



Please join us as we celebrate the Confirmation of

Alice Auerbacher
Emily Brew
Max Brown
Alex Caione
Annie Cohen
Justin Cohen
Allie Coonin
Ray Flaks
Daniel Garelick

Rachel Gee
Rachel Gordon
Daniel Hostetter
Sam Jeske
Ellie Klein
Aaron Lehr
Dylan Libman
Eliana Litos

Sadie Mazzola
Danielle Okun
Jeffrey Pollak
Matthew Reynolds
Clara Ritterman-Peria
Michael Salzinger
Rachel Sarch
Lily Sherwood
Jessica Sommers

at Shavuot Services
Sunday, May 24th, 2015 at 10:00 in the morning
Congregation Kol Ami
White Plains, New York

Brunch Reception following the service

LET'S GET TOGETHER FOR A
FUNDRAISER AND SOME LAUGHS

Thursday, May 7th,
7-10 PM
at Kol Ami



Food, Drinks, Auction
Tickets \$150

COMEDY NIGHT WITH JOHNNY LAMPERT

SERVICES

Friday, May 1

5:00pm

SYNAPLEX

5:30 pm

SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium

6:15 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in
Sanctuary

Saturday, May 2

9:00 am

SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel

9:30 am

Coffee and community

9:30 am

Study

10:30 am

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE: Bat Mitzvah
of Allison DeMarco

11:00 am

SERVICE

5:30 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE: ADULT
B'NAI MITZVAH

Friday, May 8

5:30 pm

SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium

6:15 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in
Sanctuary

Saturday, May 9

9:00 am

SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel

9:30 am

Coffee and community

9:30 am

Study

11:00 am

SERVICE

5:30 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE: Bar Mitzvah
of Jack Tomkiewicz

Friday, May 15

5:30 pm

SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium

6:15 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in
Sanctuary

6:15 pm

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION SHABBAT
SERVICE

Saturday, May 16

9:00 am

SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel

9:30 am

Coffee and community

9:30 am

Study

11:00 am

SERVICE

5:30 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE: Bar Mitzvah
of Andrew Perlman

Friday, May 22

5:30 pm

SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium

6:15 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in
Sanctuary with Adult Choir

7:00 pm

CONFIRMATION DINNER

Saturday, May 23

9:00 am

SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel

9:30 am

Coffee and community

9:30 am

Study

11:00 am

SERVICE

7:00 pm

A STAR-STUDED SHAVUOT: Study Under
the Stars with Reform Congregations from
Westchester

Sunday, May 24

10:00 am

CONFIRMATION AT SHAVUOT AND
YIZKOR SERVICES

Friday, May 29

5:30 pm

SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium

6:15 pm

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in
Sanctuary

Saturday, May 30

9:00 am

SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel

9:30 am

Coffee and community

9:30 am

Study

10:30 am

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE: Bat Mitzvah
of Cate Ward

11:00 am

SERVICE

Making the Connection...**CLERGY**

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

ShiraMilgrom@nykolami.org

Rabbi Tom Weiner

RabbiTom@nykolami.org

Cantor David Rosen

cantordavid@nykolami.org

Rabbis Emeriti

Lawrence W. Schwartz*

Maurice Davis*

Mark L. Winer

Cantor Emeritus

Raymond Smolover

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of blessed memory*JUNE CONNECTION DEADLINE**
May 18, 2015

Congregation Kol Ami

A Reform Synagogue

(914) – 949-4717

www.nykolami.org

A Member of the Union of Reform Judaism

Israel and Petra — February 2016

Traveling to Israel is not a trip; it's a journey. In February of 2016 (not even ten months from now!), Kol Ami is traveling to Israel. Nan Blank, Our Early Childhood Program director, joins me as we lead a journey to the land of our roots and dreams. Israel is a land of amazement—we will climb up cliffs (yes, everyone can do it, especially kids.), walk through canyons, explore ancient ruins, be dazzled by spices and nuts and fruits in the open markets, be hosted for dinner in the homes of Arab Druze citizens of Israel, hear the stories of young soldiers, stay on a pioneer kibbutz in the Negev (Israel's southern desert region), sit in the centuries old cistern (now a steam bath [hammam]) of our Jerusalem hotel. We'll walk in the footsteps of the prophets, and create some of our own on Mediterranean beaches. We'll float in the Dead Sea, and jump into wadi waterfalls. We'll celebrate Shabbat in modern Tel Aviv and ancient Jerusalem. We'll talk and listen and eat and drink and laugh and sing and cry and meet amazing people and get to know each other. We might not sleep a lot! We'll dive into

history and encounter the challenges of the present. Eyes wide open. And because Petra (in Jordan) is one of the wonders of the world—and it's not hot yet in February, and close to our Negev kibbutz, we're planning one day in this unforgettable place.



This trip is for families, singles, couples, friends. We are blessed to be alive at a time when we can journey to the land of Israel – a blessing multiplied by traveling with our community. Please feel free to talk with Nan or me about this trip and to ask any questions. By the time you are reading this *Connection*, you will have already received email links with more information and how to register. So, *l'hitraot* – see you soon!!

Shi-

You Have Made a Difference

Dear Kol Ami Friends,

One of the honors of being a rabbi is the privilege of acting as your *Shaliach Tseddakah*; that is, one who gives tsedakkah as agent for another. The Tseddakah I'm referring to in this case is the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. I want to express my gratitude to all of you who have generously donated to my Discretionary Fund.

Following Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations, in memory of loved ones, in appreciation of special programming, following joyful weddings, as well as at other significant times in your lives, you thoughtfully make the donations that make so much good work possible. I thank you for the privilege of acting as your Shalicach Tsedakah.

I thought that I would share with you just some 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:

- Scholarships for Jewish camping
- Major speakers for two Synaplex evenings
- Underwriting our very successful Tikkun Olam journey to Costa Rica for our teens
- Providing a mohel for newborns when the family can't afford the cost

- Support for Youth Group activities
- Providing the funding for our College Program, including the gifts and mailings sent by our College Committee as well as my visits to college campuses
- Helping students with special educational needs
- Books for adult and young students
- Scholarship for the coursework for individuals preparing for conversion
- Purchasing media equipment for the new Sanctuary
- Supporting the affiliates of the Reform Movement here and in Israel
- Individuals in need of financial assistance for immediate medical needs
- Individuals in need of help in emergency situations



Without your help, we would have fewer students studying, fewer teachers teaching, students unable prepare fully for conversion, diminished youth programming, students unable to attend Jewish camps or 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,

Tom

Save the Date: June 19, 2015
Third Annual LGBT Pride Shabbat
Details to Follow

SAVE THE DATE MAY 19, 2015 | 7:00 P.M. **MOVING THE NEEDLE**

THE JEWISH COMMITMENT
TO HEALING THE WORLD

With
Rabbi Shira Milgrom
Congregation Kol Ami
AND
Rabbi Jonathan Blake
Westchester Reform Temple

Moderated by
Ruth W. Messinger
President of AJWS

JCC-OF MID-WESTCHESTER IN SCARSDALE, NY

Do You Care About Environmental Sustainability?

