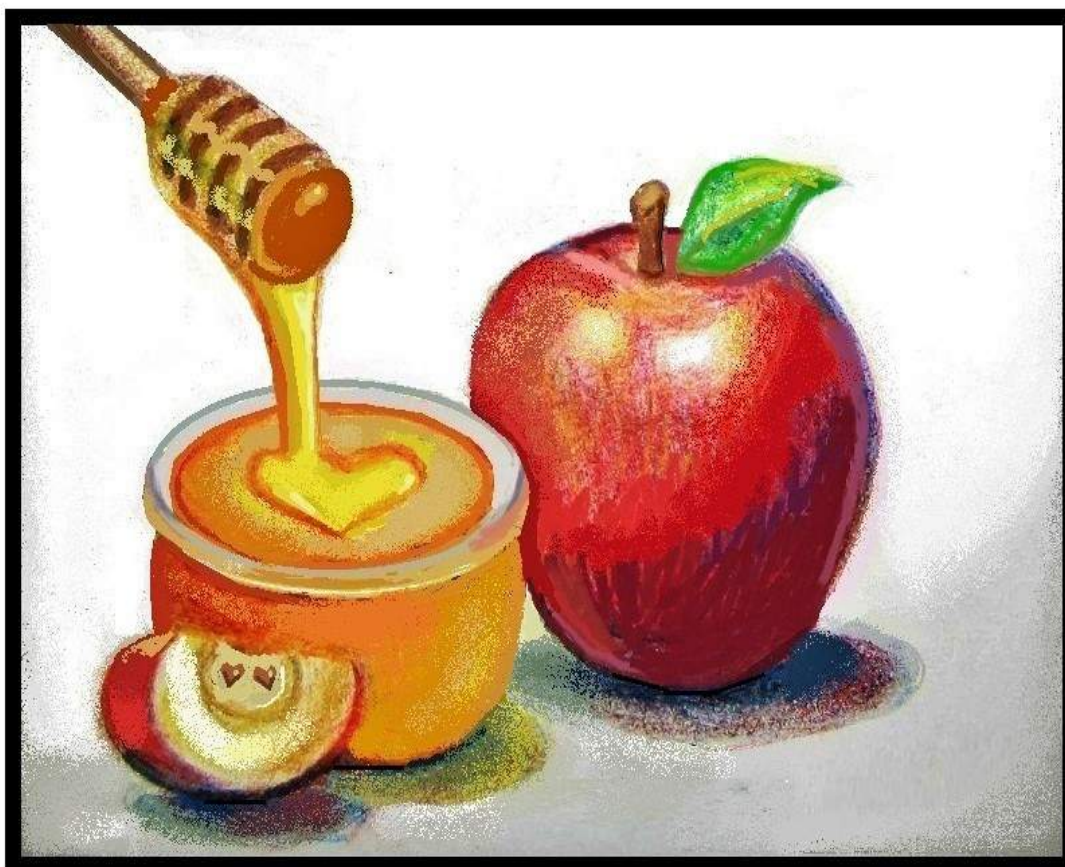


THE CONNECTION

L' S H A N A T O V A

*The Clergy & Staff wish each of
you a healthy & happy New Year*





CONGREGATION KOL AMI

CONGREGATION KOL AMI A REFORM SYNAGOGUE

252 Soundview Avenue • White Plains, New York

914.949.4717 • www.nykolami.org

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

RABBIS

Rabbi Shira Milgrom & Rabbi Tom Weiner

Cantor • David Rosen

Executive Director • Jess Lorden

Religious School Director • Felice Miller Baritz

ECP Director • Nan Blank

President • Hank Rouda

RABBIS EMERITI

Lawrence W. Schwartz ∞

Maurice Davis ∞

Mark L. Winer

CANTOR EMERITUS

Raymond Smolover ∞

∞ of blessed memory

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HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE

Selichot

Saturday, September 24

Prepare for the High Holy Days with music, prayer, discussion and reflection.

8:30pm: Havdalah, Program & Discussion

On the eve of Selichot we will continue our exploration of our fascinating new Machzor (high holy days prayer book). We will study and examine the new translation of Avinu Malcheinu, comparing it with the old. What did its words mean centuries ago? 25 years ago? And what do they say to us today? Be prepared for great discussions and sharing some new insights

9:30pm: Selichot Services will follow

~Coffee, tea and dessert will be served~

Rosh Hashanah Eve

Sunday Evening, October 2

Celebrate as One Community 7:30pm - 9:30pm
Potluck Dessert Oneg to follow

Rosh Hashanah Day

Monday, October 3

First Service	9:00am - 11:15am
Grades K-6 1st Service	9:00am - 11:15am
Second Service	12:15pm - 2:30pm
Grades K-6 2nd Service	12:15pm - 2:30pm
Family Service	3:15pm - 4:00pm
Family Reception	4:00pm - 5:00pm
Community Tashlich	5:30pm

Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, October 4

Service 10:00am - 12:00pm

Reception to follow

Yom Kippur Eve (Kol Nidre)

Tuesday Evening, October 11

First Service 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Second Service 9:00pm - 11:00pm

Please Note: For the Kol Nidre Services, the sanctuary doors will be closed promptly at 6:00pm and at 9:00pm and will not re-open until the cello solo is completed.

Yom Kippur Day

Wednesday, October 12

First Service 9:00am - 11:15am

Grades K-6 1st Service 9:00am - 11:15am

Second Service 12:15pm - 2:30pm

Grades K-6 2nd Service 12:15pm - 2:30pm

Afternoon Service

(Chapel) 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Family Service 3:15pm - 4:00pm

Memorial & Neilah Service 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Community Break Fast 7:00pm

ELUL SINGING CIRCLE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th, 8:30pm

Temple Israel Center in White plains

Beginning with Havdalah

Email Cantor Mordecai at

g.mordecai@templeisraelcenter.org for details

Celebrate Sukkot and Simchat Torah 5777

A week-long celebration of harvest, sustainability and living Jewishly

Family Sukkot Festival & Harvest Market, Sunday, October 16, 9:30am-12pm at Kol Ami

Join us for crafts, music, a petting zoo and other activities,
learning and LOTS OF FUN! Everyone of all ages is welcome!

Erev Sukkot Family Service and Dinner Sunday, October 16 at 5:30pm

A service in song for young families, followed by a dinner in the Sukkah. Everyone is invited!

Sukkot Morning Service Monday, October 17 at 10:00 am

in the Main Sanctuary

Sunday October 23, Erev Simchat Torah Service at 6:15 pm

Services, celebration, hakafot, dancing and consecration of our new students.

Monday, October 24, Simchat Torah and Yizkor Service 10:00 am



NEW THIS YEAR!

Your High Holy Days tickets now include entry to either the early or late services on both holidays. The choice is yours! There will be sufficient seating at every service.

Kever Avot – High Holy Days Memorial Services at Kol Ami Cemeteries

It is a long standing tradition to visit the graves of a loved one as part of our season of High Holy Days. Many find that the reconnection with the memory of those they loved can be intensely meaningful, especially around this time of year. As part of our preparation for these Days of Awe, we will hold two brief memorial services on Sunday, September 25th at:

- ◆ Mount Hope Cemetery, Hastings-On-Hudson, section 4 at 10:00am, and
- ◆ Sharon Gardens, Valhalla, please meet at the main office at 11:45am.

Even if you do not have family members buried in either cemetery, please join us.

Guest Tickets

- ◆ We welcome guests of your family to worship with us. To order your guest tickets please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the Temple Office no later than **September 16, 2016. Checks payable to Congregation Kol Ami must accompany your request for guest tickets.**
- ◆ Kol Ami honors the URJ reciprocal guest policy, but please be sure to **submit your forms no later than September 16th** to allow time for processing. Please list the names of relatives who will be sending us reciprocal forms on your ticket request form.

The High Holy Days and Your Children at Congregation Kol Ami

At Kol Ami, we would like your family to be able to worship together and enjoy age-appropriate prayer. Accordingly, we offer many different formats for prayer on the High Holy Days. All

children are welcome to accompany you to adult Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services **but they will require tickets.** Please use the information below to help you make the best choices for your children's participation. Services will be shown on closed circuit television in the Gallery if your child is not able to participate in our main sanctuary services.

Family Service

Family Service (3:15 to 4:00 PM) offers parents and children of all ages an opportunity to participate in High Holy Days worship together. We keep the service short enough so that it is appropriate for young children. At the same time, we include enough of the traditional liturgy and observance to provide a meaningful Jewish spiritual experience for adults and their children. This service does not require tickets.

High Holy Days Youth Services

High Holy Days Youth Services this year will be available for two different groups of students: students in grades K-3 and students in grades 4-6 which will coincide with our Adult Morning Services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Our Youth Services create dynamic, meaningful and age-appropriate holiday experiences for our students. While we appreciate that students may want to dress up for the holiday, we ask that students also bring a large T-shirt or smock to cover their clothes in case they get messy. Services will be led by our most creative Religious School staff with participation by our Rabbis.

Please note that students not attending one of the special services for their age groups are encouraged to worship with their families.



Infrared Listening Devices

If a member or guest requires an Infrared Listening Device, they may be picked up at the door prior to the service.

Atmosphere

As the sanctuary is a place of prayer and meditation during the High Holy Days, we ask that families respect the mood of spirituality and dignity at all times. Kindly refrain from conversation during the course of worship. Families are asked to be responsible for their children's behavior throughout the services. Unless you are a First Responder, please turn off your cell phone before entering the sanctuary.

