together!!

In her book *The New Jewish Wedding*, Anita Diamant summarizes the codified Jewish obliga-

tion in these words: "A kosher Jewish wedding can be summed up in a few words: the bride accepts an object worth more than a dime from the groom, the groom recites a ritual formula of acquisition and concentration and these two actions must be witnessed." That constitutes a Jewish wedding. The rest of the traditions associated with Jewish weddings— the canopy, the seven blessings, the breaking of the glass, even the presence of rabbi or cantor—are customs.

One of the reasons I love officiating at weddings is because these customs can be expanded to include a full breadth of modern day interpretations. The liturgy that must be recited for a wedding to be "kosher" consists of only a few hundred words, so the rest is open to creative interpretation. In the Liberal Jewish world, a couple may choose to expand the traditional ketubah to include words that are specific to a particular couple, penned by a bride and groom. A modern wedding may include a Kiddush cup made by a family member. It may happen under a tallit painted or woven by a friend. It may be ordained by the voice of a loved one or the musical composition of a dear friend.

At the heart of the wedding ceremony is the exchange of rings: the groom giving and the bride's accepting of a ring is a central act of *kedushin*. With the ring, the groom accomplishes *kinyan* and "acquires" the bride. In modernity, many choose to do a double ring ceremony, a clear statement that one partner is not acquiring the other but rather that the couple enters into a shared union for the rest of their lives. The phrase that formally marries a couple reads as follows: "By this ring, you are consecrated to me (as my wife/husband) in accordance with the traditions

of Moses and Israel." This formula in Hebrew is referred to as *haray aht* and it contains 32 letters. In Hebrew, each letter coincides with a number: *aleph* is 1; *bet* is 2; *gimel* is 3 and so on. *Lamed* and *bet* together indicate the number 32. In this formula, it turns out that, whether by accident or by divine intention, there are exactly 32 letters. How profoundly beautiful this is—32 spelled by *lamed bet* is the word *lev*: heart. The interpretation of this wonderful coincidence is that couples recite these words with a heart overflowing with joy and love.

The ring ceremony is only one example of a ritual that has modern interpretations. There are many others and when I meet with wedding couples we explore all these rituals together. It is my hope that the couple will be learned enough to make their decisions on which rituals, ancient and modern, are meaningful to them. Often they choose a blend of the ancient and the modern.

The musical traditions of the wedding have also evolved and lend themselves to modern compositions. Though many of our prayers have been chanted to traditional motifs, our modern day Jewish composers have set these prayers to melodies within multitudes of musical genres.

At the core of our daily obligations is our obligation to celebrate with bride and groom. It is my hope that, as we turn the corner from winter to spring, many of us will find ourselves celebrating the perpetuation of the next generation of those who love each other fully. For all of those celebrating weddings this year, I wish you Mazal Tov and I wish you complete enjoyment and fulfillment under the chupah and beyond.

## From the Religious School Principal



February... the cold, dark, SHORT month! Even so, there is lots of activity in our school. Grade level book club discussions have begun and Family Shabbats are well under way. Join us as we welcome in the Shabbat of Inclusion with

our Yad B'Yad students at services on Friday, February 3rd. Our 4th graders will share Havdallah with their families at their *Havdallah Hispanica*, a celebration of the history, music and dance of the Jews of Spain. Our 6th Graders will lead a Shabbat morning service with their families as they continue their journey toward becoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah.

Every year when Passover seems ages away, our students work to raise money for the Religious School with the annual **Passover Candy Sale**. Please help your child to support our school by

purchasing some Passover candy to share with family and friends. Orders can be made online by going to [www.misschocolate.com](http://www.misschocolate.com), click "online store", click "fundraising login" and select "school". **Our school code is 701121 and our password is MCPASSWORD.**

Our 7th graders have begun their second trimester of a new choice-based model called "Mesorah—Choosing Your Commitment". They are taking classes that range from Jewish Humor and The Drama of Tanach to Yoga and Ethics and Wildmess Jews. Some of our 7th grade families are participating in Jewish Ritual at home and are forming *chevruta* (groups of learners) to celebrate Shabbat together in people's homes. Students are delving into their personal relationships with God and exploring theology while creating projects based on these discussions. The goal is to create a broad range of choices through which our students can find their personal Jewish connections.

Jewish learning doesn't only happen in the classroom and it definitely doesn't end with becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah. As a community, we continue to explore ways to engage in Jewish life and Jewish learning and create new and long lasting connections.

In a little over a month, we'll celebrate Purim together. **Don't miss the Purim Carnival and Purim Shpeil on Wednesday, March 7th.** We've already begun planning and our youth-run Carnival promises to be better than ever. Mark your calendar!

Stay connected to what's happening through our website. Check us out at [www.nykolami.org](http://www.nykolami.org). *The Gold Standard* is available and you can see all the great things we have going on.

Felice

## Special Congregational Meeting

You are invited to a **Special Meeting of Congregation Kol Ami at 6:00 pm on Friday, February 10, 2012** in the sanctuary. This meeting will immediately precede services and our Synaplex program.

The sole purpose of this meeting is to vote on (i) refinancing the Makom Shel Or debt and the mortgage related to such debt and (ii) obtaining construction financing secured by a mortgage for the sanctuary and parking lot (L'Dor Va'Dor) project.

There will be an **informational session on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 7:30 pm**. The purpose of this informational session is to enable Congregants to ask questions and develop an understanding of the two proposals that will be presented at the Special Meeting.

*If you have any questions concerning either the Special Meeting or the informational session, please contact either of our Co-Presidents, Ronnie Cohn Farley at 914-649-1856 or Mark Seiden at 914-681-8700.*

## From the Inclusion Committee

The Kol Ami Inclusion Committee has been hard at work. The Chairpersons Rachel Feld-Glazman, Donna Klein and Gene Kava have gotten a wonderful group of people (Ray Bello, Bonnie Hagen, Mindy Erber, & Lynne Dolle) together to assist with the goal of expanding awareness, maximizing accessibility and improving our inclusion of any and all congregants. As a Jewish community, we have an obligation for inclusion—"for my house shall be a house of prayer for ALL people"—Isaiah 56:5. We would like to ensure that everyone feels included and is actually able to be a fully participating member of our community. Whether young or older, in the ECP, Religious School, Adult Education programs and/or during worship, we would be happy to speak with any individual who has suggestions and/or needs assistance.

Last year we focused on information gathering. Our goal was to find out what is currently being done in our community related to inclusion and for our special needs population. We met with all the staff and also gathered suggestions from our community members by sending out a survey. To keep this process going and to raise awareness about the Inclusion Committee, we have added our contact information to the Connection, Kol Ami weekly email and the weekly order of service to assist people with contacting us with any concerns or suggestions.

So...what are some of the other things we have accomplished so far?