If you have expertise in the broad field of environmental sustainability or have an interest in doing volunteer work for Kol Ami in this area, please contact either Jess Lorden (Jessicalorden@nykolami.org) or Bonnie Hagen (Bonnie@brightenergyservices.com) and please join us for a planning meeting on May 13th at 5pm.

Why Do We Count??

A Kabbalists' View on Counting the Omer

My first memories of counting were from the ominous "Count" from Sesame Street. "One, two, three...ha ha ha! This time of year, we find ourselves performing a different type of counting.

From the 2nd night of Passover, we are instructed to count the days leading up to the festival of Shavuot. In traditional circles, the Omer is counted during the daily evening service. There are many different traditions and opinions as to why we count these days; however, all will agree that the act of counting creates a sense of anticipation for us to commemorate the gift of the Torah; as marked by the holiday of Shavuot.

There are 49 days to be counted in total with Shavuot commencing on the evening of the 50th day. The Kabbalists created an awareness of and found symbolism within these 49 days or seven weeks. They explain that the seven weeks represent seven different aspects of the human character. These traits are said to be the most important emotions that make up the core of every individual's soul. They are:

- Love
- Serenity
- Mercy
- Desire for Victory
- Submission
- Dedication
- Fulfillment

The idea is that the seven weeks give us ample opportunity to pay attention to each of these emotions for a given week and attempt to improve on each one with respect to how it impacts on our personality. The Kabbalists added that only after this period of self-improve-

ment were we, the Jewish people, "ready to meet with G-d at Sinai and receive the Torah." It is an interesting midrash, although one could make the argument that we would be better able to improve our personalities only after receiving the Torah.



Regardless of how you interpret this seven week period, I believe it is interesting for us to reflect upon these different aspects of our personalities. Which emotion are you especially attuned to? What effort are you going to make to improve it?

One could argue that our uniqueness as individuals comes from the different amount of each of these traits that make up our personalities. In many ways, we are like characters in a video game who have a certain amount of "strength" or "power" and the objective is to accomplish tasks to build up our reservoir of a particular type of attribute. When we translate these tasks and view them on a human level, we realize that, indeed, we all have the ability to improve ourselves by strengthening our individual capacities to perform a given task. When we are kinder to others, our capacity to love increases. When we are dedicated to something, we have a greater sense of relevance and importance in the world...the list goes on.

As each of us counts the Omer in our own unique way, over the next seven weeks may we create opportunities not only to maintain our great qualities but also to strengthen those emotions that need some extra attention. The world and those closest to us will benefit from our efforts.

Happy counting!

Congratulations to Our Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class of 2015

Ellen Bittner	Judi Arner Brown	Marjorie Bruckman
Robin Davies-Small	Susan Davis	Anne D'Orazio
Carol Klein	David Klein	Evelyne Klein
Jennifer Lemberg	Elaine Libman	Lin Shapiro
Elizabeth Ward		

Confirmation will be held on Sunday, May 24th.

On that day, our tenth grade Religious School students, listed below, will participate in the Shavout Confirmation Service, dedicating themselves anew to the values of our faith. We rejoice with them and their families on this special occasion.

Sending a personal, simple greeting is traditional for this milestone, delivering the good wishes of the sender and providing the warm pleasure of being remembered to the recipient.

This year, Sisterhood is pleased to change the format of the Confirmation greetings. We will be offering online access only to sending your good wishes and warm congratulations to these young people. Although in previous years, there was a fee for Confirmation greetings, we are now providing this opportunity at no cost. Each confirmand will be given a list of the greetings being sent to her/him, similar to the letter that accompanies Purim baskets.

The deadline for sending a greeting is Friday, May 15th. We hope you will participate in this meaningful project. Thank you.

Best wishes
Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus, Judy Sarch
Co-Presidents, Kol Ami Women of Reform Judaism

[Click Here To Send Your Congratulatory Greeting Today](#)

2015 Confirmands

Alice Auerbacher	Ellie Klein
Emily Brew	Aaron Lehr
Max Brown	Dylan Libman
Alex Caione	Eliana Litos
Annie Cohen	Sadie Mazzola
Justin Cohen	Danielle Okun
Allie Coonin	Jeffrey Pollak
Ray Flaks	Matthew Reynolds
Daniel Garelick	Clara Ritterman-Pena
Rachel Gee	Michael Salzinger
Rachel Gordon	Rachel Sarch
Daniel Hostetter	Lilly Sherwood
Sam Jeske	Jessica Sommers

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Jen Labovitz,
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Marketing, Leslie Wiesen,
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Retreat, Genna Farley,
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Worship, Sheryl Brady,
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WRJ Sisterhood, Sheryl Brady,
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Annual Fund, David Okun,
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Scott Musoff,
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Facilities, David Seicol,
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Personnel, To Be Determined,
Personnel@nykolami.org
Planned Giving, Howard Geller,
Evelyne Klein,
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Spring Fundraiser, Lori Abrams,
SpringFundraiser@nykolami.org
Coachman Family Center, Jess Lorden,
Rabbi Shira Milgrom,
HelpTheCoachman@nykolami.org
Inclusion, Marci Frankenthaler,
Beth Tomkiewicz,
Inclusion@nykolami.org
Inter-Faith Outreach, Julie Carran,
Carol Mencher,
InterfaithOutreach@nykolami.org
Kol Ami Cares, Betsy McCormack,
Ginny Ruder,
KolAmiCares@nykolami.org

From Our President

Every year we get a unique opportunity to celebrate the year that was: to hear about the fantastic programming that happened over the past 12 months; to honor those who passed; to revel in the birth of the next generation; and to hear from the clergy about what they thought were their most important accomplishments in the past year. But, even more importantly, we get an opportunity to plan for our future. An opportunity to ensure that the Congregation remains on a strong fiscal foundation. An opportunity to ensure that our Congregation has strong and committed leadership. So, please join the Officers, Board, Clergy, Staff and your fellow Congregants at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 12 at 8:00 to ensure that your voice is heard.



Photo by Mariela Melamed

Every few years, we review our governing legal foundation, our By-Laws, to see if they need to be updated. We made a comprehensive set of changes a few years ago to ensure that the By-Laws reflect the way that we operate our temple today. The Board reviewed the By-Laws again this year and determined that we needed to make a few more adjustments, mostly related to how we hire staff and who can sit on the Board. By the time that you read this, you will have received the Annual Meeting notice which contains a copy of the proposed By-Laws. It is important that you understand these changes, so that you can participate in building our future.