Child Care

Our Child Care includes meaningful holiday crafts, stories, and music. Child care is not recommended for children under the age of 3. Child Care will be provided for a fee during our Erev Rosh Hashanah Service, our Yom Kippur Early Evening Service and both of our Morning Services. Babysitting is not available on the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah.

In order that we may provide a sufficient number of babysitters, a safe environment, and a wonderful experience for your child, **reservations must be made before September 16th**. Please complete the Child Care form, that was included in the HHD packet, and return to the Temple Office. **Payment must be received no later than September 16th.**

Memorial Book & Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques

If you would like to list your loved ones in our Memorial Book or on our Yahrzeit wall, please fill out the Memorial Book & Plaque form, that was included in the HHD packet, and **return to the Temple Office no later than September 16th**.

Financial Obligations

In order for your High Holy Days tickets to be processed, **payment of at least half of current dues, the Building Fund, if applicable, all Religious School fees and full payment of outstanding balances from prior years (or an up-to-date arrangement on file) are required.** Tickets will be mailed in mid-September provided all financial obligations are satisfied.

High Holy Days Food Drive Sponsored by Women of Reform Judaism

Bags will be handed out Rosh Hashanah. Please Return them filled on Yom Kippur. Non-perishable food items only. Please - no glass containers. Remember the hungry at this time of year.

PLEASE NOTE: All tickets will be mailed in mid-September. Please open the tickets to ensure they are correct.



KOL AMI COMMUNITY BREAK THE FAST

**Wednesday, October 12, 2016
~7:00 pm**

Kol Ami is offering the congregation the opportunity to break the Yom Kippur fast following the Neilah (concluding) service. Please join other congregants along with family, friends and guests for a light dairy supper in the Petschek Gallery.

Questions? Please contact Lisa Borowitz at lborowitz@ramius.com

+++++

**PLEASE CLIP AND RETURN TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE NO LATER
THAN OCTOBER 7th**

\$27/Adult, (if you RSVP/pay prior to Oct 1) ♦♦ \$30/Adult (if you RSVP/pay after Oct 1)
\$18/Children (ages 6 - 13), Children 5 and under free

Please print names of attendees and include ages of children:

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Total # adults ____ at **\$27/ea (if you RSVP/pay prior to Oct 1)** = \$_____

Total # adults ____ at **\$30/ea (if you RSVP/pay after Oct 1)** = \$_____

Total # children (6-13)____ at \$18/ea = \$_____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENLCOSD: \$_____

Please make checks payable to Congregation Kol Ami

**Due to the popularity and limited space for this event, reservations
CAN NOT be accepted after October 7th.**

SHABBAT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Friday Evening Services

Shabbat in the Woods for Young Children and Their Families

5:30 - 6:00pm: A service in story and song for families with young children

Atrium

6:15 – 7:15 pm Shabbat crafts, light supper & supervised childcare

Shabbat Morning Spiritual Lift

Shabbat Morning Study with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Schulman Chapel in the Woods

9:00 am Coffee and Community

9:30 -10:30 am Study

11:00 am Service

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

6:15 pm

Main Sanctuary

The “new lift” re-imagined by our younger and older families ~~~

Preserving what is most precious about Shabbat mornings in the Chapel - and bringing in new life, new songs, new souls...

Beginning Saturday, September 17th in the Chapel in the Woods

“Take My Hand: Shabbat for all Generations”

Intended for families with young children...open to everyone

Children's activities will be available during the service

8:45AM - Coffee/Tea

9AM - Shabbat Service

9:45AM - Family Oneg

10:30 - 12:00pm - Torah Study

**DETAILS
TO
FOLLOW!**

WEEKLY TORAH PORTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Week ending September 3, 2016 Parashat R'eih Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17

In this week's *parashah*, the people are instructed on how they are to enter and live in the land, and on the behavior expected of them once they have settled there. Rules about sacrifices, tithes, and care for the Levites are discussed, along with regulations for slaughtering and eating meat.

Week ending September 10, 2016 Parashat Shoftim Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9

The Israelites remain on the plateau of Moab, across the Jordan River while Moses communicates God's prescriptions and proscriptions for governance. The *parashah* opens with the command to appoint judges and the regulations for choosing a leader, including a warning that this leader should follow the laws of Torah faithfully.

Week ending September 17, 2016 Parashat Ki'Teitze Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19

Parashat Ki'Teitzei contains the greatest number of *mitzvot* of any single Torah portion, 72 in all, dealing with diverse subjects. The portion concludes with a warning to remember how the Amalekites attacked the weary Israelites in the desert.

Week ending September 24, 2016 Parashat Ki Tavo Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8

Ki Tavo addresses the time when the Israelites will settle in the Land of Israel. The Israelites are instructed to express their gratitude to God for their bountiful harvests and freedom from slavery by tithing ten percent of their crops for the Levite, the stranger, the orphan, and the widow. They are also told that if they obey God's *mitzvot* faithfully, they will receive every blessing imaginable; and if they do not fulfill their *brit* with God, many curses will descend upon them.



An exciting new element at the heart of our High Holy Day services will be our new prayer book, *Mishkan Hanefesh* (Sanctuary of the Soul). This is the first entirely new High Holy Day *Machzor* created for our Synagogue since the mid-1970s; and it is brilliant, innovative, and grounded firmly in our most cherished traditions and music. We are confident it will profoundly elevate the experience of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as we welcome in the year 5777.

We have a unique opportunity for *every family* to participate in the new High Holy Day prayer book initiative. How nice it would be for you and your family to sit in temple on the High Holy Days and open a prayer book to see heart-felt dedications!

The new books come in a set – one for Rosh Hashanah and another for Yom Kippur. Through a generous gift from Past President Lisa Borowitz, in memory and honor of her beloved father, Rabbi Eugene B. Borowitz z'l, we have been able to purchase about half of the 1,500 sets of books that we will need. ***We would like to honor this generous donation and work together as a community to make it a gift we all support.*** We ask that every family participate by purchasing one or more sets of new prayer books into which heart-felt dedication 'bookplates' will be placed.

Because we hope that everyone will be able to participate in bringing these new prayer books to our community, we have created several options for you and your family:

- ✧ For every donation of \$36, a bookplate placed into one book
- ✧ For every donation of \$54, bookplates placed into a set of books (2 book dedications)
- ✧ For every donation of \$180, bookplates placed into four sets of books (8 book dedications)

How do you want to remember this point in your family's Jewish life?

- ✧ Honor your family's name for decades to come
- ✧ Commemorate a Wedding, Anniversary, or honor someone you love
- ✧ Memorialize a loved one
- ✧ Honor the new B'nai Mitzvah or the Confirmand, Celebrate the Graduate

There are many reasons why a Temple reaches out to their Congregants for help, but there is none more sacred than new prayer books for our High Holy Days. This effort will enable you or your loved ones to be inscribed in our community for decades to come. We hope you will join our families and the Board of Trustees in supporting this effort.

Donor Information:

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please enclose this form and a check made out to Congregation Kol Ami, Memo: **HHD Prayer Book**

Please complete the Dedication information on the next page for each Dedication message.

Please add additional sheets, if necessary.

All contributions are Tax - Deductible

Dedication Form for



Mishkan Hanefesh Dedication Initiative:

Your donation includes Dedication Bookplates in our new *Mishkan Hanefesh Machzor*. See below for details on Dedication opportunities.

Go to www.nykolami.org to order and pay by credit card or complete this form and return it to the temple office with your check.

Donor Information:

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please enclose this form and a check made out to Congregation Kol Ami, Memo: **HHD Prayer Book**

**Please complete the Dedication information on the next page for each Dedication message.
Please add additional sheets, if necessary.**

All contributions are Tax - Deductible

q I/We would like to make a contribution for **one prayer book** = \$36.00

q I/We would like to make a contribution for [one to three] # _____ **prayer book sets** (x \$54) = \$ _____

q I/We would like to make a contribution for **four prayer book sets** = \$180.00

q I/We would like to make a contribution for [five or more] # _____ **prayer book sets** (x \$45) = \$ _____

q I/We would like to make an additional tax-deductible gift in the amount of \$ _____

Thank you for participating in this special opportunity with us!

I/We _____

wish to dedicate Mishkan HaNefesh Prayer Books

☐ in honor of ☐ in memory of ☐ in appreciation of

(Optional) Please send acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

Dedication Information: *(Please print clearly)*

I/We _____

wish to dedicate Mishkan HaNefesh Prayer Books

☐ in honor of ☐ in memory of ☐ in appreciation of

(Optional) Please send acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

Dedication Information: *(Please print clearly)*

I/We _____

wish to dedicate Mishkan HaNefesh Prayer Books

☐ in honor of ☐ in memory of ☐ in appreciation of

(Optional) Please send acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____

B'NAI MITZVAH

We will be celebrating the following children's Bar and Bat Mitzvahs at these services.
Mazal Tov!



Joshua Rubin

son of Tina Rubin will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 3, 2016. He is entering 7th grade at Cloonan Middle school in Stamford, Ct. Joshua loves his amazing summer camp Taconic in the town of Hinsdale, Ma in the beautiful Berkshires. In his spare time, Joshua enjoys swimming, pioneering and spending time with his friends. Joshua is looking forward to sharing his special day with friends and family.

