

THE CONNECTION

January 2018

Volume No. 5

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Photo: Water sculpture from the Center for Civil Rights in Atlanta.

Photo: From the Equal Justice Initiative. Each jar contains soil under a tree where a lynching occurred, and the name of the deceased.

Congregation Kol Ami
252 Soundview Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606



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

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Executive Director ☆ Jess Lorden

Assistant Executive Director ☆ Emily Campbell

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Lawrence W. Schwartz ∞

Maurice Davis ∞

Mark L. Winer

CANTOR EMERITUS

Raymond Smolover ∞

∞ of blessed memory

OFFICERS

President, Scott Musoff, Scott.Musoff@skadden.com

President, Susan Kohn Arovas, srkohn@mac.com

Vice President, Judith Arner Brown, gojustjudi@gmail.com

Vice President, Lisa Hochman, lisahochman@mac.com

Vice President, David Okun, david.okun@me.com

Treasurer, Jonathan Litt, jlitt@kohlconstructiongroup.com

Secretary, Rachel Eckhaus, boardsecretary@nykolami.org

Board of Trustees, EmailTheBoard@NYKolAmi.org

COMMITTEES...

Adult Learning, Jennifer Lemberg, AdultEd@NYKolAmi.org

Annual Fund, David Okun, AnnualFund@NYKolAmi.org

B'nai Mitzvah, BnaiMitzvah@NYkolami.org

Budget and Operating, Jeff Gelfand,

OperatingBudget@Nykolami.org

Capital Budget, CapitalBudget@nykolami.org

Calendaring, Rachel Eckhaus, boardsecretary@nykolami.org

Coachman Family Center, Alison Adler, Lisa Hochman,

HelpTheCoachman@NYKolami.org

College Youth, Stacey Matusow, CollegeYouth@NYKolami.org

Digital Communication, Judy Sarch, Webmaster@NYKolAmi.org

Dues Review, DuesReview@NYKolAmi.org

ECP, Cindy Musoff, ECP@NYKolAmi.org

Facilities, David Seicol, FacilitiesCommittee@NYKolami.org

Food Pantry Pam Millian, Pantry@nykolami.org

Green Team, Bonnie Hagen, Greenteam@nykolami.org

Inclusion, Inclusion@NYKolAmi.org

Inter-Faith Outreach, Julie Carran,

InterfaithOutreach@NYKolAmi.org

Israel, Jack Berger, SupportIsrael@NYKolAmi.org

Inter-Faith Families, WelcomeInterfaithFamilies@NYKolAmi.org

Kol Ami Cares, Betsy McCormack, Ginny Ruder,

KolAmiCares@NYKolami.org

Leadership Development, LeadershipDevelopment@NYKolAmi.org

Marketing, Leslie Wiesen, Marketing@Nykolami.org

Men's Council, Adam Hutter, Menscouncil@NYKolami.org

Membership, Dana Ross, Adrienne Pollak

Membership@NYKolAmi.org

Personnel, Donna Joseph, Personnel@nykolami.org

Premium Dues, Ellen Kurtz, Ilene Miller,

PremiumDues@nykolami.org

Planned Giving, Howard Geller, Evelyne Klein,

PlannedGiving@NYKolAmi.org

Retreat, Genna Farley, Retreat@NYKolAmi.org

Religious School, Sara Elkin, ReligiousSchoolParents@NYKolami.org

Social Justice, Laura Wilker, Socialjustice@NYKolAmi.org

Spring Fundraiser, SpringFundraiser@NYKolAmi.org

Worship, Sheryl Brady, Worship@NYKolAmi.org

WRJ Sisterhood, Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus,

Stacey Matusow, Sisterhood@NYKolAmi.org

Youth Groups, Karen Reynolds, YouthGroup@NYKolAmi.org



Worship Opportunities



Kol Ami's Kabbalat Shabbat Services in our Main Sanctuary at 6:15pm on Friday evening

We come to this sacred space together
to pray, to sing, to remember.
So take a deep breath, look around, allow your
body to move, your voice to soar, and your soul to open
to the possibilities of this time.

Worship Opportunities



Shabbat in the Woods



The Spirit



of



Shabbat

CONGREGATION KOL AMI WELCOMES YOU TO
JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

*A Shabbat Service in Story and Song for Families with
Young Children from 5:30 - 6:00pm all year round.*

*In the Kol Ami Gallery
Followed by our Festive Oneg!*

Parents can join in our 6:15pm
Kol Ami Service while your preschooler
can stay with us and enjoy crafts, games,
and a light supper!

The first Friday of every month is also our
Book Share Evening sponsored by temple
families. Each family who attends will go
home with a book as our gift to you.

Everyone is welcome!

Worship Opportunities

lift your shabbat

*Saturday Morning Torah Study
With Rabbi Shira*

Join Rabbi Shira and fellow congregants in our beautiful
Chapel in the Woods on Saturday mornings.
Step away from the chaos of the week and bring in the warmth
and reflection of Shabbat that Torah Study can offer for the week ahead.

9:00am **coffee & community**
9:30am **torah study**
11:00am **shabbat services**

Come for all, or part, of the morning, Bring your curiosity!