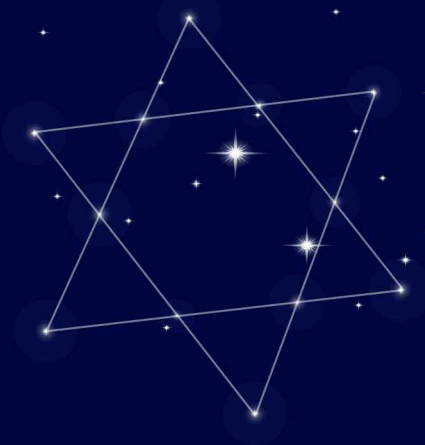
Probably the most important part of the evening is the presentation of the current financial position of the Congregation and the approval of next year's budget. We are proud of all that we've all done over the past couple of years to carry on the work of our prior leadership to ensure that we have a balanced budget and that we continue to build a strong monetary foundation. To that end, the Board reviewed the FIM Fund (the Financial Improvement & Maintenance Fund), as its three year approval expires at the end of this fiscal year. The FIM Fund was created about a decade ago to bridge the gap in the budget between expected revenue and expenses. The hope had been that this gap would narrow or be eliminated. The reality is that our financial structure is such that the gap will not be able to be eliminated without a major shift in our underlying revenue picture.

One of the goals of this year's budget is to provide even greater transparency. One of the ways that we've accomplished this is to move some costs for on-going programming from the Clergy's Discretionary Funds (where it was because they helped incubate the program) to the operating budget (where it belongs). The other major way that we've provided greater transparency is by eliminating the FIM Fund and changing the dues structure to ensure that we have adequate revenue to cover our expenses. Because of a change in the way that FIM Fund costs are allocated, this new structure will actually result in a decrease in total costs for those who are currently paying the FIM Fund. It will also enable us to provide transparent and fiscally responsible budgets for next year and the future.

We hope that you will take this opportunity to join your voice to those of your fellow Congregants as we celebrate the past and plan for the future. See you on May 12!

And don't forget to sign up for the Retreat, which will be on June 12-14 this year. Join with old friends and make new, lasting friendships over a weekend that will give you the chance to relax, play, reflect, recharge and reconnect.

blame



A Star-Studded Shavuot

Study Under the Stars
with Reform Congregations
from Westchester

Saturday, May 23, 2015

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Community Synagogue of Rye
200 Forest Avenue, Rye

Come share in a night of Jewish learning that will engage your hands, your heart, your mind (and maybe your feet!) with rabbis, cantors, and congregants from Community Synagogue of Rye, Kol Ami of White Plains, Scarsdale Synagogue Temples Tremont and Emanu-El and Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale.

A Traditional Shavuot Dessert (Sweet and Dairy!) will be provided.
Please RSVP to dsacks@comsynrye.org or 914-967-6262.

Making a Difference: *Planned Giving*

Many members of Congregation Kol Ami have had a connection with this congregation for decades.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of so many of you - of all ages and at all stages of life - Congregation Kol Ami remains a dynamic, vibrant entity, with a stellar Clergy, Administration, a beautiful new Sanctuary and programs for everyone.

Today, there is one more thing we can do to insure that Congregation Kol Ami continues to thrive, and that is to establish a Planned Giving program. Planned Giving allows for the establishment of an endowment fund named The Legacy Fund, to ensure the future financial stability and security of Congregation Kol Ami, and the continuation of our vibrant community. It is a unique form of giving that should not be confused with gifts to the Annual Fund, which supports the annual operating budget; or the Capital Campaign Fund, which supports special projects such as the recent renovation of the Sanctuary.

You have attended weddings and welcomed babies into the Jewish world; your children have celebrated Bar and Bat Mitzvahs; your children and grandchildren have grown up in the Early Childhood Program, Religious School and Youth Programs. At funerals of loved ones and friends, we have celebrated and honored life. You have prayed at High Holidays led by our incomparable clergy. Shabbat Synaplex, Passover Seders, Purim Spiels, Adult Education, have filled your lives with joy, connection and meaning. There is something for everyone at Kol Ami, regardless of age and interest, and innumerable congregants have given considerable time and energy to create this community.

Please consider making a Planned Gift to The Legacy Fund of Congregation Kol Ami. After you have provided for your heirs, a Planned Gift perpetuates what you believe in, the organizations that you value, the ideals you have lived by, and your wishes for the future. It provides Tzedakah; and you have the peace of mind and personal satisfaction that comes from knowing that the legacy you have worked to create will reflect your values and be distributed according to your wishes.

When making or considering a Planned Gift naming The Legacy Fund as a beneficiary of your estate, you are expressing your wish to:

- Have Congregation Kol Ami continue its remarkable dedication to Jewish spiritual, educational, cultural and social fulfillment for generations to come;
- Create a legacy during your lifetime that embodies your commitment to Jewish community and Jewish life;
- Explore potential tax and other benefits, which should be discussed with your attorney or estate planner.
- Know that the significance of your lives continues to bless our world even beyond your days on this earth.

A Planned Giving column in *The Connection* will frequently discuss topics regarding the importance of wills; how to get started; issues to consider and discuss with your families and attorneys.

We encourage you to contact Evelyne Klein, Chair, Planned Giving Committee at 914-761-7659; or Jess Lorden, Executive Director at 914-949-4717, with any questions. Please note that all information and inquiries will be kept in the strictest of confidence.

Retreat Registration Now Open!

The 2015 Kol Ami Retreat will take place from June 12-14, 2015, at Circle Lodge in Hopewell Junction, NY. Please note this a different weekend than usual. Interested in volunteering to help make the 22nd Retreat an amazing weekend, with friends and family of all ages, that you'll never forget?

To register, click on the link:

<https://congregationkolami.formstack.com/forms/retreat2015>

Want to support the Retreat but are unable to attend or volunteer? Your donation, of any amount, to the newly-created Retreat Fund is the perfect way to support this Kol Ami tradition.

From the Religious School

Our teachers are working hard to finish projects and conclude units with your children. There are still lots of things going on during the month of May so please keep checking the weekly emails and the *Gold Standard* for upcoming programs and activities. You can always check our calendar on-line at www.nykolami.org Mark your calendars for our *Zimriyah* on Sunday, May 17th. Everyone is invited to join us as we sing and dance together in celebration of an amazing year of learning! Our *Zimriyah* will be followed by a special end of year picnic.

Religious School registration materials are now available on our website! If you have a new student entering our school, you must complete the online form. Students entering 8th through 12th grades next year need to complete a new form as well. All other currently registered students will be automatically rolled over and you will be billed for Religious School tuition. If you currently have a child in our school, you should have received an email with all the registration information. If you did not receive this email, or if you have any questions, please contact the school office.