Highlands Middle School in White Plains in 8th grade. He's working on his mitzvah project with Backyard sports helping children with disabilities. Michael is on then White Plains tigers football team & the White Plains middle school baseball team. He looks forward to his big day.



Taylor Libman, daughter of Kathleen and Jon Libman and sister to Dylan Libman, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on September 10, 2016, also the day of her 13th birthday. She is

entering 8th grade at Scarsdale Middle School. Taylor just finished another great summer as a CIT at Camp Hillard. During the school year, Taylor is involved in singing and acting classes, basketball, and babysitting, in addition to her school work. Taylor also enjoys music, skiing, and her cats. For her Mitzvah project, Taylor has been making birthday cards for children with cancer who are associated with the Friends of Karen organization, which provides financial, emotional and advocacy support, at no cost, to families in the New York Tri-State region who are caring for a child battling cancer or another life-threatening illness. Taylor is very excited to share her special day with family and friends.



Carly Faust, daughter of Jon and Nancy, little sister to Hailey and big sister to their dog Daisy. Carly is an eighth grader at Edgemont Junior High School. Carly loves Camp Danbee and she plays volleyball and lacrosse for her school teams. She is very good at making people laugh and loves to spend time with her family and friends. Carly loves animals so one of her

mitzvah projects has been volunteering at the New Rochelle Humane Society. She is looking forward to becoming Bat Mitzvah and sharing the bima with Jacob Smith (who she went to pre school with at Kol Ami).



Jacob Smith, son of Deborah and Scott Smith, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, September 17,

2016. Jacob is entering eighth grade at Scarsdale Middle School. He plays soccer and basketball on the SMS travel teams. Jacob has been helping children with their schoolwork through a volunteer program run by WJCS at the Edward Williams School in Mt. Vernon. He has enjoyed working with and helping the 2nd grade children in the program.



Jonathan Rothschild, son of Debbie and Jeff Rothschild and brother to Talia, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 24, 2016. Jonathan is in the 7th grade at Edgemont Jr/Sr

High School. Jonathan enjoys wrestling, football, baseball, tennis and skiing, and is a voracious reader. He also loves his summers at Lake Owego Camp. For his mitzvah project, Jonathan baked for the residents of Jewish Home LifeCare, in Manhattan.



Cooper Danzig

son of Allison and Mitch Danzig, and brother to Spencer and Mason Danzig, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 8, 2016. Cooper is entering the 8th grade at LMK Middle School in Harrison, and is a excellent student. He loves Indian Head Camp, and is bringing his friends there to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah so he can share his second home with them. Cooper enjoys playing lacrosse, basketball, and spending time with his family and friends. He is incredibly caring and kind. He is a good friend to his peers, and devoted to his family. For Cooper's Mitzvah project he worked with disabled children as well as homeless children at the Coachmen shelter as a sports coach with Backyard Sports.



Michael Grande the son of Frank and Alicia Grande and brother to Jake Grande will be called to the Torah September 10th, 2016. Michael attends

and she plays volleyball and lacrosse for her school teams. She is very good at making people laugh and loves to spend time with her family and friends. Carly loves animals so one of her

RABBI SHIRA MILGROM



I could make out the "Hebrew Union College - Congregation Kol Ami" - but I had to trust our Indonesian hosts about the rest. David and I had been invited to speak in Yogyakarta - David about community organizing and advocacy, me about Judaism. We spoke at one of Yogyakarta's several Islamic universities. Indonesia is home to the world's largest Muslim

population, and to date is the only moderate and democratic Muslim government on the planet. But, like everywhere in the world, people there are worried about the rise of fundamentalist religion and the dangers of radicalization. A fledgling organization, the Gusderian Network of Indonesia, is dedicated to preserving Indonesia's commitment to a pluralist, tolerant and moderate Islam. They represent a network of 200+ small organizations throughout Indonesia. It was to representatives of this courageous group that we were speaking. We were forewarned: most Indonesians have never met a Jew. The only exposure they have of Jews and Judaism is the highly skewed (distorted) view of Israel they have through the negative lens of the media. The "conspiracy theory" (that Israel's Mossad is behind the operations of Al Queda, for instance) is rampant. And so the publicity announcing my session, I was told, did not mention that I am a rabbi, or that I was teaching about Judaism. It announced a session about the role of women and peace in the Abrahamic religions. But my task was to introduce Judaism to a group that had never met a Jew - and whose views were skeptical and suspicious at best. If you had two and a half hours to introduce a group like this to Judaism, what would you say? What would you teach? What Torah stories would you choose?

- I would be happy to share my choices with you - and to hear yours. For now, however, I would like to share with you some of their questions.

The first question: What do Jews think of Muslims? (They, too, are worried about how they are perceived in the world.)

- What do you think of Zionism? I answered, "I love Israel. It's a dream that I grew up with. Israel has done remarkable things in the world. Israel struggles like every country to find a balance between preserving its moral core and protecting itself in a hostile world." I also said that sometimes our hopes and dreams leave us disappointed - and I left room to talk about heartbreak.
- The question that surprised me the most? One of the participants said, "I learned that Jews are the smartest people. What is your secret?" Okay! What would *you* say to that?? I used the opportunity to share one of my deepest beliefs. I said that we believe that every human being is created in the Divine Image (*b'tzelem elohim*), with a spark of the Divine and that each of us has a blessing to give to the world. Our gifts to the world are unique and different: some of us are scientists, find cures for diseases, are authors, poets or musicians, teachers, parents. Whatever our gifts, we must nurture the divine spark within and pass it on. And, I added, a good heart is just as important as being smart - indeed, more important.

With wishes for a new year of kindness and courage,

Shira





RABBI TOM WEINER

Sometimes the words of Kohellet (Ecclesiastes) feel like this:

"To everything there is a

season:

- ◆ A time for dying
- ◆ A time for uprooting
- ◆ A time for slaying
- ◆ A time for tearing down
- ◆ A time for weeping
- ◆ A time for throwing stones
- ◆ A time for war
- ◆ A time for hating"

I went away for a couple of weeks on vacation. Spent some time in England. You know what the best part of it was? Being away from our 24 hour news cycle. My blood pressure actually went down. Actually, my timing was perfect because I was away for both of the presidential conventions. But of course, there is no real escaping the real world, because I was here for the terrorist attacks here and abroad, the mass murders, the shootings by police and of police.

I thought I'd offer a couple of words of perspective for these tough times. For those of us who have been around for a couple of generations, and therefore lots of presidential seasons, cycles of terrorism and tough economic times, we have been blessed with a bit of the wisdom that can come from time and the observation of cycles.

If you are young, that wisdom of time is harder to come by, obviously. So we listen to kids of 10, youth of 18, young people of 25 years old, and as they look around, and at their own short history, it may well feel to them as if there is only one kind of season:

- ◆ A time for dying
- ◆ A time for uprooting
- ◆ A time for slaying
- ◆ A time for tearing down
- ◆ A time for weeping
- ◆ A time for throwing stones
- ◆ A time for war
- ◆ A time for hating

But guess what, each of those come hand in hand with it's uplifting partner. So if you live in the orbit of someone who is young, it's your loving responsibility to remind them that Kohellet wrote and also taught that there was:

- ◆ A time for new life
- ◆ A time for healing
- ◆ A time for building up
- ◆ A time for laughing
- ◆ A time to dance
- ◆ A time to hug
- ◆ A time to love
- ◆ And a time for peace

After all, there are those of us here who remember the peace at the end of a world war; that as well as the bloody riots of the summer of 1968 there was the summer of love; and we remember the Camp David Accords signed when Sadat and Begin, Egyptian and Israeli, actually shook hands; some of us remember times of real economic growth and the solid opportunity that came along and lasted; we've seen Germany, England, Japan, Viet Nam, heal, rebuild and thrive; we've seen incurable diseases . . . cured. We've lost love . . . and found new love; and we've lost jobs, and found new ones.

Share that news. Share that wisdom. Share the other half of Kohellet's verses!

Now I know, these times of suffering are quite real, and that this election is the most important one of our life times (as was the last one and as the next one will surely be); and there is war, and pain and terror.

So please remind those dear to you, especially the young without those memories, that, again and forever, the pendulum will swing and there will be:

- ◆ the new life
- ◆ the healing
- ◆ the building up
- ◆ the laughing
- ◆ the dancing, loving and hugging, and the peace

A sweet and healing 5777 to you all!

Tom

Do you have a student going off to college? One or two of them there already?

Make sure they stay connected with Kol Ami by completing the form below! Once we have your student's contact information, they will receive invitations from Rabbi Tom for get togethers (both locally and at college), as well as holiday greetings from Kol Ami!



COLLEGE STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

Help us stay connected with your student!

2016-2017

Please return this form by mail to: Congregation Kol Ami
Stacey Matusow
College Youth Committee
252 Soundview Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606

or send back via fax to 914-946-8143

or via email to staceymatusow@nykolami.org

Today's date: _____

Student's name: _____

Student's cell phone: _____

Name of College or Graduate School: _____

School Mailing Address: _____

College email address: _____

Expected graduation date: _____ Student's Birthdate: _____

Studying abroad?

If yes, name of school and dates away: _____

Parent's name: _____

Parent's email: _____

Please support Kol Ami when you purchase your textbooks on Amazon. Link from the Kol Ami site or [here](#) and Kol Ami receives a percentage of your purchase, and you still get all of your usual benefits and discounts!