- Ray Bello, who has expertise in architectural planning, has met with and provided a written report to the building committee/architect about our new construction plans. With our new construction, we will be able to accommodate wheelchairs on the bima and include those with any ambulation device in our services.
- Ray donated a portable ramp that can be used in our current sanctuary to access the bima until the renovations are completed (we just need advanced noticed to set it up).
- The Senior Youth Group has been organized to provide a "door holders" program for Shabbat Services to assist people with getting in and out of the building.
- Ray also donated large umbrellas to be used by anyone as they get to their car. They are kept by the main entrance.
- A sign was placed at the entrance to the sanctuary that tells people about our hearing devices, umbrellas and ramp and encourages them to ask the usher for assistance.
- Gene Kava attended a workshop at the URJ Biennial entitled "A Ramp is Not Enough," concerning inclusion of those with special needs.
- The committee has applied and hopes to apply for more grants to get funding to be used for Inclusion programming.
- The ECP purchased additional books and

toys that help to educate the children about those with special needs.

February is Jewish Disability Awareness Month. We are working on implementing some programming for various groups in our community. Programming about understanding children with disabilities will be presented in the ECP. A discussion and panel for questions and answers will be led by teens with special needs to present their experiences to the teens in our religious school. In addition, during February emergency packets will be distributed at Shabbat services to assist with preparedness in any emergency. We have been contacting community resources such as the Westchester Disability Office to raise our awareness of programs that are available within our community. We hope to be able to share some of this information for the upcoming year's Mitzvah projects. We hope that Jewish Disability Awareness Month will increase our community's awareness about Inclusion during the month of February. We also hope to keep this intense focus moving forward throughout the entire year.

Please feel free to contact any of us. Also, if you are interested in joining our committee, we would love to hear from you.

Contact info: Rachel Feld-Glazman [rfeldglazman@gmail.com](mailto:rfeldglazman@gmail.com), Donna Klein [dklein@donnakleinassociates.com](mailto:dklein@donnakleinassociates.com), or Gene Kava [esqesk@aol.com](mailto:esqesk@aol.com).



# From Our Co-Presidents

## Year End Review: Looking Back on 2011 and Looking Forward to 2012

Photo by Mariela Melamed



As the New Year begins, we are pleased and proud to look back at 2011 and reflect upon the excitement and accom-

plishments our Congregation has enjoyed. None of this would have been possible without Kol Ami's committed congregants, inspirational clergy and dedicated staff. It has been another amazing year for us to serve as your co-presidents. We remain grateful for this honor.

**I. Capital Campaign** – Led by Andrea Seiden, Janet Hershey and a committed Committee of over 30 strong, we have raised approximately \$3.4 million (and growing) from over 120 congregants. Our "l'Dor Va'Dor" campaign will make our worship space beautiful and well suited for the 21st century worship practices. We are also improving our grounds with an enhanced traffic pattern, drainage, site lighting, and beautifying landscape architecture.

**II. Building Committee** – Our Building Committee, consisting of architects, builders, real estate financiers, accountants, attorneys, and committed congregants, has been working hard and meeting regularly throughout 2011. The Committee went through a comprehensive architectural selection process and design competition. The Committee has also selected and retained a construction manager and other relevant consultants. The preliminary designs were displayed to the Congregation both in the Spring and during the High Holy Days. We fully expect that our work enhancing the new sanctuary and beautifying the grounds will be completed during 2012, in time for 2012 High Holiday services.

**III. Leadership Development** – We developed a new Leadership Development Program, conceived and led by Hank Rouda and Dave

Lorden. The program was rolled out in 2011 and over 25 congregants participated.

**IV. Inclusion Committee** – The Inclusion Committee has studied our existing facilities and made recommendations to our design architect for making the temple more accessible to all congregants and guests.

**V. Cantor Mo** – We negotiated a new contract with Cantor Mo Glazman.

**VI. Credit Card Usage** – We implemented a new credit card policy allowing the congregants to use credit cards to pay for all Temple activities and programs.

**VII. Operating Budget** – We developed and delivered another surplus budget under the strong and able leadership of our Treasurer, Margie Lewis. Margie has delivered a surplus budget for each and every year during her tenure as Temple Treasurer.

**VIII. Community Organizing** – We continue to develop and refine our community organizing initiative working side by side with other faith-based institutions in Westchester County.

**IX. Restructuring Men's Council** – Re-branding as "KABRO" - The newly revitalized Brotherhood has developed lots of activities for guys of all ages, including activities for dads, kids and the entire family. KABRO continues to develop new and fun activities under the leadership of Michael Berg and Scott Pollak.

**X. Re-energizing Junior Youth Group** – Last year, we hired Timna Burston to focus on our Senior Youth Group. This year, we engaged Rabbi Nadia Gold, who is revitalizing our Junior Youth Program. We intend to continue to expand our youth initiatives in 2012 and beyond.

**XI. Committee Term Limits and Succession Planning** – The Board

began a dialogue regarding committee and succession planning to continue to develop trained and capable future Temple leaders.

**XII. Personnel Committee** – Led by Pat Grossman and Hank Rouda, this committee is developing job descriptions, performance review protocols, and other means of objectively evaluating and consistently improving the service of our professional staff.

**XIII. Capital Budget** – Margie Lewis has formed a Finance Committee to, among other things, develop a capital budget so we can better plan for our inevitable capital needs.

**XIV. Milgrom/Elcott Gala** – Through the meticulous planning of our Gala Committee, including (among others) Stephanie Falk, Lori Abrams, Lisa Feldman, Lauri Carey, Jill Abraham and Lisa Borowitz, we planned and pulled off a wonderful Gala Weekend. There were three amazing events and an opportunity for all to participate in the celebration. Importantly, the Gala and Journal raised over \$200,000 towards our operating budget.

**XV. Membership Brainstorming** – A steering committee was convened by Membership and Development Director Janet Hershey, after a Board brainstorming session, to develop, refine and implement strategies to grow our membership. Continued membership growth will result in an even more vibrant community as well as help hold down future dues.

**XVI. Committee Restructuring Task Force** – Under the leadership of the past Temple President Lisa Borowitz, a task force was assembled to re-imagine and make recommendations with respect to our long existing committee structure. This will include adding committees, eliminating committees and consolidating committees to break down silos and create greater synergies.

- XVII. Drama Club** – The Board began to consider how to reinvigorate our drama club.
- XVIII. Community Time Bank** – Judy Sarch is leading the charge to develop a new program whereby congregants make deposits of their time in various areas of expertise and are able to make commensurate withdrawals of the time of others who have made deposits into our time bank. We will have more to say on this topic as the Time Bank becomes ready to roll out.
- XIX. Committee Overview Presentations** – During monthly meetings, the Board has had the benefit of presentations as to the roles, functions and jurisdiction of various committees. Our clearer understanding of existing committees will aid in creating strategic alliances among our committed congregants.
- XX. Annual Fund** – Under the strong leadership of Daryl Moss, our Annual Fund generated over \$140,000 towards our operating budget.
- XXI. Dues Review Philosophy and Implementation** – Our Board and Executive Committee studied our Dues Review process to assure it is administered consistently and even-handedly to all congregants in need of dues assistance.
- XXII. Temple Policy and Procedure Manual** – Our secretary Jess

Lorden has undertaken an extensive review and development of a comprehensive written Policy and Procedure Manual whereby resolutions of our Board will be memorialized, recorded and updated as new resolutions are enacted.