We will join together again this year for our annual Kol Ami community Retreat. Unlike year's past, the retreat will NOT be Memorial Day Weekend... it will be the weekend of June 12-14th. This will be our 22nd year sharing this amazing weekend together. If you have never had the opportunity to join in this wonderful community program, I urge you to consider

coming with us this year! The retreat brings together all of the best of Kol Ami. Community, worship, fun, creative programs and the opportunity to get away from the hustle of our daily lives and relax together. There's something for everyone from our youngest children to our wisest elders. Come for the whole weekend, or just for a day... but come! Space is limited, so register today! Registration is available online at—please click on the link in the box on page 9 or pick up a form in the office! Don't miss the fun!



Our work continues after the school year ends and Pam and I look forward to the opportunity to focus on planning and programming for the next school year. As always, the end of a school year provides me with the chance to thank all of our parents for the ongoing commitment to your children and to maintaining their connection to Jewish life and Jewish learning. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered, who have asked questions, challenged convention and just stopped in to share a part of yourself with me. Through these connections, we work together to build a vibrant, engaged and always evolving Jewish community. I am honored to be a part of such a community with all of you.

With wishes for a joyous and relaxing summer,

Felice

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2015 IS NOW OPEN

All registration is ON LINE at www.nykolami.org

If you have a NEW STUDENT, you must complete the online form

If you have a RETURNING STUDENT currently in Grades K-6
your child will automatically be registered and billed for the next year.

If you have a child entering grades 8-12
you must complete the online registration form.

If you have any questions, please call the school office!
914-949-4717 x112 or 124

From the Director of the Early Childhood Program

After Passover and our spring vacation we didn't miss a step and began preparing for another wonderful tradition in the ECP, our **Annual Trip to Israel** on *Yom Ha'atzmaut*! Our staff and families always look forward to our *Yom Ha'atzmaut*! celebration with great anticipation and this year was no different. After a most enjoyable "plane ride" the children had the opportunity to put messages into the wall of the Kotel, stomp on grapes in our vineyard, make orange juice, plant trees, milk a cow, take a picture with a camel, learn how things float in the Dead Sea, fish in Eilat, participate on an Archaeological dig, make a stained glass window, relax at our very own Dead Sea spa complete with mud baths, taste the delicious foods of Israel, learn about the animals that live in the desert, and make their own pita! Of course the morning could not have been possible without the able hands of our ECP Staff, Rabbis Shira and Tom, Cantor David, and Felice, our Religious School Director, and our many parent volunteers. So, a special thank you to all who made this morning so special for our 3's, 4's and Pre-k's—THANK YOU!

Our 4's also participated in our annual Israeli Dance Festival. This year it was held at Temple Beth El in New Rochelle. This wonderful annual event involves 6 other Jewish Early Childhood Programs from the Westchester and New York City area. It's a wonderfully rich morning of Dance and celebration lead by our wonderful teacher Shmulik Gov-Ari.

Another priceless event we look so forward to is our **Annual Art Show and Artists Breakfast**. This year our Art Show will take place on Thursday morning **May 21st** from 9:00-9:45. The children work all year on this event and this year our 4's will be showcasing their very own 3-dimensional "Community of Friends." We invite all of our families to join us for breakfast and a special "viewing" of the children's work needless to say this is always a special morning.

Wednesday, May 27th will be special, as we will again have the privilege of hosting our friends from the Children's Early Learning Center in New Rochelle. Some of the children who attend the Early Learning Center live at the Coachman Family Shelter in Westchester or come from less fortunate families in our local neighborhoods. We have invited the Center's 3 and 4 year olds to join our 3 and 4 year olds for a morning of play, friendship and, of course, ice cream! This is the sixth year we have extended an invitation to this school.



In our effort to teach the children in our nursery school the concept of *Tikun Olam*, repairing the world, we have introduced the idea of giving of oneself at a level we know they will understand. Every Shabbat the children are encouraged to bring Tzedakah with the understanding that the monies collected are used to help others. At our annual **Share the Love Mitzvah Bake Sale** that we traditionally hold during February, all of our classes bake in school and many of our families prepare a few items at home as well. The monies raised from the bake sale along with the Tzedakah that is collected each week is pooled together and used toward purchasing gifts for both the school and the children who attend the Early Learning Center.

It is our hope here at the Early Childhood Program that our children understand the idea of *Tikun Olam*, the concept of giving of oneself to help others. After our morning with our new friends, hopefully our children will grasp the significance of our efforts.

Nan



Kol Ami Early Childhood Program

Warm, Nurturing and Enriching

Registration for 2015-2016 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

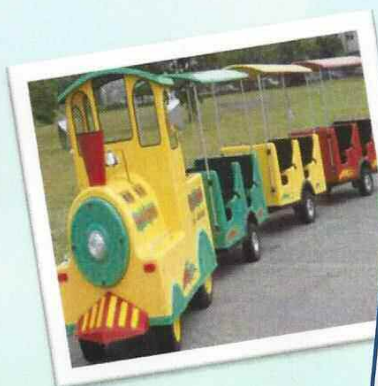
A Step Ahead! Our Pre-K program Designed for children turning

5 from September through December.

See for yourself—nothing takes the place of a personal visit.

Call for an appointment and tour today • Nan Blank, Director, at Ext. 107

Congregation Kol Ami's ECP Welcomes you to our Annual Family Fun Day! Everyone in the community is welcome!



Sunday June 7th, 2015
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

MENU

- ☒ BBQ
- ☒ Arts & Crafts
- ☒ Games & Surprises
- ☒ Sports
- ☒ Train Rides
- ☒ Carousel
- ☒ The Ice Cream Man
- ☒ Lots of Family Fun!!



Rain or Shine

\$48 per family make your reservation by Friday June 5th, 2015

(or \$15 per adult and \$10 per child)

\$55 per family at the door on June 7th

Please respond to the ECP Office by June 5th.

Family Name: _____

Number of Adults: _____ **Number of Children:** _____ **Total:** _____

Please send cash or make checks out to Congregation Kol Ami



Ritual Riches: Plants in the Bible

And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation: seed-bearing plants, fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ... And God saw that this was good. And there was evening and there was morning, a third day" Genesis 1:11-13

With these words of *Genesis* we see that plants were in the Torah before the sun, the moon, the animals, and the people. Plants continued to play an important role in many aspects of biblical life and were integral to many stories, songs, holidays and religious ceremonies.

We are probably most familiar with plants in biblical stories: Adam and Eve with the apple, Cain slaying his brother Able when his "fruit of the ground" offering was not accepted by God, Moses and the burning bush, Jacob tricking Esau into selling his birthright for a pot of lentils, Joseph giving his brothers grain when they went down to Egypt during a famine.