This is the link if it breaks: <http://www.amazon.com/?tag=congolami0f-20&camp=15345&creative=394677&linkCode=ur1&adid=OCJGNCND3KH87RQNM59&ref-refURL=http%3A%2F%2Fnykolami.org%2F>



CANTOR DAVID ROSEN

Yizkor and Tzedakah--Are they Related?

Growing up in Toronto and not belonging to a synagogue until my mid-teens, I had the opportunity to attend various synagogues for the High Holy Days.

While there were many differences between the venues and services, there was one tradition consistent among the various congregations, that I found rather disturbing. Yes... that little card stuffed into the High Holy Day Prayer Book that asked me to make some type of extra financial contribution to the synagogue.

Perhaps this has never bothered you, but I have to admit that I was somewhat irritated that there was an additional plea for a donation on what are supposed to be some of the holiest days of the year. We pay our dues, we contribute our time when we can, but why must the High Holidays be a time where we are asked to give tzedakah?

While there are certainly operational budget reasons for the request, I would like to draw your attention to another compelling reason founded in our deepest traditions.

As it turns out, the request for giving Tzedakah is found in our Yizkor prayer, the prayer for remembering our loved ones. Perhaps you have noticed it, but have decided to overlook it seeing as giving money is the last thing on your mind when you are remembering and reciting a memorial prayer on behalf of a spouse, parent, sibling or other close relative. And yet, our tradition teaches us that giving Tzedakah at this tender moment is one of the most appropriate things we can do to remember a loved one. By giving Tzedakah, we are completing an act of kindness; something that the departed can no longer do in the physical world. In essence, we are acting on their behalf to perform acts of love and kindness also known as "Gimilut Hasadim." Our sages further teach us that by connecting the memory of the departed with a mitzvah such

as Tzedakah, we are in essence elevating the soul of the departed, as well as making us more righteous people in our community and in the eyes of God.

By pledging our contribution around the time of the Yizkor service, we are taught that not only do we remember our loved ones, but also we ensure that we will not forget to perform this sacred act of generosity and kindness on their behalf.

Our congregation can benefit from your acts of generosity on behalf of the ones that you cared for most deeply. No amount is too little. Imagine the impact we could have on the future of our congregation, if everyone who was remembering a loved one performed this small act of kindness?

Fortunately, there are many opportunities and reasons to "give" to our community this year. From our new High Holy Day Prayer Books to the many programs and services our congregation provides, there are many ways to act on behalf of your loved one who can no longer give.

"Yizkor" means to remember. Let us not forget this congregation, the building and the community that help to sustain and nourish us spiritually and allow us a sacred space to remember our loved ones. Let us ensure that this k'hila k'dosha (holy congregation) will be here for many generations after we are gone, so that our relatives have a place to remember us and to perform acts of loving kindness on our behalf.

Ilyse, Joel and I wish you a happy and healthy New Year!!

L'shana Tova Tikateivu,

Cantor David Rosen

Message From Our Religious School Director

FELICE MILLER BARITZ



... the winding down of summer and the gearing up for school. I still get that feeling of excitement (mixed with a little anxiety) as the beginning of school approaches. It's been a busy summer of cleaning, preparing,

ordering and planning!

The back- to-school packets have been prepared. If you did not receive your packet at the end of August, please be in touch with Jess in the main office!

The first day of Religious School is Sunday is September 18th. We hope you will join us immediately after school for our **Kol Ami Welcome Back Picnic** (you bring lunch, we'll provide drinks and snacks!) The new school calendar and grade level "hot sheets" are in your back to school packet, along with your child's class assignment. In addition, you can find our full school calendar and other school information on our website at www.nykolami.org.



The Religious School is partnering with the ECP in a FALL FLOWER SALE!

Please take advantage of this opportunity to support our schools by pre-ordering beautiful flowering cabbage, fall mums or ornamental kale. The deadline for your order is September 28th and pick up will take place at our Sukkot Festival on Sunday, October 16th.

Our Parent Network (formerly referred to as the Religious School Committee) will continue working to involve parents in the mitzvah of educating our children and making our school the best place for us to learn and experience community together. Jen Labovitz will Chair our Leadership Team. Howard Geller will join her, overseeing finance. Elizabeth Ilberg will be responsible for fundraising and outreach and Adriane Klein will be in charge of programming and events. You can be in touch with our Leadership Team by emailing them at religiousschoolparents@nykolami.org. We all hope you will look for ways to become involved in our school community. Please consider volunteering to help in a class or on a special project. We have plans for a year full of excitement and learning. The best way to give our children a connection to Judaism is to share experiences with them. We invite you to participate!

I look forward to sharing another year of learning and exploring together!

Felice




SAVE THE DATE!

A CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNEY
J-Teen Leadership & Congregation Kol Ami
Monday, Feb. 20 ~Thursday, Feb. 23, 2017

8th & 9th Grade teens and their parents will join together for an educational journey to some of the most important sites of the Civil Rights Movement

Connect the lessons of this great social movement that resonate to the present day and participate in meaningful Community service projects with local communities.

For more information, contact Felice at felicemillerbaritz@nykolami.org.



Surf, sun, soul—find your balance

Sababa means "no worries"

Join us for a day of sun, surfing, spiritual growth and pure joy

ATTENTION TEENS ...

this is your opportunity to start of the year with greater balance and clarity!

Join other Westchester teens *for a special day of*

SABABA SURF CAMP for Meditation, Yoga, Surfing & FUN!

*Congregation Kol Ami, Scarsdale Synagogue, Temples Tremont & Emanu-El,
Woodlands Community Temple, & WRT*

Invite our teens to participate in this very special day together!

FIND YOUR BALANCE and HAVE A BLAST!

Saturday, September 10th

9:30AM—4:00PM

Meet at Kol Ami at 9:30am

We'll spend the day together at Long Beach.

\$36.00 per person ~ Please make check payable to Congregation Kol Ami

Write Sababa in the memo.

Includes bus transportation, lunch, snacks & surfing lessons.

Don't miss this amazing opportunity!

Space is limited... first come first served.

REGISTER ONLINE WWW.NYKOLAMI.ORG

Questions? Contact Felice Miller Baritz at felicemillerbaritz@nykolami.org



Congregation Kol Ami
FALL FLOWER SALE

Proceeds will benefit the
 Early Childhood Program &
 Religious School

Pre-Sale Orders Only
 (Flowers are not available for purchase on the date of pick-up)

Flowering Cabbage ☆ **Mums** ☆ **Ornamental Kale**
 9" pots = 1 for \$8.00 / 2 for \$15.00

*** All Orders Due by Wednesday, September 28th**
 Please return order forms to Nan Blank, Felice Miller Baritz, or the Main Office
 by Sept 28th in an envelope labeled "FALL FLOWER SALE"
 Thank you for your support!!

Flowers will be available for pick-up at our Sukkot Festival
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16th: 9:00 - 11:30am

ORDER FORM (1 for \$8, 2 for \$15)

NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME : _____

CHILD'S CLASS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

I would also like to make a donation of
 flowers to The Garden Committee for use
 around the Temple in the amount of:

\$15.00 _____

\$30.00 _____

\$90.00 _____

Other: _____

FLOWER	QUANTITY
Flowering Cabbage	_____
Ornamental Kale	_____
Mums: (specify color)	_____
Red	_____
Yellow	_____
Orange	_____
White	_____
Purple	_____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Please make checks payable to:
 Congregation Kol Ami

First Taste: A Year of Jewish Stories



The Kol Ami Religious School presents a new opportunity for families with 4 & 5 year olds.

Join us each month for stories, songs, projects and more.
This program will include opportunities for parents and children to learn together as well as separately.

Sundays

9:30-11:00 AM

(open play available from 9:00-9:30)

Dates: 10/16*, 10/30, 11/20, 12/18, 1/22, 2/12, 3/19, 4/23, 5/21

*Orientation and Sukkot Festival

\$360

Advance Registration Required - Space is Limited

Priority given to Kol Ami members

For more information email Sara Elkin at

ayearofjewishstories@nykolami.org

First Taste: A Year of Jewish Stories Registration Form

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Parent(s): _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please include a check for \$360 payable to Congregation Kol Ami
and return to the Religious School Office.

A Message From Our ECP Director

NAN BLANK



I am delighted to welcome our entire ECP community. I hope all of our families and staff enjoyed a wonderful and relaxing summer. Our Temple staff under the direction of Jess Lorden and Paul Mauro has worked tirelessly with me and my assistants Lisa Cohen and Tracey Schweber over the summer months to get our school ready for our September opening and everything is sparkling.

We will begin our school year on Friday, September 9th with our *Annual Ice Cream Social* and classroom visiting and spend the beginning of the following week getting to know all of the children during our home visits. Our *Parent-Teacher Evening* is slated for Thursday, September 29th at 7:30.

ECP Family Photo Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 25th. **Picture So Perfect Studio**, an extremely talented husband and wife team specializing in family photography will be with us this year. Please refer to the flyer in this month's Connection for more information. Pre-registration is required by calling the ECP office at 949-4717 ext. 107 or by emailing

Nan Blank at nanblank@nykolami.org. **EVERYONE IN OUR KOL AMI COMMUNITY AND BEYOND IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.**

This year we will be hosting a Sukkot in the Woods Holiday Family Service and Dairy Dinner in our Sukkah for Families with Young Children on Sunday evening, October 16 beginning at 5:30. Please see our flyer in this month's Connection for more details. Please register ahead of time for dinner by either being in touch with me in the ECP office at 949-4717x107 or by emailing me.