- XXIII. Shabbat Across Kol Ami** – Planned for March 2, 2012 and chaired by Wendy Zimmerman, this should be a wonderful community building event starting with a special Shabbat service and then spreading out among many homes whereby congregants and others will enjoy a Shabbat meal in a relaxed setting and get to know each other a bit better.
- XXIV. Spring Fundraiser – "Life is a Cabernet"** – Cantor Mo and two other Cantors will be performing a wide array of music with fine wines live music, great food and aperitif. It is sure to be a night to remember and the benefits will go to the Temple's operating budget.
- XXV. Replaced Aged Boiler** in the Jaffin Activity Center
- XXVI. Analyzed our Property and Casualty Insurance** – resulting in over \$20,000 in premium savings and enhanced coverage.
- XXVII. Women of Reform Judaism** – Our Sisterhood, led by Ellen Kurtz and Elza Rosen, is planning a renovation and re-branding of the Judaica Shop to make it more appealing and successful. They are

also creating fun and meaningful opportunities for women to spend time together.

- XXVIII. Religious School Dismissal Procedures** – The Board reviewed and refined dismissal procedures to assure safe and effective departures of our students. The revised procedure was developed by our Religious School Committee and our Principal, Felice Baritz.
- XXIX. Trustee Requirements and Expectations** – Our Board developed policies to assist future trustees and nominating committees in documenting the responsibilities and expectations associated with the honor of serving as a Kol Ami Trustee.
- XXX. URJ Biennial** – Kol Ami had a delegation of over 20 strong attend the URJ Biennial. All were inspired by incredible worship experiences, outstanding study opportunities, sessions of sharing ideas and brainstorming with other congregations, moving speeches from, among many others, President Barack Obama. Kol Ami was also recognized in an awards ceremony for our Yad b'Yad program and new membership brochure.

We look forward to working with all of you, hearing from you, and together making Kol Ami an ever more wonderful spiritual home for all of us.

*Ronnie and Mark*

## save the date

# Shabbat across Kol Ami

## Friday, March 2

an evening of food, fun, and community  
6:15 PM Shabbat services at Kol Ami  
7:30 PM dine at the home of a Kol Ami member

*If you are interested in hosting a dinner, please reach out to:  
Wendy Zimmerman at [wendyzimm@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyzimm@yahoo.com) or 409-7950  
Heather Zuckerman at [hlzuckerman@yahoo.com](mailto:hlzuckerman@yahoo.com) or 400-4493*

## From The Director of The Early Childhood Program

*Love is something if you give it away,  
Give it away, give it away.  
Love is something if you give it away,  
It comes right back to you...*

And that's just what we're learning everyday in the ECP! February especially is filled with wonderful opportunities in the ECP to share our love.

Beginning on February 1st and extending throughout the entire month, our families will have the opportunity to donate new items for infants and toddlers including bottles, formula, baby food, and clothing. Our collection will be donated to the **Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless** at the end of the month. If you would like to partner with us, please drop off any of these much-needed items in the cradle outside the ECP office anytime during the month.

On Thursday, February 2nd, 3's, 4's, and Pre-K's will participate in a **Book Swap**. Each child brings in 2 books to share. They can pick one from the selection to keep and the rest of the books are donated to the shelters in our area.

On Wednesday, February 8th we will be celebrating **Tu B'Shevat**, the New Year of the Trees. Tu B'Shevat dates back to the Talmud. The Rabbis considered the new year of the trees as beginning when the new fruit begins to form. Although winter is still very much upon us here, spring has already begun in Israel. In the ECP, we have a wonderful day of workshops planned to celebrate the holiday including making birdhouses, designing your very own Tu B'shevat Seder plate, learning about recycling, and planting parsley. The morning culminates with a delicious fruit Seder.

Wednesday, February 15th the nursery school will be sponsoring our annual **Share the Love Mitzvah Bake Sale**. The Bake Sale will take place in our Auditorium from 9:00-9:45 am and the entire Kol Ami community is invited and encouraged to join us for coffee and treats. The monies earned from this event are used for our **Mitzvah Morning Project** to be held at the end of May with the preschool children from The Early Learning Center of New Rochelle.

Last year we invited the Early Learning Center's 3 and 4 year olds to come and play

with us. Each of the children who came to visit received a new book, made a new friend, and enjoyed a delicious ice cream treat. We were also able to buy the Center two new tricycles for their playground. It was a wonderful morning for everyone and we look forward to the children's visit again this year.



This year again we will begin our **Share the Love** month with our 3's, 4's and Pre-K children making knotted lap blankets for our friends at The Osborn in Rye. At the end of the month our 4's and Pre-K's will make a visit to The Osborn with Rabbi Shira to deliver the blankets, sing some songs and bring lots of smiles.

*It's just like a magic penny,  
Hold it close and you won't have any,  
Lend it, spend it, give it away,  
It comes right back to you...*

Nan



### **Kol Ami Early Childhood Program**

*Warm, Nurturing and Enriching*

**Registration for 2012-2013 Now Open**

**First Friends: A Toddler Program**

**2, 3, 4 and 5-Day 2's • 3, 4, and 5-Day 3's • Morning 4's  
Full & Half-Day 4's • Extended Day Program for 3's & 4's**

**A Step Ahead! Our Pre-K program for children turning 5 from September through December  
Call for an appointment and tour today • Nan Blank, Director, at Ext. 107**



MEET CINDERELLA, SNOW WHITE, BELLE & CAPTAIN JACK SPARROW...

**DON'T MISS OUT ON**

A chance to meet real princesses and pirates, princess and pirate crafts, tea and crumpets (or bagels and coffee)

**THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

Please bring your friends, your grandchildren, and your friend's friends! Come in costume if you like.

Kol Ami ECP Presents

**A Princess & Pirate Party**

**A Family FUNdraiser**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012**

**1:00pm-3:00pm**

**Congregation Kol Ami  
252 Soundview Avenue,  
White Plains, NY 10606**

\$15 per child/adult; \$20 at the door.  
Kids under 2 are free.

To buy tickets, please contact  
Nan Blank, Early Childhood Director,  
at 914-949-4717, ext. 107.

Special ticket books can be purchased at the door for activities including:

- » Face Painting
- » Balloon Art by The Great Charlini
- » Photos with the Characters
- » Cookie Decorating
- » And much more...

All proceeds from this FUNdraiser will go to support the ECP Scholarship Fund, Community Garden Project, Lending Library, and Family Programming.

## Meet Our Members



**ROBIN DAVIES-SMALL AND ADAM, PARKER AND BRENNEN SMALL**

Adam and Robin have been temple members for a year and a half, having moved to Hartsdale from Ashland, Massachusetts, to be closer to Robin's family. Robin grew up in Port Jefferson Station on Long Island while Adam was raised in Peabody, Massachusetts. They have two sons, 6 year old Parker who is in kindergarten in Ardsley and 4 year old Brennen who is in our ECP program. Parker was in the ECP program last year and one might say Robin is "in" the ECP program as well. She is a class parent, co-organized the recent book fair and last year's ECP yearbook, and volunteered at the Hanukkah party and many other school activities.