Plants are frequently seen in the love songs/poems in Song of Songs to describe both men and women: "Your limbs are an orchard of pomegranates and of all luscious fruits" (4:13) or "His lips are like lilies: they drip flowing myrrh" (5:13). Flowers are also used to describe the lamp stand for the sanctuary, "three cups shaped like almond blossoms, each with calyx and petals". Grains, alone or with oil or wine, are used in the meal (*minchah*) offerings in the Temple.

There are seven types of plants mentioned in the Torah: grains, flowers, herbs and spices, vegetables, vines, water plants and trees. Only about 100 plants are actually named in the Tanach.

Most plants mentioned were related to agriculture but some named were from other areas in the Near East such as cedars of Lebanon, vegetables of Egypt or tropical aromatic plants. Many names would be familiar to us today: almonds, barley, figs, grapes, lentils, wheat and pomegranates; olive, juniper, laurel, and oak trees; aromatic cinnamon and myrrh. Although there were undoubtedly many flowers growing in the biblical landscape, only three are mentioned. While identification seems somewhat uncertain, they are generally believed to be the lily, narcissus and a sea daffodil.

The Jewish holiday calendar is inextricably linked to the agricultural calendar with the three major holidays of Passover, Shavu'ot, and Sukkot. Passover not only celebrates our Exodus from Egypt but also celebrates the barley harvest. Traditionally, the barley was harvested the day before Passover and an offering was taken to the Temple on the second day of Passover. Shavu'ot celebrates the receiving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai as well as the celebration of the wheat harvest. The counting of the Omer between Passover and Shavu'ot was originally because the correct time to cut the wheat was 50 days after cutting the barley. Sukkot is the fall harvest festival as well as our remembrance of wandering in the wilderness for 40 years after the exodus from Egypt. And the festival of Tu b'shevat is called the "birthday of the trees."

Our ancestors knew the value of the growing things and wove their appreciation into our stories, our history, and our prayers. This spring, especially, may we also increase our appreciation for and care of our plants and planet.

Another Successful Men's Council Sponsored Second Seder

Men's Council is pleased to report that our sponsored Second Night Seder was, once again, a wonderful success, providing the 63 people that attended a sumptuous meal, wonderful service, and, of course, best of all, the great company of others.



Jay Hack put together the festive meal: gefilte fish, salad, matzoh ball soup, potato and broccoli kugel, brisket, Moroccan chicken quinoa, desserts of all kinds, wines, macaroons, date nut bars and, of course, the Seder Plate with the traditional foods for the blessings.

Steve Brady led the group through the Haggadah which was blended with videos from the Internet.

Songs and prayers filled the auditorium with meaning for all ages. Volunteers assisted and supported this seder with cook-



"Working" behind the scenes to help prepare the seder meal.

ing, setting the festive table, and helping to make everyone feel welcome. Without question, everyone had a great time.

2015

DAY OF CHESSED ~ DAY OF KINDNESS

Chesed appears in the Torah to communicate God's kindness and love toward humanity as well as human kindness and love toward each other. Chesed emerges as one of the essential ways humans engage with God to sustain creation.

Sunday, May 10th 9:00—11:00am

Our School Community will engage together in special projects to support a variety of organizations and agencies.

Each grade will be working on a special project.

Special Mother's Day
Gift Bags
For the Mom's at the
Coachman Family
Shelter

Planting
Trees & Flowers
& veggies
In our
Community
Garden

Goody Bags
For
The Coachman
Birthday Party Project

Center Pieces
For our Memorial Day
BBQ for the
Coachman Families

Signs for
Our new
Kol Ami Food Bank

Goody Bags
For
Memorial Day
BBQ

Parents are welcome to join their children in our chesed activities!

If you are interested in learning more about ways
to get involved and volunteer in our community

Please contact Jess Lorden at JessicaLorden@nykolami.org

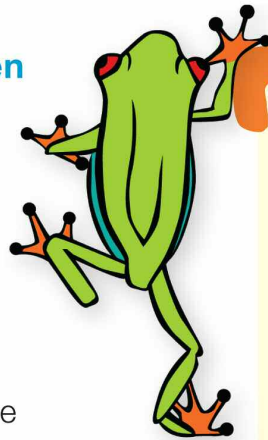


Congregation Kol Ami's Summer Session

Building a Community of Friends One Family at a Time

Kol Ami's Summer Session has been nurturing young children and their families for over 40 summers.

Groups are staffed with our own experienced Early Childhood Staff. Our 3's and 4's program is staffed with a 1:6 ratio. We have 2 well-equipped outdoor shaded playgrounds and in case of inclement weather, we also boast a large indoor play space. Our day includes an array of indoor and outdoor activities. All of our indoor play takes place in air-conditioned spaces.



Summer Fun for Incoming 2's

An array of fun
2 days a week

Look at Me I'm 3!

Daily special activities,
3 or 5 days a week

Wow I'm 4 & I Can Stay for More!

A 5 day program built
for sheer fun

**Call or write us today for a brochure at
914-949-4717 x107 or nanblank@nykolami.org**

We'll bring the sunshine, you bring the towel!



ZIMRIYAH 2015

Annual Song + Dance Festival

Please join us on the last day of school

Sunday, May 17th

EVERYONE is welcome!

9:00am

All students to classes

10:00am

Parents and Guests to the Social Hall

See our kids singing & dancing!

Stay for our

End-of-Year Food Truck Festival

Purchase lunch—ice cream is our treat!

immediately following Zimriyah

Help us celebrate

a successful year in our school!

Kol Ami Families Host April Coachman Birthday Party

On Sunday, April 12th, Beth and Jonathan Klein, Renee and Josh Levine, and their children hosted our April birthday party at The Coachman Family Center. The sponsor families were also joined by Pam Pass, our Religious School Assistant Director, her children, Clarey and Amalia Pass, Robin Davies-Small, and Jesse Scherer who helped serve pizza and cake, and interact with the children.



Entertainment was graciously donated by Danny Bernstein of Backyard Sports, who led the children in team building sports and games. Danny and his teenage assistants set up obstacle courses, mini races and balloon games. They imparted inspirational words around the importance of good sportsmanship, team camaraderie and the respect for others, as the kids hopped, jumped and balanced balls. As one of our sponsor families looked on, she commented "what I love most is watching my kids hopping, skipping and jumping along with the Coachman kids...it truly warms my heart."

The children were also engaged in crafts that were overseen by Clarey and Amalia Pass. Some children made animal puppets while others

decorated picture frames or simply made sticker collages. Others proudly exhibited their self-made crowns which were decorated with jewels and stickers, and Robin-Davies Small lent her magic touch to the application of tattoos for the little ones.