Please remember all Kol Ami families and friends of families with young children not presently enrolled in our Early Childhood Program are welcome to join us at every program the ECP sponsors. Please refer to the Temple's website and monthly **Connections** for updates on all of our activities.

My family joins me in wishing everyone in our Kol Ami family L'Shana Tova, may you enjoy a year of sweetness and good health and may you be inscribed in the book of life.

Fondly,

Nan

Early Childhood Program Events & Reminders

September 9th

11:30am: Ice Cream Social

September 13th

Pre-K begins 9:00-2:30

September 12th

Home Visits for 2's, 3's and 4's

September 14th

School begins for 2's, 3's and 4's

September 12th

School Visits for Pre-K's

September 29th

7:30pm: Parent/Teacher Evening

September 13th

Home Visits for 2's, 3's, and 4's

**ECP Fundraiser
Family Photo Day**
Sunday, September 25th, 2016
(Rain or Shine)

\$150.00 Sitting Fee

Introducing our NEW photographers
Tracy and Michael Tanucci
An extremely talented husband and wife team
specializing in family photographs.

You can view Picture So Perfect Studio's work on their Facebook Business Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Picturesperfectstudio.com>
With your donation you will receive a 20 minute photoshoot by talented experts
and a fully edited CD of 10 high resolution photos.

It's easy to reserve your spot!
Sign up by calling the ECP office at 949-4717x107
or by emailing Nan at nanblank@nykolami.org.
Payment must accompany registration to reserve a time slot.

THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!

CONGREGATION KOL AMI WELCOMES YOU TO

**Sukkot
in the Woods**
A Service in Story and Song for Young Families

Join us Sunday evening, October 16, 2016
At 5:30
In the Atrium
For a Holiday Service
Followed by a
Dairy Dinner in our Sukkah
Let us know if you'll be staying for dinner by
Thursday, October 13th
By calling the ECP office at 949-4717x107 or by emailing
Nan at nanblank@nykolami.org

Everyone is Welcome!

**SHABBAT IN THE WOODS
PICNIC AND CONCERT, A
WONDERFUL EVENING
WITH FRIENDS**



A Message From Our Executive Director

JESS LORDEN



From the Executive Director's Desk

As I reflect on the past year, I am profoundly grateful for your warm embrace, for your willingness to share ideas and suggestions, and for your willingness to "roll up your sleeves" on new projects. I hope I have supported you on your path to a meaningful

Jewish journey as much as you have helped me. As the High Holy Days rapidly approach, I am looking forward to welcoming everyone as we celebrate the New Year together in our beautiful sanctuary. As always, our office staff is busy filling ticket orders, answering questions and welcoming our new members. Led by Paul Mauro, our Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, our custodial staff is hard at work refreshing our buildings and cleaning classrooms and hallways to get ready for the opening of the Religious School and our Early Childhood Program. Once again, our temple calendar is full of wonderful opportunities to worship, study and celebrate, engage as a community, and practice Tikkun Olam.

Dave, Sarah, Robby and I wish you Shana Tova Tikatavu. May this New Year be a sweet one for you and all those you love.

NEW EREV ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE – PRAYING TOGETHER AS ONE COMMUNITY:

Please remember that we are presenting a new opportunity to pray together as a community this year. Our congregants and guests will worship together as one at our early Erev Rosh Hashanah service which will start at 7:30 PM. Following services, we will have a Community Potluck Oneg, in which members are encouraged to share their favorite dessert. We invite you to linger and visit with our Temple family at this time.

LIVE STREAMING OUR SERVICES: We will be live streaming our services so that members who

are not able to attend services in person are nonetheless able to participate. We will be streaming the following High Holy Day services: Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rosh Hashanah Day Early Service, Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Early Service, and Yom Kippur Day Early Service. Details and passwords will be provided in advance of the services.

TICKETS: New this year, only two ticket formats will be printed – one for members and one for guests. These tickets are color-coded and not transferable. For each service you attend, please show your tickets to an usher.

USHERS: Please keep in mind that our ushers are Kol Ami members who give their time to ensure that our services proceed smoothly. Do treat them with courtesy and respect. Either Ilene or I will be available during every service. If a problem arises, please ask for our assistance.

PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED MEMBERS AND

GUESTS: In considering your needs, we encourage you to attend the early services. Since there is not a preceding service, you may arrive earlier and face less congestion and easier access to handicapped parking spaces. All entry to the sanctuary will be through the front door. No one will be admitted through the Religious School entrance.

GUEST TICKETS: Guest tickets are available for immediate family members (parent, sibling, child) not residing in your home and for your out-of-town guests. See Reciprocity sidebar for guest arrangements.

CHILD CARE: Child Care will be available at Early Evening Services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and at both Morning Services.

Reservations must be made in advance by calling the Temple office or submitting a Child Care form.

MEMORIAL AND NEILAH SERVICES: Because the Family Service takes place in the main sanctuary immediately prior to the Memorial and Neilah Services, we need at least thirty minutes to reset the sanctuary for these concluding services. If you are planning to attend the Memorial and Neilah Services, please do not arrive prior to 4:30 PM. Our ushers have been instructed not to open the doors until such time.

CELL PHONES: All cell phones should be left at home or in your car. If you are required to carry a phone or pager, please set it on vibrate mode.

A Message From Our President

HANK ROUDA



Change. It's a word and concept that shakes people to their core. It's easy to say that "change is hard" and that "change is inevitable", but the simple truth is that change is hard and it is also inevitable. As much as we think that some things and places don't change, the reality is generally far different. For instance, the music that we sing seems to have been part of our Reform

liturgy since before we were all born. Yet, the reality is that many of the songs that we sing have been arranged in only the last few decades, some just in the last few years. It just seems that the music hasn't changed because we've become so used to it and it's become part of our spiritual lives. We are fortunate to have several significant changes as we embark on another programming year and as we prepare for the upcoming High Holy Days (yes, they're not that far away). The first is the revamped and now digital phone book. We have all gotten used to the small spiral bound book and it's been a familiar aid as we stay in touch with others in our community. But, if you happen to still have an older book, take a look at the differences and you'll see some of the major changes. For instance, it's only been in the last few years that we've added e-mail addresses, which, I think we'd all agree, is a huge benefit, given how we communicate today. The new digital phone book provides so many improvements over the current version – it's accessible on any device wherever you are; you can jump to an advertiser's webpage from a link in their ad; you can open directions to another congregant's home from their address listing; you can see pictures of other congregants so that we get to know each other even better; and you can create a group so that you can communicate with others who have a common interest or task (such as carpooling for Religious School). And if you still want a hard copy (and I know that I will print at least one for my use), you can easily do so. If you don't have access to a computer or aren't comfortable printing it, please contact the office and we'll make one available for you.

For those of you who come on Erev Rosh Hashanah, you've noticed that the sanctuary (as extended) is not even close to full. Many families take that night to have a family dinner or dinner with friends. So, this year, we are combining the two Erev services into just one that will start at 7:30. This way, you can still have an early dinner and make it to services and it won't end so late that it's too late for families with children. But, if you are one of those who gather with family and friends and it's still not conceivable for you to make it to services, we're making it easy for you to still participate. First of all, we will be streaming our Erev Rosh Hashanah services so that you can watch the services from the comfort of your (or your relative's or friend's) home. Second, our clergy are putting together some materials to help you celebrate Rosh Hashanah wherever you choose to worship that will include blessings, prayers and reflections, and links to a few videos. More information will be coming in mid-September.

Maybe the biggest change is the introduction of the new High Holy Day machzor, *Mishkan Hanefesh (Sanctuary of the Soul)*. This two volume set is a wonderful reimagining of our High Holy Day liturgy with language that speaks to the modern soul. While this change could be unsettling, there will be a familiarity to these books that should be both comforting and readily apparent – the books' structure is similar to our very own Shabbat *siddur*. That is, the main text is interspersed with complementary readings many of which will speak to you in ways that our liturgy normally may not. We are able to bring these new books to Kol Ami through the generosity of our members, but it was a generous donation by one of our Past Presidents, Lisa Borowitz (in memory of her beloved father) that enabled us to make the commitment to purchase the over 1,500 sets that we need. There is still an opportunity for all of you to purchase a dedication of a (or multiple) set(s) so that you can honor someone, remember a wedding or b'nai mitzvah or memorialize a loved one. Each dedication will enable you to place a bookplate in a set of (or a single) book(s) that will live on for generations to come – *L'Dor va Dor*.

Jean and I look forward to seeing all of you over the High Holy Days as we worship together. L'shanah tovah – may it be a good year – a sweet year – for us all.

L'shalom,

Hank

**CONGREGATION KOL AMI
ON-LINE DIRECTORY
2016-2017**



Congregation Kol Ami's Twentieth Annual Directory will be made available to all of our members in September. Some of the benefits of our new online directory include:

- Easy access via all computers, tablets and mobile devices so you may access it from anywhere, and you'll have a password, so your access (and the information) will be secure
- Password protection enabling access to our members only
- Easily-made updates. In the event of a change in a congregant's address, phone, or email information, updates are easily made by the congregant, and immediately live, enabling others to continue to contact you
- Easily identifies household members regardless of last name
- The directory is searchable. Members may search by the first name, last name, street, email or any portion/combination, making it easy to find people with partial information. You may assign people to groups of your own, thereby facilitating the formation of email groups, carpools and other gatherings
- Photo capability. Congregants may upload photos, if desired, making it easier to place names and faces together
- Live website links. The directory features live links to the websites of all vendors who advertise with us so it will be even easier for you to patronize the vendors who support our community
- Links for most pieces of congregant information. Clicking on an address links to Google maps for directions. Clicking on an email address launches an email to the person. From a mobile device clicking on a phone number will dial it, and clicking on a mobile number will text it
- Environmentally green and friendly.