### **Robin, can you tell us more about your ECP involvement?**

"When we initially moved to Westchester we did not know anyone. ECP took us in. Parker and Brennen started school shortly after we moved. The teachers and Nan were very welcoming and helped the boys meet other children and make friends and Adam and I were able to meet other parents and make friends as well. Volunteering and getting involved was a great way to meet more people and in doing so we made some great friends. We have only known these 'new friends' for a little over a year but in some ways it is hard to remember not knowing them.

"We try to attend all of the activities that ECP offers. Since Parker is in kindergarten, this is a way for him to maintain his connection with Kol Ami. As a family we also participate in the many ECP tzedakot projects like Turkey Trot, Donating Pajamas and making sandwiches for the homeless. All of these reinforce the Jewish ideal of doing mitzvot."

### **Why did you join Kol Ami?**

"That's also ECP related. We found Kol Ami by accident or fate. After visiting Westchester to look for a house, we stopped at a restaurant in Connecticut on our way back to Massachusetts and met Cheryl Bernstein, a 2's teacher in ECP, and her family on their way back home to Westchester from Massachusetts. Cheryl told us about Kol Ami and its ECP program as well as other Westchester programs. We scheduled a tour of the ECP program and immediately knew this was the school for Parker and Brennen."

After enrolling in the school the family joined the temple. Robin was not part of a temple growing up and Adam was raised in a very traditional Jewish home. He attended private Jewish school for many years. The spiritual part of Judaism is important to them. This became even more prevalent recently when Adam's mother passed away this fall. "The temple and school were there for us when we needed them most. Rabbi Tom came to our home during shiva and it was comforting to have him and see how warmly he interacted with Parker and Brennen. Kol Ami has become such an important part of our lives."

### **More about Robin and Adam**

Adam attended Salem State College business management program and works as an Oracle Business Analyst for the Bank of Tokyo. Robin has a Masters degree in Educational Administration with a specialization in Non-Profit Agencies. While in Massachusetts she was the Chief Operating Officer for Greater Waltham Association for Retarded Citizens. She presently operates DS Consulting, a consulting firm that assists with the growth, strategic planning and development of profit and non-profit companies. They can be reached at dsconsulting@live.com. Robin is a dedicated runner, running the Boston Marathon and the Rhode Island Marathon. She has completed countless half marathons and 3 Sprint Triathlons.

### **What advice can you give to newer congregants?**

"Get involved. Meet people. Become a part of the community. It has been and continues to be very rewarding and beneficial to our children and our family as a whole."



**JIM AND MARGERY ARSHAM**

Jim and Margery are 30+ year members of Kol Ami living in Scarsdale. They have three children-Andy, 38; Doug, 36; and Karen, 30, all of whom are married. Andy is a molecular biologist, splitting his time between Minneapolis and San Francisco. Doug is a builder living in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Karen lives on the Upper West Side and is a school social worker in the Bronx. Jim is from Shaker Heights, Ohio, and graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Margie

grew up in St. Louis and graduated from Case Western Reserve University. They met on a blind date in Cleveland.

Jim is a textile executive and the owner of James Yam Sales Company. Margie is busy with community volunteering, working with Let's Get Ready, an SAT preparatory service for disadvantaged boys and girls; serving on the board (and a past president) of Surprise Lake Camp; and serving as a consultant for Seeds of Peace.

### **What is Seeds of Peace? Tell us more.**

"Seeds of Peace is a camp in Maine that brings together Arab and Israeli teenagers for a three and a half week summer living experience. There are many activities where teams are chosen without any reference to background. They all wear the same color t-shirts. There are also conflict resolution meetings every day as well as all sports and arts activities. Teens first come together as neighbors living in tense relationships and leave as friends.

"We have a home two miles from the Seeds of Peace camp. Our place was the summer camp that Jim attended as a child and is now our family center. We spend our summers and many vacations there. It is a 'spiritual place' for us. We met our Seeds of Peace neighbors and have gotten involved in many ways. We help integrate the camp and adult chaperones in the local community, serve as a volunteer consultant, and invite counselors and chaperones to spend time at our home."

### **Margery, tell us about your involvement at Kol Ami.**

"Both of us have been on the Worship Committee. I have served as chairperson of both that committee and the Social Action Committee. I was also on the Board of Trustees for many years. Both of us grew up in large reform congregations and, from our first days at Kol Ami, we wanted to contribute. And we both plan to continue to stay involved contributing to the well being of our synagogue community."

### **What do you think sets Kol Ami apart from other places?**

"To begin with, our very special clergy. Also, Kol Ami continues to be welcoming and vibrant with new members and new activities. We love the Synaplex programs. Our congregation's commitment to social action is very important to us. Our members need to be made aware of efforts such as our special needs program."

### **What advice can you give to new and prospective members?**

"You don't have to get involved, but getting involved is satisfying and fun. We have a great Early Childhood Program and a great Religious School. These services, along with adult education and activities, are great reasons to join and support the temple as members."





**Come and share a whole new world with us at this year's Purim Carnival, March 7!**

- **Carnival:** Purim games, crafts and activities, face painting, Hamantaschen baking and making *Mishloach Manot* (gifts of food and Purim cheer) to be shared with the Westchester community.
- **Purim BBQ:** Burgers, Veggie Burgers, Hot Dogs, Salad and Fixin's.
- Israeli Dance with Shmulik Gov-Ari
- Religious School Raffle with great prizes
- Instead of groggers, please bring a box of pasta to shake and donate!
- **Disney Spiel and Megillah reading** – Don't miss this year's production of "The Megillah According to Walt Disney" featuring the Kol Ami Adult Drama club!

Please clip and return to Temple Office: For Purim Celebration 3/7/2012

Adult name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Children's name(s) and ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

10 Carnival tickets are included in the price for dinner. Additional tickets will be sold during the event.

I/we will be staying for Purim BBQ: ☐

Adults/\$15 children 12& under/\$10

#Adults@\$15 \_\_\_\_\_ # Children @\$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

ASL Interpretation upon request.

# KOL AMI'S ANNUAL SECOND NIGHT SEDER

Hosted by the Kol Ami Brotherhood (KABRO)

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at Kol Ami

6:00 p.m. Service

7:00 p.m. Dinner

KABRO (also known as the Men's Council) invites all Kol Ami families, friends and guests to join us in the social hall for a lively, communal second-night seder. Please join us with your children. They play a special part in the seder as we explain our history and sing songs of freedom.



## Cost

Adults – \$25.00

Children 12 & under – Free

Space is limited, so please RSVP  
by March 23.

Just return the form below with  
payment to the Temple Office

**KABRO – SECOND SEDER -- APRIL 7, 2012**

Please make your check payable to Men's Council and return by 3/23. Thank you.

Your Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Children's names/ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Your email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Adults @ \$25

\_\_\_ Children 12 & under (free)

- ☐ I volunteer to help cook dinner on Saturday 4/7
- ☐ Our children would like to participate in the Seder



# FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2012

Called a Palestinian Martin Luther King, **Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish**, was the first Palestinian doctor to complete a formal residency and receive a staff position at an Israeli hospital. Now known simply as **"the Gaza doctor"** he captured hearts and headlines around the world in the aftermath of horrific tragedy: on January 16, 2009, Israeli shells hit his home in the Gaza Strip, killing three of his daughters and a niece.