The Kol Ami children laughed, played and supported the Coachman children through all the activities. One of our sponsor children was a little nervous upon arrival at the Coachman, and he didn't know quite what to expect. Any fears or trepidations he had quickly melted away as he engaged in the activities and embraced the Coachman kids. He came to the revelation that "they're all kids just like me" and is already planning on going back to celebrate with them again.

If you are interested in sponsoring a birthday party at the Coachman or would like to contribute to the Coachman Birthday Party initiative in other ways, please contact: Diane Litvak (dmilitvak@me.com), Alison Adler (aadler3@verizon.net) or Annie Rotberg (annie.rotberg@gmail.com).

We are in need of sponsors for our July 12th and August 9th parties.

YOU can make a difference!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

**We are hosting new friends from the Coachman Family Center for a
Bar-B-Q
on Sunday, May 24th at 5:00pm at Congregation Kol Ami**

If you are willing to help with set-up, serving, games for children, or clean-up, please contact Jess Lorden at jessicalorden@nykolami.org or (914) 949-4717 ext. 101

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

COMMUNICATING WITH YOU IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US

To enable us to communicate with you and yours,
please print clearly when completing the form below:

Member 1 Given Name (e.g. Jessica): _____

Member 1 Preferred Name (e.g. Jess): _____

Birthday: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Profession: _____ Work Phone: _____

Firm Name and Address: _____

Member 2 Given Name (e.g. Jessica): _____

Member 2 Preferred Name (e.g. Jess): _____

Birthday: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Profession: _____ Work Phone: _____

Firm Name and Address: _____

Child 1: _____ Child 2: _____

Birthday: _____ Birthday: _____

Email Address: _____ Email Address: _____

Child 3: _____ Child 4: _____

Birthday: _____ Birthday: _____

Email Address: _____ Email Address: _____

Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this form.

The information you provide will be updated in our database and used for our phone directory.

Please return the completed form to Staci Krantz at Stacikrantz@nykolami.org or by fax to 914-946-8143.

If you prefer you may drop off the form in the Temple office.

Questions? Please call Staci Krantz at 914-949-4717, ext. 103

THREE GREAT URJ CAMPS AND A SUMMER THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

EISNER AND CRANE LAKE

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM CAMPS



- 
- Strengthen Jewish Identity, Self-esteem and community
 - Swim, ski or splash in our lake or pool
 - Skilled coaches and certified instructors teaching fantastic sports, arts and activities
 - Great campers & counselors who return summer after summer



- 45-minutes north of Boston at the Governor's Academy
- Robotics, Earth Science, Game Design, 3D Printing, and More
- Professional instructors, great counselors, and a warm community

eisnercranelake.urjcamp.org
scitech.urjcamp.org



Kol Ami Cares

Opportunities for Volunteering

Providing endless opportunities for connection and caring in times of joy and in times of sorrow.

Kol Ami Cares Offers a New Program

We are happy to announce that our volunteers are now available to assist mourners with preparations for shiva. At your request, a congregant will wait at your home to accept food deliveries, make coffee, set out paper goods and plastic ware, place a pitcher of water and paper towels outside the front door (as is customary for people returning from the cemetery to wash hands before entering the home) and be a friendly face to greet mourners who return before you do.

For arrangements, please contact Jess Lordon in the front office
or

Ginny Ruder 914-589-5283 ginnyruder@gmail.com
Betsy McCormack 914-960-9390 betsymc@aol.com

KOL AMI SINGERS

It's a mitzvah to bring an hour of music, companionship and smiles to those in need.

The Esplanade, 95 South Broadway at Lyon Place, White Plains

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 2:00 pm (*please note earlier start time*)

Questions? Please contact Murray Shapiro, 946-7789

COOKING FOR THE HOMELESS

Members have been participating in this program for many years. Newcomers are welcome. Drop in ready to lend a hand on Sunday and Monday mornings. Food is prepared in our kitchen and driven to a local shelter.

Contact Laura Green greenlg@mac.com (Mondays) Nancy Marcus larrymarcus@aol.com (Sundays)
Mondays at noon: June 1

Looking for a Mitzvah Project? Looking for a Volunteer Opportunity for Your Family? Look no further than our own congregation!

Kol Ami Cares can help. We can match you with an older congregant who would love to get to know you and your family. Several of our members are home-bound or have no relatives nearby and would greatly benefit from a meaningful connection with you.

Visit as often as you can—bring a game, puzzle, story to share. Celebrate a Shabbat dinner together, offer a ride to services, develop a lasting relationship that will enrich your lives.

Maybe your extended family lives out of town. By “adopting a grandparent” perhaps you and your children can fill a void in your own lives—hear stories from the old country, pick up some Yiddish, gain insight into World War II, learn to cook homemade mitzvah ball soup.

Please give this idea some thought and decide if it is right for you. We would be happy to meet with you and help you get started.

Ginny Ruder, ginnyruder@gmail.com

Betsy McCormack, betsymc@aol.com

Weekly Torah Portions for May

Week ending May 2, 2015

Parashat Ahare-Mot/Kedoshim Leviticus 16:1-20:27

In this double *parasha*, God speaks to Moses after the death of Aaron's two sons, who were killed for coming too close to the presence of God. Moses and Aaron are also instructed by God on the procedures surrounding the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur. *Parashat Kedoshim* continues with the practical and interpersonal applications of holiness. God describes to Moses many ethical and ritual laws aimed to help people live lives of holiness. The laws described include some of those recorded in the Ten Commandments, such as respecting one's parents, keeping the Sabbath, and not stealing.

Week ending May 9, 2015

Parashat Emor Leviticus 21:1-24:23

Emor provides details about the lives of the priests and their families. The priestly role was both an honor and a responsibility. This *parashah* also includes the most comprehensive holiday calendar in the Torah.

Week ending May 16, 2015

Parashat B'har/B'chukotai Leviticus 25:1-27:34

This double *parashah* presents a vision of a society guided by God-given principles of human freedom, human dignity and concern for the most vulnerable in society. It includes laws regulating the sabbatical year and the jubilee year. The Book of Leviticus is completed this week with *B'chukotai*, which is filled with God's promises and warnings to the people depending upon whether or not they faithfully follow or disobey God's commandments.

Week ending May 23, 2015

Parashat B'midbar Numbers 1:1- 4:20

This Shabbat we begin reading the book of *B'midbar*, (in the wilderness). The book is called "Numbers" in English because it begins with a census of all male Israelites in the camp who are eligible to bear arms, as well as those responsible for the duties in the Tabernacle.

Week ending May 30, 2015

Parashat Naso Numbers 4:21-7:89

The second *parasha* in the Book of Numbers completes the census with a counting of the Levitical families and the enumeration of their responsibilities in the portage of the Tabernacle and the Tent of Meeting. The concluding section begins with the Priestly Blessing, and ends with a list of the offerings brought by the tribal heads for the ceremony of the dedication of the Tabernacle.