PLEASE NOTE:

For those who prefer hard copy, the directory is easily printed from any computer. If you do not have a computer or printer, please contact the main office and we will be happy to provide a copy of the directory to you.

Sisterhood

Co-Presidents Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus, Stacey Matusow

Kol Ami Sisterhood (Women of Reform Judaism)

The Kol Ami Sisterhood is proud to serve our Congregation and community as well as to create an opportunity for women to learn, to share, and to celebrate Temple life, their families, and themselves. If you come to worship during the High Holidays, participate in Friday night services, celebrate life cycle events, or attend our educational programs, then you have shared in Kol Ami experiences that are supported by Sisterhood.

In the past few years we have significantly increased our social and philanthropic activities, creating a myriad of opportunities for members to become involved, to make new friends, to have fun, and to help make the world a better place! We strive to offer something for everyone, and we are always open to new ideas.

We are especially proud that our High Holy Day food drives have been surpassing all expectations with thousands of pounds of food collected for the Food Bank for Westchester. We held a very successful Shopping Spree/Boutique with more than 30 vendors who left the event happy, and even more importantly, this fundraising effort provided us with the means to continue our support of Kol Ami. Our Purim baskets project, while fostering a sense of community, also resulted in increased revenue. These projects helped us fund a variety of Kol Ami and broader Sisterhood causes including underwriting events shared with the Coachman Family Center.

Our social events such as the Havdalah series, Ladies Night Out, Passover tasting, Membership Dinner, and summer potluck attracted a large number of Kol Ami's women and brought us new members. We plan to host many of these events next year along with other new and exciting initiatives. We were also able to provide financial support for the Early Childhood Program holiday celebrations, Religious School Purim Carnival, scholarships for high school students, adult education programs, Shabbat and High Holy Day Onegs, the

cellist for Kol Nidre, Sukkah decorations, and so much more. We are blessed to be able to do as much as we do because of wonderful volunteers as well as the dues-paying members of WRJ Kol Ami Sisterhood. Whether you are a long-time member of the Sisterhood or new to our organization, we hope you will take this opportunity to formally (re)join Sisterhood in the new year. With your dues payment of \$40, you will enjoy discounted or free admission to events we sponsor while helping to deliver all the services provided by the Kol Ami Sisterhood for our Congregation. And of course we hope that you will become an active participant as well; we promise you'll make some new friends! Our meetings and events are listed on the Kol Ami website at www.NYKolAmi.org/Sisterhood.

On behalf of WRJ Kol Ami Sisterhood, we thank all of you for your past and continued support and wish you and your families much joy and blessing in the New Year.

Women of Reform Judaism Events & Reminders

Staplefest

Tuesday, September 13
7:30pm

Help us prepare the HHD donation bags
Bring a stapler and we will provide the refreshments

Decorate the Sukkah

Saturday, October 15
2:00pm

Bring your helping hands and we will supply refreshments

**For the most up-to-date
information visit us at
www.NYKolAmi.org/Sisterhood**



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM | Stronger Together

Ritual Riches

Ritual Riches *T'kiah*

– it's time to Wake Up!!

Elul is the last month of the Hebrew year, and the month that precedes the High Holidays. This year, *Elul* begins at sundown on Saturday, September 3rd.

Traditionally, it is a time of study and personal reflection on our actions of the past year. It is also a time when we seek forgiveness from those we have wronged or with whom we have otherwise “missed the mark” in our interactions and behaviors.

Some of the customs during the month of *Elul* that are designed to help us prepare ourselves and our souls for the upcoming High Holidays are described here:

- ♦ *Selichot* (penitential prayers) are often recited during the month of *Elul* as a means of reflecting on our own relationships and behavior. A special *Selichot* service takes place on the Saturday evening a week before *Rosh Hashanah*. Please join us at Kol Ami for the music and prayer of this holiday on Saturday, September 24th, 8:30PM.
- ♦ It is a long standing tradition to visit the graves of loved ones during the month of *Elul*. We remember and honor the memories of those who came before us; and are prompted to think about our own lives and the legacies we will leave to others. For those who would like to share this experience with members of the Kol Ami community, two brief memorial services will be conducted by members of our Worship Committee on Sunday, September

25th. The first service will be at the Kol Ami section of the Mount Hope Cemetery at 10 am, and the second will be held at Sharon Gardens at 3:30 pm (please meet at the main office of Sharon Gardens at 3:15 pm).

With the intent of awakening the soul and kick starting the spiritual accounting that happens throughout the month of *Elul*, another tradition during this month is listening to the blowing of the *shofar* each morning for the 29 days leading up to *Rosh Hashanah*. This year, Kol Ami will be sending a daily email with an inspirational message and a link where you can listen to the *shofar* blast. We hope you will find that these emails are moving and meaningful.

L'Shalom and Shanah Tova!!

Ritual Riches is a monthly column written by members of the Worship Committee. We hope you find these articles interesting and informative. This article was written by Ellen Bittner.

PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Jewish tradition invites us to hear the sound of the shofar each day of the month preceding Rosh Hashanah, the month of *Elul*. We hope you embrace the daily “wake up call” and the thoughtfully chosen words of contemplation for each of these days - a gift of spiritual connection.

"Jewish Journeys" will be expanding its horizons to include journeys of various types and destinations. No matter the journey-personal or professional, brief or in depth, spiritual or secular-travel of any kind enriches the mind, body and soul.

"Shabbat Services" by Susan Ross

In the past year, I have attended many Shabbat services but two services were especially memorable.

In one Shabbat service, a sermon highlighted a trip down the Nile River in Egypt. This moving sermon was a reminder that monuments may not always be the embodiment of the one's soul. We are.

We have survived, because we have held on to our traditions, prayers and dignity for thousands of years, while other civilizations have perished and are long forgotten.

In turn, the narration of a physical journey by one may inspire spiritual journeys for others, by a deeper understanding and appreciation of our past.

In another Shabbat service, the importance of accepting others on their own terms and the necessity of looking beyond

one's own misconceptions were emphasized in eloquent sermons. Acceptance should be on many levels-physical, emotional, spiritual, secular and political.

The clergy are advocates of truth and justice and champions in spreading these ideas in sermons, in classes and with speakers. As citizens of a shared planet, we must learn to exist as humanly as possible and not falter in achieving these goals.

For many of us, society's customs and laws have changed dramatically during our lifetime-for some, too quickly and for others, not fast enough. Either way, we cannot go back to earlier times, for nostalgia comes with too many consequences.

Congregation Kol Ami presents many opportunities for exploring various religious and secular issues, all of them enlightening and educational. The results can only be more ways to enjoy Jewish journeys at the temple.

Kol Ami Cares Opportunities for Volunteering

Kol Ami Cares provides endless opportunities for connection and caring in times of joy and in times of sorrow. Some of the ways in which our volunteers support the Kol Ami community include:

We call bereaved families, prepare a home for shiva, help, lead or participate in shiva services for families in mourning.

Several of our congregants no longer drive or have difficulty getting to services and special events. Kol Ami Cares maintains a database of members willing and able to provide transportation as needed. Offering a ride even once in a while is hugely appreciated.

Within our Kol Ami community, older congregants would

welcome a visit in their homes. Many do not have family living nearby and would appreciate the company. Please join our growing list of members who spend time with our housebound congregants. (B'nai mitzvah students may choose this activity as a Mitzvah Project.)

Kol Ami Cares prepares and delivers meals to our members recovering from illness or surgery. We welcome anyone who can provide a meal for those unable to shop or cook for themselves or their families.

If you or anyone you know can benefit from our assistance, please contact us immediately. Thank you so much to our wonderful volunteers.

Kol Ami Cares Co-Chairs

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

Please complete the form on the next page if you would like to be part of Kol Ami Cares.

Kol Ami Cares

The key is caring. Once a week, once a month or just one day.

Kol Ami Cares provides endless opportunities for connection and caring in times of joy and in times of sorrow. We call bereaved families, help, lead or participate in shiva services, visit the sick and connect with the homebound. We also work to support the larger Westchester and world communities by knitting for our troops, preparing food for the hungry and many other activities of mitzvot.

At the heart of a caring community is fulfilling these "sacred obligations" without measure:

- To perform acts of love and kindness
- To welcome the stranger
- To visit the sick
- To console the bereaved
- To make peace when there is strife

We hope you can contribute in one of the following ways (starred * items require at least one training session prior to participation):

A. Comfort the Bereaved

I would like to

- ☐ Provide a post-funeral meal or help set up the home for a shiva visit
- ☐ Help during a shiva period (e.g. childcare, telephoning, shopping or participating in a shiva service)

B. Visit the Sick

I would like to

- ☐ Visit congregants in their homes *
- ☐ Visit congregants in the hospital *
- ☐ Telephone congregants who are homebound or ill
- ☐ Offer help (e.g. transportation, food, shopping)

C. Share Knowledge

I would like to

- ☐ Read to those with limited eyesight
- ☐ Sing with a chorus in nursing homes
- ☐ Help tutor students after school
- ☐ Provide computer support

D. Support our Neighbors

I would like to

- ☐ Knit for our troops, babies and others
- ☐ Cook for the homeless shelter
- Sunday 11-12:30__ Monday 12-1:30__ Either __
- ☐ Focus on other Mitzvah programs in which I am interested
- Name of Program _____

E. Provide Transportation

I am available to

- ☐ Drive to/from Temple on Friday Shabbat Service
- ☐ Drive to/from Temple on Saturday Morning Shabbat Service
- ☐ Drive to/from Temple for Adult Education Programs or Special Events

Name _____

Email _____

Day Phone (cell) _____

Home Phone _____

- ☐ I am able to drive myself to programs.
- ☐ I need a ride to programs.