5:00 pm

- ☐ **Explorations in Jewish Music with Cantor Mo Glazman and special guests Kathryn Lockwood and Yousif Sheronik from duo Jalal**

Racing along with our new global society, duoJalal surprises the music world with their diverse and stunning artistry. duoJalal "are fearless seekers and synthesizers of disparate instruments and cultures" raves the Toronto Star. Like the marriage between Kathryn Lockwood and Yousif Sheronik, their music represents an organic amalgam of cultural traditions and musical styles.

o Main Sanctuary

5:30 pm

- ☐ **Shabbat in the Woods**

o Gallery

5:45 pm

- ☐ **Unwind with Wine and Cheese**

o Atrium

6:00 pm

- ☐ **Congregational Meeting**

o Main Sanctuary

6:15pm

- ☐ **Shabbat Services**

o Main Sanctuary

- ☐ **Torah Study**

o Conference Room

7:15 pm

- ☐ **Shabbat Dinner (your choice)**

Adults \$30.00/Teens \$18.00/Children \$15.00

Free for children under 5/Picnickers \$10.00

- ☐ Toon Shabbat Dinner  
☐ Community & Family Shabbat Dinner  
☐ "Quiet Conversation" Shabbat Dinner  
☐ Shabbat Picnic Dinner (we will provide challah, set up, dessert & beverages; you bring your own Shabbat meal)

**All reservations must be received by 5:00 pm Wed., Feb 8th. Reservations are non-refundable unless cancelled 2 days prior to the Synaplex Shabbat.**

7:30 pm

- ☐ **Tzedakah Sandwich Making and Arts and Crafts with Bonnie Wach**

o Gallery

8:00 pm

- ☐ **Supervised Sports and Games with Coach Steve**

For Children in Grades K-6

o Gym

**Teens are encouraged to join in adult activities.**

8:00 pm

- ☐ **THE MAIN EVENT - A Plea for Peace from the Gaza Doctor**

Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish known as "the Gaza Doctor," is the author of the bestselling book *I Shall Not Hate*, which chronicles his life growing up in Gaza and the development of his outlook on life and peace in Israel and Palestine. Dr. Abuelaish's three daughters were killed during the War on Gaza in January 2009, minutes before he was to speak live on an Israeli TV program. That raw and painful cry of a parent was heard around the world and may have contributed to ending the military invasion. In this personal account of his life, Izzeldin Abuelaish is calling for the people of the Middle East to start talking to each other. Instead of seeking revenge or sinking into hatred, his deepest hope is that his daughters will be the last sacrifice on the road to peace between Palestinians and Israelis.

9:30 pm

- ☐ **Dessert Oneg**

**Save the Dates for 2012  
Synaplex Events  
March 23, April 20 & May 4**

**CLIP & RETURN TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE NO LATER THAN FEB 8TH**

Adults \$30.00 / Teens \$18.00 / Children \$15.00 / 5 & Under FREE!

Adult Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Names & Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**"Quiet Conversation Dinner"**

**Adults Only**

# Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30/ea

**"Shabbat Picnic Dinner"**

**Adults Only**

# Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10/ea

**"Community & Family Dinner"**

# Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30/ea

# Teens \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18/ea

# Children \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15/ea

# Children \_\_\_\_\_ under 5

**TOTAL ENCLOSED**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Seating is planned 2 days in advance. Any last minute seating requests cannot be guaranteed.**

**Please seat us with...**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(We'll do our best!)

## **Youth Group Happenings**

### **5th/6th Grade Youth Group KOL AMI BOWLS!**

**Saturday, February 4**

Come bowl with the 5th and 6th grade Junior Youth Group.  
Meet at AMF White Plains Lanes, 47 Tarrytown Road at 4:45pm  
and pick up from Bowling Alley is at 6:30pm.  
\$18 per person (includes food). Make checks out to  
Congregation Kol Ami and send your check and permission slip in ASAP  
or rsvp via email and bring permission slips and checks to the event.  
Questions??? Email rabbinadiagold@gmail.com

### **Save the Dates:**

**March 30-31**

**Kol Ami's First Ever**

**5th/6th Grade Shabbaton!**

Come celebrate Shabbat with the 5th and 6th grade  
and sleep over at the Temple... with food!!!!

### **7th/8th Grade Youth Group**

**Saturday, February 4**

**8th graders needed to chaperone**

**5th/6th grade bowling trip. (see above)**

**February 12**

**Tentative Bake Sale Benefitting The Social Action Committee run by students.  
During Religious School**

**March 7**

**Help needed with the Purim Carnival.**

Email Nadia if interested.

## **SIXTH GRADE FAMILIES:**

### **SAVE THESE IMPORTANT DATES!**

**B'nai Mitzvah Workshops:**

**for all sixth graders and their parents.**

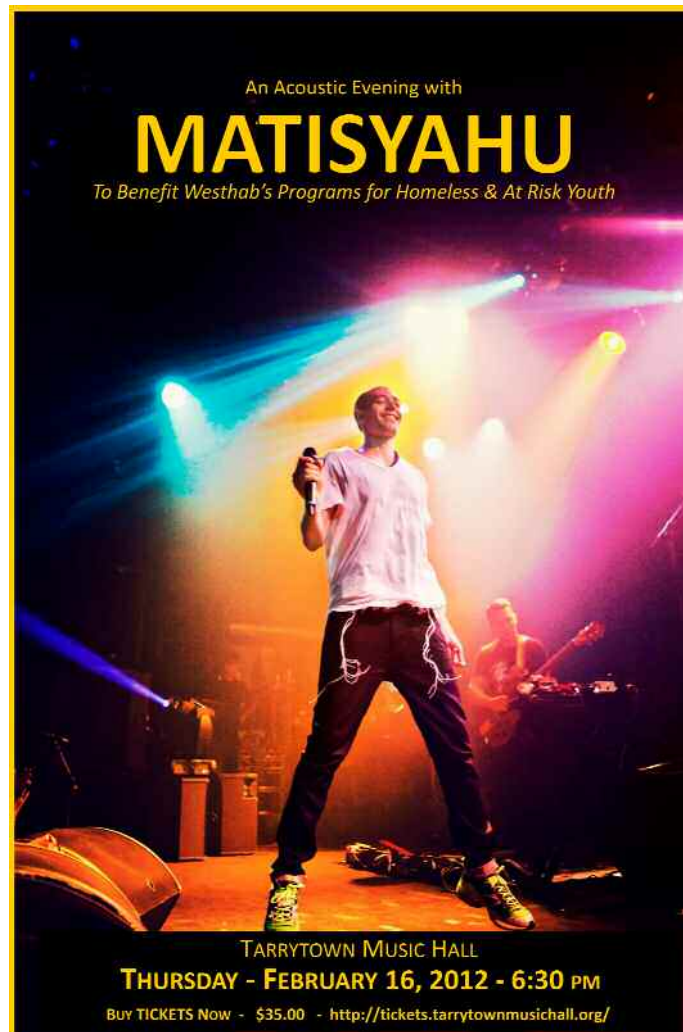
**Saturday, February 11, 2012**

**Sunday, March 4, 2012 Final Workshop**

# SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

*Repairing the World — Tikkun Olam*

**HELP SUPPORT WESTHAB'S YOUTH PROGRAMS WHILE ENJOYING MUSIC STAR MATISYAHU ON FEBRUARY 16 AT TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL. TICKETS ARE ONLY \$35.**



**Wendy Greenberg Mikhailovich at 472-3377 or [wendygreenberg@optonline.net](mailto:wendygreenberg@optonline.net)  
or Jodi Klein at 472-4617 or [jodi.klein@gmail.com](mailto:jodi.klein@gmail.com)**

## MITZVAH CORPS

Join us at The Esplanade,  
White Plains, NY

Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 2:30 pm  
as we sing songs accompanied by Paul Schwarz.  
Bring a little sunshine to the residents and make  
a difference in their lives.