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM:

The Sacred Work of Women

As I write this, the Torah *parashah* is *Tazria/M'tzora* (Leviticus 12:1–13:59/14:1–15:33). Well-known as the bane of many a Bar Mitzvah boy or Bat Mitzvah girl, this portion contains laws regarding the impurity of a woman after giving birth, laws for diagnosing and containing skin diseases, as well as rituals for restoring ritual purity. "When a woman at childbirth bears a male, she shall be impure seven days; she shall be impure as at the time of her condition of menstrual separation... She shall remain in a state of blood purification for thirty-three days: she shall not touch any consecrated thing, nor enter the sanctuary until her period of purification is completed. If she bears a female, she shall be impure for two weeks as during her menstruation, and she shall remain in a state of blood purification for sixty-six days." (Leviticus 12:2–5) As Elaine Goodfriend writes in "The Torah, A Women's Commentary", the legislation in Leviticus 12 has had an "enormous impact on the lives of Jewish women... The view that women - via their normal, recurring bodily functions - generate a pollution antagonistic to holiness served as a justification for women's distance from the sacred throughout Jewish history." In particular, women were disqualified from the priesthood and were often prevented from having contact with a Torah scroll.

Having just returned from a Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ), Northeast District, Leadership Kallah, I am pleased to report that in our time, our Sisterhoods, both near and far are charged with the performance of sacred tasks. At this conference, women chanted Torah, a woman gave the d'var Torah, a female cantorial student led our services, and a woman conducted training in enhancing our communication abilities. Experienced Sisterhood Presidents, regional leaders, and those who sit on the national WRJ Board serve as our role models.

In our column and membership letters, we have discussed the many contributions our Sisterhood at Kol Ami makes to our Temple, describing our local sacred work. But did you know that a portion of our dues is directed to the national WRJ and its YES (Youth, Education, and Special Projects) Fund? WRJ's philanthropic efforts ensure its ability to strengthen the Reform movement and to continue making an impact, locally, nationally, and world-wide. Together, we are able to achieve what no one individual or sisterhood could accomplish alone, such as providing financial assistance to rabbinical and cantorial students, youth, and Reform organizations in North America, Israel, and around the globe.

Please join us in our efforts as we women continue to engage in the sacred, benefitting not only our congregation but the future of Reform and progressive Judaism here and abroad.

Sheryl Brady

Rachel Eckhaus

Judy Sarch

Adult Education

Please read more about offerings for the whole year in our Adult Ed brochure or visit our website, nykolami.org, and click on Adult Education to view an even more detailed brochure.

Spiritual Journeying Groups

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Group

The group meets every Thursday morning (except for holidays), 9:30-10:45, in the Chapel in the Woods. Join us in learning mindfulness meditation, a practice of training the mind and heart so that we can live with greater clarity, acceptance and connection.

Contact **Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW**, and certified meditation teacher, at WJCS, 914-761-0600 ext. 148, for further information. Free of charge, donations accepted, no prior experience required.

Current Events

with **Beth and Gene Kava**

Each session will provide an opportunity to examine a current issue in depth, beginning with an overview of the issue. Participants will examine issues, through various perspectives, using readings, video or a guest speaker.

Mondays, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm in Room 20
May 4 & 18; June 1 & 15

Weekly Torah Study:

Parashat Hashavua

Friday mornings 10:00 – 11:30 am
Room 20

Meets every Friday except when temple is closed. Led by **Kol Ami Members**

Prophets Seminar

Mondays, 7:30 pm

The bible chronicles the history of the Hebrew people from approx. 740 BCE to 520 BCE through the eyes and hearts of the prophets, from Isaiah to Malachi. Who are these men? How do they see their world? What are their messages; are they relevant today? We will explore these questions and more. Contact Paul Davis at paullawrencedavis@yahoo.com

Parenting Workshops

Cuddles and Conversation

with **Susan Davis, LCSW**

For parent/grandparents and babies 2 to 14 months. Bring a mat or blanket and small toys for your child.

Meets twice a month on Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:00am.

Questions - please call Nan Blank in the ECP office at 914-949-4717x107

Sunday Parenting Group

with **Susan Davis, LCSW**

Raising resilient, self reliant children—a morning discussion group for parents focusing on a variety of parenting issues and stresses.

Meets the 1st Sunday of the month
9:15 - 10:45 am

Adolescent Parenting Workshops

with **Susan Davis, LCSW**

Discussion of a range of parenting issues related to adolescence, including physical and emotional development, trust and control issues, and staying connected in the midst of the turmoil.

Meets the 1st Thursday of the month
12:00 noon

Grandparenting Workshops

with **Susan Davis, LCSW**

Exploring intergenerational experience and Jewish wisdom as we share the challenges and opportunities of grandparenting.

Meets the 1st Monday of the month
9:15 – 10:45 am

Women in Transition

Are you attempting an adjustment to a major life change? Join us in an interactive discussion group. Topics to be discussed include: retirement, widowhood, aging, changing relationships with adult children, and other life transitions.

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month
in the Conference Room.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Led by **Kol Ami Members**

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Sheila Sturmer at sturmshela@gmail.com or 914-391-1227

Kol Ami Reads/Book Club

Meets the first Wednesday of every month throughout the year.

9:15 am, Room 20, Main Building

For more information call Doris Dingott at 289-0869

Mah Jongg & Bridge

Open To All: Experienced and Novice

Wednesdays 10:30 am in the Kol Ami Atrium

Email **Wendy Roos** Wendyroos1@aol.com to be added to the email distribution

Westchester Adult Jewish Education at Kol Ami:

A discussion of Jewish Ethics.

with **Dr. Carol Diamant**

For more information please contact Nina Lubin, WAJE Director at 914-761-6309 or waje@wjcouncil.org

Free University

Start a study group, discussion group or seminar at Kol Ami. Cover any topic that falls under the broad umbrella of Reform Judaism. Contact Paul Davis at paullawrencedavis@yahoo.com with your ideas for leading a study group or if you would like to join the currently planned study group on the prophets.

Women's Roundtable Breakfasts

with **Rabbi Shira Milgrom**

Join Kol Ami's remarkable, multigenerational women for learning and friendship.

Wednesdays, 7:45 – 9:00 am
May 6

Mah Jongg — Why We Play

For more than 4 years, a group of women, younger and older, members and non-members, have met in the Kol Ami atrium to play mah jongg. What began as a small group of 4 women has grown to 25 or more each Wednesday. A passerby might think we are merely playing a game, a game that started in China, came to America, and by 1920 was sold at Abercrombie and Fitch, and kept alive by Jewish women in the United States. But we are engaging in much more than playtime. The act of sitting together, week after week, month after month, year after year has allowed us to forge friendships and connections that would otherwise have been improbable.