I would like to help in the administration of Kol Ami Cares.

Please return completed forms to the Kol Ami Office

Go to www.nykolami.org for program details

Social Action

Cooking for the Homeless

In the Kol Ami kitchen
Sundays at 11:15 am:
Nov 6, Dec 4, Jan 22,
Feb 12, Mar 5, Apr 2, May 7, June 11
and
Mondays at 12 pm:
Oct 31, Nov 21, Dec 19, Jan 30, Feb 27,
Mar 6, Apr 3 & 24, May 22, June 12

The Cabin Group

Alcoholics Anonymous

Weekly (closed) Tuesday meetings
5:45 pm
Schulman Chapel in the Woods

Al-Anon

Weekly (closed) Thursday meetings
7:30 pm
Schulman Chapel in the Woods

Mitzvah Knitz

Together we'll knit afghans, caps for Israeli
soldiers and more.
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month.
10:30 am, Sept 13

The Kol Ami Singers

Join us at nursing homes and assisted living
facilities as we sing songs, accompanied by
Paul Schwarz. Bring a little sunshine to the
residents and make a difference in their lives.

Wednesday, Sept. 28th at 2:30pm

King Street Nursing Home
787 King Street, Rye Brook, N.Y.
Please contact Murray Shapiro for more
information at 946-7789.

KOL AMI PANTRY

Our Kol Ami Pantry, housed in the entry room
of our gymnasium, is now open for our
congregants, our staff, and guests of each.
Our hours of operation are: Tuesday 9:30AM
– 11AM; Thursday 6:00PM – 7:30 PM; and
Sunday 11:30AM – 1:00 PM. If receiving food
from our Pantry would help you at this time,
please visit our Pantry and permit us to assist
you. If you are able to make a financial
donation to help us purchase food for others,
we welcome your assistance as well.
Operating the Kol Ami Pantry enables us to
feed the hungry within our own community and
promotes healthy living and social
responsibility among our congregants and
staff.

COACHMAN'S CORNER

We are thrilled to be working closely with
new friends at the Coachman Family Center
in White Plains. Our relationship began in
the summer of 2014 and has flourished
since that time. The projects include:

- Providing school supplies throughout the
year
- Providing sports equipment
- Providing baby toys and equipment
- Providing books
- Tutoring support
- Monthly Birthday Parties for children up to
14 and separate teenage outings
- Thanksgiving Feast at Kol Ami
- Memorial Day Bar-B-Q at Kol Ami
- Knitting of blankets and providing them to
the Children of the Coachman

**We welcome Religious School families to
join us on these initiatives!**

Adult Education

Spiritual Journeying Groups

Mussar Classes

Mondays, 12:30 - 2:00 pm
 Sept 19, Oct 31, Nov 28, Dec 19, Jan 23, Feb
 27, Mar 27, Apr 24, May 22, June 19
 (fee for Kol Ami members \$72, \$100
 for non-members)

This workshop will introduce Mussar practice through tikkun middot ("repairing ourselves from the inside out"), so that we can act with greater compassion, kindness, and love in our homes, friendships and work. Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS. Please contact Rabbi Wax at pwax@wjcs.com or 914-761-0600 x149 to register.

Women in Transition

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month,
 beginning Sept 13th
 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Are you attempting an adjustment to a major life change? Please join us in an interactive discussion group. Topics to be discussed include but not limited to: retirement, widowhood, aging, changing relationships with adult children, and other life transitions. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Sheila Sturmer at sturmshela@gmail.com or 914-391-1227

Women's Roundtable Breakfast*

Wednesdays, 7:45 – 9:00 am

Sept 7, Nov 2, Dec 7, Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1,
 Apr 5, May 3

With Rabbi Shira Milgrom
 Join Kol Ami's remarkable, multigenerational women for learning and friendship.

This month we feature our guest speaker author and congregant, Susan J. Gordon.

Because of Eva: A Jewish Genealogical Journey is Susan's latest book which takes us through her own personal heart of darkness. Part memoir, part detective story, Susan's book is an

intimate tale of one woman's history with the epic sweep of world events in the twentieth century. Susan traces her journey into the past and into her soul. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Please join us for what I'm sure will be an interesting and riveting morning discussion.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation

Now entering its 6th year -

Newcomers Always Welcome!

Thursday mornings, beginning Sept 1,
 9:30 - 10:45 am

Join us in learning mindfulness meditation, a practice of training the mind and the heart so that we can live with greater clarity, acceptance and connection. No meditation experience necessary.

Led by Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, and certified meditation teacher. WJCS Partners-in-Caring clinician for Kol Ami

Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, is our Partners-in-Caring liaison from Westchester Jewish Community Services, one of the largest social services agency in Westchester. WJCS, a non-sectarian agency, provides a wide variety of psychosocial programs and services to children, adults, families and special populations in our Westchester community.

Programs include:

- Geriatric care management and other senior programs
- Jewish Spiritual Healing Center: services for individual and families facing serious illness
- The Autism Center: residences for developmentally disabled adults individual bereavement counseling and support groups
- CENTER LANE: a center for the LGBT community....and much, much more.

As our congregation's liaison to WJCS, Ruth (an experienced clinical social worker and psychotherapist) can assist synagogue members in assessing and meeting challenging life situations by providing brief counseling, accessing needed resources and making appropriate referrals. Ruth also leads the Thursday morning Jewish Mindfulness Meditation group and facilitates the Wise Aging program. Ruth can be reached directly through email (rosenblum@wjcs.com) and phone (914 761-0600 ext. 148).

GATHER AND STUDY

Wisdom of the Sages at Kol Ami

Thursdays 11:00 – 12:00 pm

Beginning Sept 8

Lively discussions of the world and our lives based on some of the most provocative and fascinating texts of Jewish learning. All are welcome.

With Rabbi Tom Weiner

Current Events with Beth & Gene Kava

Mondays, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Sept 12 & 26, Oct 31, Nov 7, 14, 28, Dec 12, Jan 9, 23, Feb 6, 27, Mar 13, 27, Apr 10, 24, May 8, 22, June 5 & 19

Each session will provide participants an opportunity for in-depth examination of a current issue of the day. Participants will examine issues, through various perspectives, using readings, video, or a guest speaker.

Weekly Torah Study: Parashat Hashavua

Friday mornings 10:00 – 11:30 am

Led by Kol Ami members

Kol Ami Book Club

Wednesdays, at 9:15 am in Room 20

Meets the first Wednesday of every month throughout the year. Come whether you've read the book or not; the discussion is always lively.

September 7th "The Children Act"

by Ian McEwan

For more information contact Doris Dingott at 289-0869 or DLDingott@gmail.com

Prophets Seminar

Mondays 7:30 pm

beginning Oct 24

Prerequisite- curiosity.

We will study Deutero-Isaiah and Ezekiel. Ezekiel speaks of a return to the land after the Babylonian exile and the renewal of the covenant about which Jeremiah spoke. Deutero-Isaiah speaks of the Jewish future, a time when we shall be "a light unto the nations". We will examine the history and events surrounding their lives. Interpretations by Heschel, Buber and others will be examined.

PARENTING GROUPS

Parenting Teens Workshops

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 and separation.

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

Beginning Sept 29 and then starting in November the first Thursday of each month
Susan Davis, LCSW

Grandparenting Workshops

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

Meets the 1st Monday of the month
9:15am

Beginning September 26 and then starting in November, the first Monday of each month
Susan Davis, LCSW

Hebrew Classes for Adults

Beginners Hebrew with Emily Fields*

Sundays at 9:00 am

\$150 per semester/10 classes

Beginning Sept 18

Shabbat Sings — Hebrew prayers and songs Learn the Service in Hebrew

(For Advanced Beginners who can slowly read
Hebrew) with Emily Fields

Sundays at 10:00 am

\$150 per semester/10 classes

Beginning September 18

Please contact Emily at efgraph@optonline.net
to register or if you require additional
information.

+++++

Intermediate/Advanced Hebrew with Alice Seidman

Sundays at 10:00am

Conversational Hebrew, grammar, vocabulary,
reading, and translating current Israeli
publications. An informal learning environment.
(Contact Alice Seidman at 953-8455 for further
information). Free of charge.