For more info call Ellie Fleisch 481-1479.

## COOKING FOR THE HOMELESS

For Sunday Information: Nancy Marcus - 725-7231

For Monday Information: Laura Green - 949-6113

Sundays at 11:00 am: 2/5, 3/18, 4/22, 5/6, 6/10

Mondays at noon: 2/27, 3/26, 4/23,  
5/21, 6/18.

If you are interested in chairing Monday Cooking for the  
Homeless in 2012, please contact Laura Green at 949-6113.

## Adult Education

Please check the program listings in your Kol Ami phone and date book for more details.

### COMING IN FEBRUARY:

#### **Biblical Beauty: Ancient Secrets & Modern Solutions How Women of the Bible Created a Timeless Beauty**

*With Rachelle Weisberg*  
Sun., 2/5 from 9:00–11:00 am  
in Chapel in the Woods  
Free with WRJ membership  
registration required  
Sponsored by Women of Reform  
Judaism/Sisterhood

#### **Facing the Legacy of Sept. 11th: Ten Years Later**

**Jews & Muslim in America**  
Sessions to study with American Muslims  
Thurs., 7:30-9:00 pm  
2/9, 3/8 & 3/22  
Rabbi Shira Milgrom & guest teachers

#### **Women's Roundtable Breakfast**

*with Rabbi Shira Milgrom*  
Wednesdays, 7:45-9:00 am  
2/1, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2

#### **Kol Ami Reads Book Club**

First Wed. of each month  
9:15 am in Room 20  
Doris Dingott, 289-0869

#### **Israeli Folk Dance**

*with Shmulik Gou-Ari*  
Wednesdays when  
Religious School is in Session  
No class 2/22  
\$10 members; \$13 non-members  
8:00-8:30 pm Beginners  
8:30-10:00 pm Open Dance

#### **Current Events**

*with Beth & Gene Kava*  
Mondays, 11:00am-12:30 pm in Room 20  
2/6, 2/27  
Examine a current issue of the day in depth.  
Will use readings, video or a guest speaker

#### **Kol Ami Genealogy Group**

*with Dr. Alan Steinfeld*  
First Wednesday of month, 7:15-8:30 pm.

#### **Wisdom of the Sages: Lunch and Learn**

*with Rabbi Tom Weiner*  
Every Tuesday, 12:00 noon-1:00 pm.  
Lively discussions of the world and our lives  
based on some of the most provocative and  
fascinating Jewish learning texts.

#### **Introduction to Judaism**

*with Rabbi Shira Milgrom*  
Tuesdays 8:00-10:00 pm. 2/14, 2/28  
First year of a 2 year program leading  
to Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah

#### **Weekly Torah: Parshat Hashavua:**

**Weekly Torah Study**  
Every Friday from 10-11:30 am.  
Led by Kol Ami members

#### **Parenting/Grandparenting Workshops:**

##### **Blessing of a Skinned Knee**

*with Susan Davis, LCSW*  
For parents of elementary school aged children.  
Meets 2nd and 4th Monday of the month,  
9:30-11:30 am

##### **Adolescent Parenting Workshops**

*with Susan Davis, LCSW*  
First and third Thursdays of month  
from 9:45-11:45  
Discussion of parenting issues  
related to adolescents.

##### **Grandparenting Workshops**

*with Susan Davis, LCSW*  
First Monday of each month,  
9:15-10:45 am

#### **Hebrew Classes for Adults\***

*Pending sufficient enrollment*  
\$150 per semester (scholarships available)  
\$180 per semester for non-members

#### **Wednesday Evenings**

*with Emily Fields*  
**Advanced Beginners/Intermediate**  
7:30 pm  
No class 2/22

#### **Sunday Mornings**

*with Emily Fields*  
No class 2/19, 2/26

#### **Beginning Hebrew**

9:00 am

#### **Advanced Beginners**

10:00 am

#### **Intermediate**

11:15 am

#### **Intermediate/Advanced**

*with Alice Seidman*  
9:00 – 10:00 am  
(Contact Alice Seidman at 953-8455  
for further information)  
No class 2/19, 2/26

### Winter Jewish Film Festival

Tuesday evenings • Feb 14, Mar 20 • In the Petschek Gallery at 7:30 pm

#### The February 14th movie will be “A Matter of Size”

Fed up with their fruitless attempts to lose weight, Herzl (Itzik Cohen) and his three heavysset friends decide to give up their torturous diets and try their luck in the girth-friendly arena of sumo wrestling. Led by Japan native Kitano (Togo Igawa), Herzl and crew discover that there are places in the world where oversized waistlines are appreciated. Dvir Benedek and Shmulik Cohen also star in this lighthearted comedy.



# CONGREGATIONAL RELATIONS

## 2012 Programs and Events

### *Something for Everyone!*

#### KOL AMI WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME

*Two Sessions Remaining — We begin to explore  
Honey from the Rock: An Easy Introduction to Jewish Mysticism*  
by Lawrence Kushner

An introduction to the ten gates of Jewish mysticism and how it applies to daily life.

Tuesday, February 7	7:30–9:30 p.m.	at the home of Lauri Carey; led by Rabbi Shira Milgrom
Sunday, April 22	9:15–11:00 a.m.	in the Chapel in the Woods led by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS

We want you to keep coming and bring your friends  
\$18.00 for individual sessions. Visit [www.nykolami.org](http://www.nykolami.org) to register.

#### AN EVENING AT THE WESTCHESTER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL AT JACOB BURNS

Let's go together!

**Festival Dates: Wednesday, April 11–Tuesday, May 1**

Kol Ami will join in one of the special events associated with the Festival. Details to follow.



#### Mazel Tov to our Gala Honorees

**Tobi and Hon. Martin Rogowsky and Joyce & Fred Claar**

There is still time to sign up to attend and/or support  
our 36th Anniversary celebration  
Saturday, February 11, 7:15 PM  
Westchester Jewish Center  
147 Palmer Avenue, Mamaroneck

#### And Save Sunday June 3 for the annual Celebrate Israel Parade in NYC.

All congregations are invited to march  
with the Westchester Cluster group.  
Contact Donna at [Donna@jwcouncil.org](mailto:Donna@jwcouncil.org) for details.