Several of our players have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Many are widowed. Some live with chronic illness. We share stories, listen compassionately and do what we can to support each other through difficult times. We have experienced the loss of a dear friend, who suffered a stroke and recently died. She taught us to persevere, having been widowed twice, and at age 90, drove from the city every Wednesday to play mah jongg with us. We listen as one member tells of her teenage years in Hungary hiding in the forests from the Nazis. She turned 89 this year and finds time for mah jongg between attending the symphony and Zumba classes. Some have said that meeting every Wednesday to play mah jongg is the highlight of their week. Several of our players are seniors living on their own; many of us are empty nesters. Just a few have children still at home and seek parenting advice from those that have 'been there/done that.'

Only a few of our players are Kol Ami members; the others come from nearby communities and are members of neighboring synagogues. Many have met Rabbi Shira when she has stopped by to say hello. Several of these women have made donations to Kol Ami and have attended Shabbat services and Synaplex. For the past two years, Margie Arsham, Wendy Roos and I have organized a mah jongg luncheon to raise money. It is our way of giving back to Kol Ami for providing us with a welcoming home to carry on a tradition that our mothers and grandmothers began.

Betsy McCormack

Adult Education *continued*

Hebrew Classes for Adults*

Pending sufficient enrollment

Hebrew Classes for Adults

with Emily Fields

Sunday mornings at 9:00 am

Beginners Hebrew: 9:00 am

Advanced Beginners: 10:00 am

Intermediate Hebrew: 11:15 am

Cost: \$175

Please contact Emily at

efgraph@optonline.net

if you are interested or

require additional information

Intermediate/Advanced

with Alice Seidman

Conversational Hebrew, grammar,
vocabulary, reading, and translating
current Israeli publications.

An informal learning environment.

Sundays, 9:30 am

Contact Alice Seidman

at 953-8455

for further information

free of charge

Kol Ami Reads

All Our Names

by Dinaw Mengetu

May 6, 2015

My Promised Land

by Ari Shavit

June 3, 2015

The Unknown Bridesmaid

by Margaret Forster

July 1, 2015

All meetings 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

MITZVAH KNITZ

We will be meeting on
Thursday, May 21,
from 11:00 am
to 1:00 pm.

Join us.

Knitters of all skill levels
are welcome.

For further information,
call Elaine Cohen,
725-0248 or
elwilco@verizon.net

Mark Your Calendar— Kol Ami Blood Drive

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

4:00 – 9:30 pm at Bet Am Shalom

Please make sure there will be blood available when someone needs it. YOU can save lives. Students returning from College are welcome. Give the GIFT OF LIFE. Blood donors must be at least 17 years old (or 16 with written parental/guardian permission) and weigh 110 pounds. People over 75 can continue to donate blood if they meet all donor criteria and present a physician's letter allowing them to donate. There are, however, some medical conditions that can keep someone from giving blood. There are also some restrictions based on past travel. If you have specific questions about your donor eligibility, call 1-800-688-0900 or log on to www.nybloodcenter.org and click on Donate Blood.

Chairman David Klein

"For the life of all flesh - its blood is its life."

Leviticus 17:14

"Whoever saves a life, as if save an entire world."

Mishna Sanhedrin 4.5

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 5:00pm SYNAPLEX 5:30pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium 6:15pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE with Adult Choir in Main Sanctuary	2 SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel 9:00am Coffee & Community 9:30am Study 10:30am SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE: Bat Mitzvah of Allison DeMarco 11:00am SERVICE 5:30pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE: Adult B'nai Mitzvah
3 8:30am 6th Grade Trip to LES 9:00am K-6th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 9:00am RS Committee Meeting 9:15am Parenting Group 11:00am Or Chadash 11:00am Cooking For The Hungry 6:00pm Executive Meeting	4 9:15am Grandparenting 11:00am Current Events 7:30pm Prophets Seminar	5 7:30pm Pirke Avot Study Session	6 7:45am Round Table Breakfast 9:00am KA Reads Book Club 10:30am Mah Jongg 4:00pm 4th-6th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 6:30pm 7th-12th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	7 LAG B'OMER 9:30am Jewish Meditation 11:00am Wise Aging 11:00am Wisdom of the Sages 12:00pm Teen Parenting 7:00pm SPRING FUNDRAISER	8 5:30pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium 6:00pm 4th GRADE FAMILY SHABBAT, DINNER & HASSIDIC WEDDING 6:15pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in Main Sanctuary	9 SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel 9:00am Coffee & Community 9:30am Study 11:00am SERVICE 5:30pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE: Bar Mitzvah of Jack Tomkiewicz
10 9:00am 3rd Grade Israel Museum Exhibit at Kol Ami 9:00am K-6th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 11:00am Or Chadash	11 7:30pm Prophets Seminar	12 11:30am Women in Transition 7:00pm Congregation Kol Ami Annual Meeting 7:00pm Pirke Avot Study Session	13 10:30am Mah Jongg 4:00pm 4th-6th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 6:30pm 7th-12th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	14 9:30am Jewish Meditation 11:00am Wise Aging 11:00am Wisdom of the Sages 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 5:30pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium 6:15pm HS Family Shabbat/Graduation 6:15pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in Main Sanctuary	16 SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel 9:00am Coffee & Community 9:30am Study 11:00am SERVICE 5:30pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE: Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Perlman
17 FAMILY CHESED DAY LAST DAY OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 9:00am K-6th GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 10:00am Zimriyah 1:00pm Confirmation Rehearsal in Sanctuary	18 11:00am Current Events 12:30pm Mussar Class 7:30pm Prophets Seminar	19 6:30pm WRJ Membership Dinner 7:30pm Pirke Avot Study Session	20 10:30am Mah Jongg	21 9:30am Jewish Meditation 11:00am Wisdom of the Sages 11:00am Mitzvah Knits 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting	22 5:30pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium 6:15pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE with Adult Choir in Main Sanctuary 7:00pm CONFIRMATION DINNER	23 SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel 9:00am Coffee & Community 9:30am Study 11:00am SERVICE 7:00pm EREV SHAVUOT SERVICE 9:00pm STAR-STUDED SHAVUOT: Study under the Stars with Reform Congregations from Westchester
24 SHAVUOT NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 10:00am SHAVUOT & CONFIRMATION SERVICE/YIZKOR 5:00pm Coachman BBQ	25 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26	27 10:30am Mah Jongg 7:30pm Women's Oasis - Offsite	28 9:30am Jewish Meditation 11:00am Wisdom of the Sages 11:15am Wise Aging 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 5:30pm SHABBAT IN THE WOODS in Atrium 6:15pm SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE in Main Sanctuary	30 SPIRITUAL LIFT in Chapel 9:00am Coffee & Community 9:30am Study 10:30am SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE: Bat Mitzvah of Cate Ward 11:00am SERVICE
31 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL						

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