A DISCUSSION HOSTED BY KOL AMI MEMBER PAUL KANDEL

"A Smart Start to Social Security"

September 15, 2016 @ 7pm

Please join us on as Paul Kandel and
colleagues from Morgan Stanley lead us
in a discussion about how to prepare for
the retirement lifestyle you want. For
more details or to RSVP, please call Paul
Kandel at 212-643-5908

The Arts: Music & Drama

Congregational Choir

Thursdays 7:45 - 9:30 pm

beginning October 8th

For High School Students and Adults

Cantor David Rosen and

Lenora Eve, Accompanist

Or Chadash (A New Light)

Children in kindergarten through 6th Grade

Sundays 11:00am

(when Religious school is in session)

beginning Oct 23rd

Cantor David Rosen and

Lenora Eve, Accompanist

FUN AND GAMES

Mah Jongg

Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Kol Ami Atrium

Email Betsy McCormack

(Betsymc@aol.com)

for information

We gratefully acknowledge your generous contributions

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

- ◆ In honor of the extraordinary leadership of Beth and Gene Kava in current events from Linda and Milt Persily
- ◆ In honor of the extraordinary leadership of Paul Davis in "Prophets", from Linda and Milt Persily
- ◆ In honor of the birth of Harper Lynn Kava, granddaughter of Beth and Gene Kava, from Marian and Ed Steinberg
- ◆ In loving memory of Dr. Richard Sarna, husband of Ellen Sarna, from Marian and Ed Steinberg
- ◆ In loving memory of Dr. Richard Sarna, from Phyllis and Irwin Margolin

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM FUND

- ◆ In honor of Barbara Selbst's, "Special Birthday", from Elaine Schiff

FUND FOR THE NEEDY

- ◆ In loving memory of Elaine Cohen, from Michael Weinberg
- ◆ In honor of Jane Friedberg's birthday, from Terri Levin
- ◆ In honor of her father, Gary Barnett's birthday, from Hillary Barnett
- ◆ In loving memory of Richard Sarna, from Beth and Eugene Kava
- ◆ In honor of Roger Seti for programming and running, "Movie Night" at Kol Ami, from Susan and Kenneth Gordon

KOL AMI FOOD PANTRY

- ◆ In loving memory of Mitzie Mason, from Michael and Sandra Mason
- ◆ In loving memory of her father, Benjamin B. Brody, from Sandy and Michael Mason

KOL AMI CARES FUND

- ◆ In loving memory of Leonard Weiss, father of Marsha Geller, from Sandra and Arthur Lukin and Craig and Elizabeth Lukin
- ◆ In loving memory of Leonard Weiss, from Dr. Terry Liebman and Audrey Liebman
- ◆ In loving memory of Leonard Weiss, from Hilda Geller
- ◆ In loving memory of Leonard Weiss, from Jennifer Lukin
- ◆ In honor of Emily Kopp's confirmation, from her parents, Robin Schiff and Russell Kopp
- ◆ In loving memory of Gail Rouda, mother of Hank Rouda, from Pam Pass
- ◆ In loving memory of Leonard Weiss, from Ilysa and Robert Mann
- ◆ In appreciation of Beth and Gene Kava for another great year of current affairs, from Barbara Block
- ◆ In loving memory of Leonard Weiss, from Rhoda Geller
- ◆ In honor of the marriage of Ellen Feinberg, daughter of Mimi Feinberg, to Peter Swift, from Mattie Abler

KOL AMI FUND

- ◆ In memory of Marjorie Alexander, from Richard Waloff (of the Jewish Week)
- ◆ In loving memory of Arthur Maslow from, Mattie Abler
- ◆ In loving memory of Abraham and Jean Kirschenbaum and Elaine Zinaman from Carol Schiffrin
- ◆ In loving memory of her brother, Sandy Glanzrock, from Meta Feldman
- ◆ In loving memory of her husband, Marshall Saunders, from Faith Saunders
- ◆ In loving memory of Dr. Richard Sarna, from Adele Schneider
- ◆ In loving memory of her father, George Kroner, from Vivian Kroner

BARBARA GRUBER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- ◆ In memory of Mary Miller, wife of Charles Miller from Jeanne Quinn
In memory of Elliott Resnick, husband of Judy Resnick from Jeanne Quinn.

September 2016 Calendar

Thu Sept 1

9:30 am Jewish Meditation

Fri Sept 2

5:30 pm Shabbat In The Woods
6:15 pm Evening Shabbat Service

Sat Sept 3

Shabbat Lift
9:00 am Coffee & Community
9:30 am Study
11:00 am Service
5:30pm: Shabbat Evening Service: Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Rubin

Mon Sept 5

Labor Day - OFFICE CLOSED

Wed Sept 7

7:30 am Women's Roundtable Breakfast
9:00 am KA Reads Book Club
10:30 am Mah Jongg

Thu Sept 8

9:30 am Jewish Meditation
11:00 am Wisdom of the Sages
5:30pm: Torah Evening Service: Bar Mitzvah of Cooper Danzig

Fri Sept 9

5:30 pm Shabbat In The Woods
6:15 pm Evening Shabbat Service

Sat Sept 10

Shabbat Lift
9:00 am Coffee & Community
9:30 am Study
11:00 am Service
5:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service: B'nai Mitzvah of Michael Grande and Taylor Libman

Mon Sept 12

11:00am Current Events

Tue Sept 13

10:00 am Mitzvah Knits
11:30 am Women in Transition
7:00 pm Leadership Development Meeting

Wed Sept 14

10:30 am Mah Jongg

Thu Sept 15

9:30 am Jewish Meditation
11:00 am Wisdom of the Sages
7:00 pm Discussion: "A Smart Start to Social Security" Presented by Morgan Stanley

Fri Sept 16

5:30 pm Shabbat In The Woods
6:15 pm Evening Shabbat Service

Sat Sept 17

Shabbat Lift
9:00 am Coffee & Community
9:30 am Study
11:00 am Service
5:30pm: Shabbat Evening Service: B'nai Mitzvah of Carly Faust and Jacob Smith

Sun Sept 18

9:00 am First Day of Religious School
11:15 am Cooking for the Homeless

Mon Sept 19

12:30 am Mussar Class

Wed Sept 21

10:30 am Mah Jongg
4:00 pm 4th-6th Religious School
6:30 pm 7th-12th Grade Religious School

Thu Sept 22

9:30 am Jewish Meditation
11:00 am Wisdom of the Sages

Fri Sept 23

5:30 pm Shabbat In The Woods
6:15 pm Evening Shabbat Service
New Member Dinner

Sat Sept 24

Shabbat Lift
9:00 am Coffee & Community
9:30 am Study
11:00 am Service
5:30pm: Shabbat Evening Service: Bar Mitzvah of Jonathan Rothschild

9:00pm: Selichot Service

Sun Sept 25

9:00 am K-6th Grade Religious School
9:00 am Religious School Grades K-3 Open House
11:30am - 4:30pm: Global Entry

Mon Sept 26

9:15 am Grandparenting Workshop
11:00 am Current Events

Tue Sept 27

7:00 pm Leadership Development

Wed Sept 28

10:30 am Mah Jongg
4:00 pm 4th-6th Religious School
6:30 pm 7th-12th Grade Religious School

Thu Sept 29

9:30 am Jewish Meditation
11:30 am Wise Aging.
11:00 am Wisdom of the Sages
12:00 am Parenting Teens

Fri Sept 30

5:30 pm Shabbat In The Woods
6:15pm Evening Shabbat Service



Personalized Children's Rosh Hashanah Plates

Calling all parents and grandparents,
Rosh Hashanah is Monday, October 3rd.
Order this lovely custom gift for the holidays and
support the Sisterhood Gift Shop at Kol Ami!

Please order by Friday, September 9th



BLUE



PINK



GREEN

10-inch Custom Apple and Honey Plate \$22 each

A beautiful, one-of-a-kind, personalized plate great for any child! A fun, vibrant illustration of apples, a jar of honey, and a honey dipper with your child's name featured on the plate. This 18" plate is made of sturdy melamine and is dishwasher safe. Comes in your choice of three colors: blue, pink, or green. Great gift for your child, grandchild or a newborn too!

Order by Friday, September 9, 2016 to ensure receipt by Rosh Hashanah!

First child's name _____ Plate color _____

First child's name _____ Plate color _____

First child's name _____ Plate color _____

Parent's full name _____ E-MAIL _____ Total _____

Checks should be made payable to the Kol Ami Gift Shop and
dropped off with Kay in the office or mailed to Congregation Kol Ami, att: Judaica Shop



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Front row, L to R: Jenna Triano, Megan Davis, Therapy Dog: Lulu

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—Matthew J. Florillo,
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THE SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP AT KOL AMI

HOURS: Starting middle of September
WEDNESDAYS: 4-6 and SUNDAYS: 9-11
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Our goal is to be your first-thought when it comes to buying a Holiday Item or Jewish Gift for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Wedding or New Baby or Hostess Gift.

NEW ITEMS COMING IN SEPTEMBER!

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Middle Row, Left to right: Brian Hoffmann – Chief Engineer, CEM, Atlantic Westchester; Nelson Gallardo – Project Manager, Bright Energy Services
Back Row, on ladder: Tom Burbank – Project Manager, EIT, CEM, Atlantic Westchester

Atlantic Westchester, an HVAC company in Bedford Hills, and Bright Energy Services, an energy efficiency company in White Plains, have aligned to become one of the area's leading commercial energy efficiency providers. Both award-winning firms have a long-standing commitment to energy-efficient building solutions. This strategic partnership has resulted in tens of millions of dollars in value to clients from reduced utility costs, the securing of financial incentives, and enhanced building operating systems. Services include energy auditing, LED lighting and controls, HVAC, solar, building management systems, local law and energy code compliance, LEED and Energy Star certification, benchmarking, sub-metering, commissioning, procurement, and more.

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