[info@jwcouncil.org](mailto:info@jwcouncil.org) visit us at [www.jwcouncil.org](http://www.jwcouncil.org)  
(Formerly the Westchester Jewish Conference)  
A proud beneficiary of UJA-Federation of New York

## Community Supported Agriculture Update

The Hazon CSA (community supported agriculture) of White Plains still has some shares remaining for the 2012 season.

Registration is online at  
[www.whiteplainscsa.com](http://www.whiteplainscsa.com).

Any questions or if you want to get more involved? Contact Daryl Moss at 421-9212 or Bonnie Hagen at 997-8164. This is a great way to become part of the local food movement and learn more about sustainability.

## MEN'S COUNCIL/KOL AMI BROTHERHOOD (KABRO)

This year has seen major changes at the Men's Council, now known as the Kol Ami Brotherhood (KABRO). In our first six months, the new leadership team has organized several activities to serve the children of Kol Ami and the broader temple community. These included an overnight camping trip last July, a back-to-school picnic in September, and a candle-lighting celebration on the first night of Hanukah (details below).

We are planning several more events in the months ahead. Some, like the communal seder held at Kol Ami on the second night of Passover (April 7, 2012), are longstanding Men's Council traditions. Others, like a family afternoon of ice skating we're planning this winter and a dance on the night of May 19, are brand-new ideas. The dance is not a fund-raiser – just a chance to have fun with spouses, significant others, and friends in the community. We're planning a pot-luck dessert table to accompany live music by the band Kick Start Charlie. (Check them out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPKXiHDrlWI>)

We welcome ideas and leadership from long-time Men's Council members as well as from those who have joined KABRO within the past year. We also encourage other members of the congregation to get involved and share their ideas with us. We usually meet in a relaxed setting on the first Monday evening of each month, with only an informal agenda and lots of time to socialize. Our goals are to foster camaraderie and friendship among the men of the Kol Ami community and to serve the temple through our programs and activities.

For information about our next meeting, or to learn more about KABRO, contact Co-Presidents Michael Berg ([michaeladam@optonline.net](mailto:michaeladam@optonline.net)) or Scott Pollak ([scott@phdproducts.com](mailto:scott@phdproducts.com)) or check *This Week at Kol Ami*.

As examples of our dual mission – having fun and serving the community – KABRO sponsored two events within a week of each other in December. Both exceeded all expectations. First, we held a pot-luck dinner after Friday night services on December 16. This was a purely social event for KABRO members and their families, and it was a great chance to get to know each other better. Children enjoyed the Three Stooges and the Pink Panther in the auditorium while the “grownups” talked into the evening. It was a real DIY (do it yourself) event – from the amazing variety of homemade food to the cleanup (KABRO members scrubbing pots in the kitchen).

Next, on December 20, KABRO officers Jonathan Klein and Anthony Zitrin organized a Family Hanukah Party. More than 50 children and their parents, grandparents, and caretakers participated. Food was plentiful and included tasty latkes, doughnuts and candy. The children enjoyed a dreidel spinning contest and Hanukah arts and crafts and music. Rabbi Shira and Rabbi Tom were in attendance, and Cantor Mo played guitar and sang songs before leading the candle-lighting prayers. It was a joyous start to the holiday.

You'll be hearing more from us in the months ahead. Meanwhile, we'll hope to hear from you.

**Don't Forget: Save Saturday, May 19, for our fabulous evening of dancing!**

### Sisterhood News

Join us as author  
*Rachelle Weisberger*  
talks about her book

**“Biblical Beauty: Ancient  
Secrets and Modern  
Solutions”.**

**Sunday, February 5**  
from 9:00-11:00 am.

We will explore how  
women of the Bible created  
a timeless beauty.

Please call Ilene Miller,  
949-4717 x 111  
or email her at  
[imsnoops1@aol.com](mailto:imsnoops1@aol.com) to  
reserve your space.  
Free.

**Sisterhood's Answer to  
March Madness...**

*Ladies'  
Night Out*

**March 13, 2012**  
**7:00pm**

*Open to all of the  
Wonderful Women  
of Kol Ami*

**Caffee Azzuri**  
20 N. Central Avenue  
Hartsdale  
Watch for further details in  
This Week at Kol Ami

*Sisterhood  
Membership  
Dinner*

with Cantor Mo Glazman.

**Tuesday, May 1, 2012.**  
Admission:  
Paid up Sisterhood  
Membership for 2011-2012.

Your Sisterhood  
membership of \$40  
supports socializing events  
throughout the year and  
provides funding for a vast  
array of charitable activities  
throughout the Temple and  
the larger community.

# MITZVAH KNITZ

We will be meeting on  
**Tuesday**  
**February 21**  
from noon to 2:00 pm.

Join us.  
Knitters of all skill levels  
are welcome.  
For further information,  
call Elaine Cohen,  
725-0248 or  
elwilco@verizon.

Future Dates:  
3/20, 4/17,  
5/15, 6/19

## Kol Ami Reads Book Club

*The Eye of the Leopard*  
by Henning Mankell  
February 1, 2012

*The Razor's Edge*  
by Somerset Maugham  
March 7, 2012

*Crossing to Safety*  
by William Stegner  
April 4, 2012

*A Prayer for the Dying*  
by Stewart O'Nan  
May 2, 2012

All meetings, unless otherwise  
announced, are on the first Wednesday of  
the month at 9:15am in Room 20  
Come whether you've read the book or not;  
the discussion is always lively.  
For further information, contact Doris Dingott,  
289-0869, DLDingott@gmail.com or  
Elaine Cohen, 725-0248,  
elwilco@verizon.net.



## BALLARD-DURAND FUNERAL HOME

Serving the Jewish Community  
for over Sixty Years  
Newly decorated and expanded facilities  
Attended parking for over 100 cars  
Independently owned and operated

2 Maple Avenue at. S. Broadway,  
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Celebrate Purim  
by sending a Purim greeting  
to friends AND family



Proceeds support the Kol Ami Religious School  
and charities supported by the Kol Ami Women of Reform Judaism.

Sending Purim greetings and contributing to tzedakah at the same  
time is a great way to celebrate Purim while letting friends, family  
and teachers know that you are thinking of them.

Go to [www.PurimProject.com](http://www.PurimProject.com) by February 5th

If you have not received your user name and password  
by now, please contact the main office.



Sample Purim basket. Actual basket may vary.



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Please Join The Early Childhood Program  
At Our Annual  
Share the Love Mitzvah Bake Sale

Wednesday, February 15th  
In Our Auditorium  
9:00-9:45am



All of the proceeds from our sale will be used towards our special School-wide Tzedakah Project for the children and families from the Early Learning Center in New Rochelle

Please join us and show your support for this wonderful project!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 15th from 9:00-9:45

Everyone is Welcome See you there!

**ANTE UP! EVERYONE IS A  
WINNER WHEN OUR CHILDREN  
BENEFIT. PLAY FOR THEM!**

**TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT – WIN A FLAT SCREEN TV**

Registration for the Texas Hold'em Tournament is required as space is limited. There is a separate \$100 entrance fee for the Texas Hold'em Tournament. Please remember to send in the registration card along with the reply card, if you want to join the Tournament.

**SILENT AUCTION**

The silent auction features tickets to the People's Choice Awards in LA for January 2013, a summer membership to the exclusive Mamaroneck Beach and Yacht Club, weekend get-aways, show tickets, sporting events, and much more.

**COME ONE, COME ALL**

The Casino Night is a fundraising event for the ECP. It is open to everyone. So, please bring your friends and make this a night to remember.



**SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup> 2012**  
**Mamaroneck Beach and Yacht Club**


- ♣ Games of Chance
- ♥ Texas Hold'em Tournament
- ♦ Scotch Tasting
- ♠ Silent Auction



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> <b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> 7:45 am Women's Round Table Breakfast 9:00 am Book Club 6:00 pm Or Chadash, Children's Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Advanced Beginners/Intermediate Adult Hebrew 7:15 pm Genealogy Group 8:00 pm Israeli Dance	<b>2</b> 9:45 am Adolescent Parenting 7:45 pm Congregational Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> <b>YAD B-YAD SHABBAT</b> 10:00 am Torah Study <b>5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS</b> in Gallery <b>6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE</b> in Sanctuary	<b>4</b> <b>SPIRITUAL LIFT</b> in Chapel 9:00 am Coffee & Community 9:30 am Study <b>11:00 am SERVICE</b> <b>10:30 am SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE:</b> Bat Mitzvah of Annie Cohen in Sanctuary <b>4:00 pm HAVDALAH HISPANICA</b>
<b>5</b> <b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> 9:00 am Biblical Beauty Program 9:00 am Intermediate/Advanced Hebrew with Alice Seidman 9:00 am Beginning Hebrew with Emily Fields 10 am Advanced beginners Hebrew with Emily 11:00 am Drama Club Rehearsal 11:00 am Kol Ami Cooks 11:15 am Intermediate Hebrew with Emily	<b>6</b> 9:30 am Grandparenting Class 11:00 am Current Events 8:00 pm Men's Council/Brotherhood Meeting	<b>7</b> 12:00 pm Wisdom of the Sages Class 7:30 pm Adult Purim Rehearsal 7:30 pm Oasis at Home program	<b>8</b> <b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> 6:00 pm Or Chadash Rehearsal 7:30 pm Advanced Beginners/Intermediate Adult Hebrew 7:30 pm Information Session for Special Meeting 8:00 pm Israeli Dance	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Grandparenting Workshop 7:30 pm Jews & Muslims Class 7:45 pm Congregational Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> <b>SYNAPLEX</b> 10:00 am Torah Study <b>5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS</b> in Gallery <b>6:00 pm SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b> <b>6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE</b> in Sanctuary	<b>11</b> <b>SPIRITUAL LIFT</b> in Chapel 9:00 am Coffee & Community 9:30 am Study <b>11:00 am SERVICE</b> <b>9:00 am B'NAI MITZVAH WORKSHOP SERVICE &amp; BRUNCH</b>
<b>12</b> <b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> 9:00 am Intermediate/Advanced Hebrew with Alice Seidman 9:00 am Beginning Hebrew with Emily Fields 10:00 am Advanced Beginners Hebrew with Emily 11:00 am Drama Club Rehearsal 11:15 am Intermediate Hebrew with Emily <b>1:00 pm PRINCESS &amp; PIRATE PARTY</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30 am Blessing of a Skinned Knee Class	<b>14</b> 12:00 pm Wisdom of the Sages Class 7:30 pm Winter Jewish Film Festival movie 7:30 pm Adult Purim Rehearsal 8:00 pm Intro to Judaism	<b>15</b> <b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> <b>ECP BAKE SALE</b> 6:00 pm Or Chadash Rehearsal 7:30 pm Advanced Beginners/Intermediate Adult Hebrew 8:00 pm Israeli Dance	<b>16</b> 9:45 am Adolescent Parenting Workshop 8:00 pm Board of Trustees meeting	<b>17</b> <b>ECP CLOSED</b> <b>5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS</b> in Gallery <b>6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE</b> in Sanctuary	<b>18</b> <b>SPIRITUAL LIFT</b> in Chapel 9:00 am Coffee & Community 9:30 am Study <b>11:00 am SERVICE</b>
<b>19</b> <b>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> <b>NO ADULT HEBREW</b>	<b>20</b> <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b> <b>OFFICE &amp; ECP CLOSED</b>	<b>21</b> 12:00 pm Mitzvah Knitz <b>ECP CLOSED</b>	<b>22</b> <b>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> <b>ECP CLOSED</b> <b>NO ADULT HEBREW</b> <b>NO ISRAELI DANCE</b>	<b>23</b> <b>ECP CLOSED</b>	<b>24</b> <b>ECP CLOSED</b> <b>5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS</b> in Gallery <b>6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE</b> in Sanctuary	<b>25</b> <b>SPIRITUAL LIFT</b> in Chapel 9:00 am Coffee & Community 9:30 am Study <b>11:00 am SERVICE</b>
<b>26</b> <b>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> No Adult Hebrew	<b>27</b> 9:30 am Blessing of a Skinned Knee 11:00 am Current Events 12:00pm Cooking for the Homeless	<b>28</b> 12:00 PM Wisdom of the Sages Class 7:30 pm Adult Purim Rehearsal 8:00 pm Intro to Judaism	<b>29</b> <b>HAPPY LEAP YEAR DAY</b> <b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> 6:00 pm Or Chadash Rehearsal 7:30 pm Advanced Beginners/Intermediate Adult Hebrew 7:45 pm Congregational Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm Israeli Dance	<b>Mar. 1</b> 9:45 AM Adolescent Parenting 7:45 pm Congregational Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> <b>THIRD GRADE SHABBAT SHABBAT ACROSS KOL AMI</b> <b>5:30 pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS</b> in Gallery <b>6:15 pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE</b> in Sanctuary	<b>3</b> <b>SPIRITUAL LIFT</b> in Chapel 9:00 am Coffee & Community 9:30 am Study <b>11:00 am SERVICE</b> 10:30 am B'not Mitzvah of Alice Auerbacher and Mollie Hirschheimer in Sanctuary

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## March Connection Deadline

**February 17, 2012**

### **Congregation Kol Ami**

**A Reform Synagogue  
(914) 949-4717**

*A Member of the  
Union for Reform Judaism*

#### **Rabbis**

**Shira Milgrom  
328-4549**

**Tom Weiner  
684-6991**

#### **Cantor:**

**Mo Glazman**

#### **Exec. Director:**

**Jane S. Friedberg**

#### **Religious School**

#### **Principal:**

**Felice Miller Baritz**

#### **ECP Director:**

**Nan Blank**

#### **Program Manager:**

**Ilene Miller**

#### **Director of Membership**

#### **& Development**

**Janet H. Hershey**

#### **Co-Presidents:**

**Ronnie Cohn Farley**

**Mark Seiden**

#### **Rabbis**

#### **Emeriti:**

**Lawrence W. Schwartz\***

**Maurice Davis\***

**Mark L. Winer**

#### **Cantor Emeritus:**

**Raymond Smolover**

*\*of blessed memory*



CONGREGATION

**KOL AMI**

252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606 / 914-949-4717 Fax 914-946-8143

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