Weekly Torah Portions for January

Week ending January 6, 2018

Parashat Shemot Exodus 1:1-6:1

We begin the book of Exodus with this week's parasha. In Hebrew, the name of the book and its first parashah is Shemot, meaning "names," referring to the names of the Israelites who come to Egypt with Jacob. A new Pharaoh who does not have direct experience with Joseph & his role in Pharaoh's court has taken control of Egypt. The Israelites are enslaved. Moses is born and in turn "gives birth" to the people of Israel.

Week ending January 13, 2018

Parashat Va'era Exodus 6:2-9:35

In Va'era, this week's parasha, God speaks to Moses, confirming the covenant that was made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The pleas of the enslaved Israelites have been heard by the Eternal, and God instructs Moses to promise the Israelites redemption. God also commands Moses to speak to Pharaoh and demand that he liberate the people of Israel. Pharaoh refuses to release the slaves and God causes plagues on the Egyptians in order to change Pharaoh's mind.

Week ending January 20, 2018

Parashat Bo Exodus 10:1-13:16

This parasha begins with a reiteration of God's challenge to Pharaoh to change his behavior while at the same time making it more difficult for him to do so. It concludes with the freeing of the Israelites from bondage. God tells Moses and Aaron that the people must remember how God freed them from bondage.

Week ending January 27, 2018

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

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



January Calendar

Monday, January 1, 2018

New Year's Day
ECP and Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 2nd

ECP Closed
5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel

Wednesday, January 3rd

9:00-10:30am KA Reads Book Club
10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg
4:00-6:00pm Religious School
6:30-8:30pm Religious School
7:30-8:30pm Israel in the News

Thursday, January 4th

9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages
12:00-1:00pm Parenting Teens Workshop
5:45pm-6:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel
6-7:30pm Adult Choir (Purim Spiel Rehearsal)
7:30-9:00pm Adult Choir
7:30-8:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

Friday, January 5th

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods, followed
by Crafts and Light Supper for Young Children
6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary
Highschool Trip to the RAC (Returning Monday)

Saturday, January 6th

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel
9:00am Coffee and Community
9:30am Torah Study
11:00am Shabbat Service

Sunday, January 7th

9:00-11:00am Religious School
11:00-1:30pm Cooking for the Homeless
11:00am Or Chadash Choir
4:00pm Interfaith Community Concert

Monday, January 8th

11:00-12:00pm Current Events with Guest
Speaker Gary Stern, Journal News Editor
12:30-2:00pm Mussar Class
7:30-9:00pm The Sephardic Experience

Tuesday, January 9th

11:30-1:00pm Women in Transition
12:00pm Cooking for the Homeless
5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel

Wednesday, January 10th

10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg
4:00-6:00pm Religious School
6:30-8:30pm Religious School

Thursday, January 11th

9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages
5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel
6-7:30pm Adult Choir (Purim Spiel Rehearsal)
7:30-9:00pm Adult Choir
7:30-8:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

Friday, January 12th

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods, followed
by Crafts and Light Supper for Young Children
6:15p Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary
3rd Grade Shabbaton Sleepover

Saturday, January 13th

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel
9:00am Coffee and Community
9:30am Cindy Muniz: Teaching the James
Baldwin article "Negroes are Anti-Semitic
because they are Anti-White"
11:00am Shabbat Service
12:00pm Civil Rights Trip Participants Luncheon
7:00pm Midnight Run

Sunday, January 14th

Religious School Closed
7:00pm Interfaith Service Celebrating the
Legacy of MLK at Temple Israel Center

Monday, January 15th

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
ECP and Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 16th

10:00-12:00pm Mitzvah Knits
5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel
7:30-9:00pm The Jews of Spain: featuring Cantor David Mordecai & music of Sephardic/Iraqi Traditions
7:30-10:00pm Men's Council Trivia Night

Wednesday, January 17th

10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg
4:00-6:00pm Religious School
6:30-8:30pm Religious School
7:30-8:30pm Israel in the News

Thursday, January 18th

9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
11:00-2:00pm Wise Aging
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages
5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel
6-7:30pm Adult Choir (Purim Spiel Rehearsal)
7:30-9:00pm Adult Choir
7:30-8:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

Friday, January 19th

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods, followed
by Crafts and Light Supper for Young Children
6:15p Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary with the
Kindergarten/1st Grade/ECP Family Shabbat

Saturday, January 20th

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel
9:00am Coffee and Community
9:30am Jo Ann Bland of Selma, Alabama: Storyteller
and Witness to the Civil Rights Movement
10:30am Bar Mitzvah Service for Adam Otsuka in
the Main Sanctuary
11:00am Shabbat Service in the Chapel
4:00-6:00pm Sisterhood Wine & Wisdom

Sunday, January 21st

9:00-11:00am Religious School
9:00-11:00am 6th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Workshop
11:00am Or Chadash Choir
11:30-1:00pm Rosh Chodesh in the Chapel

January Calendar

Monday, January 22nd

11:00-12:00pm Current Events
7:30pm-9:00pm Kol Ami at the Movies

Tuesday, January 23rd

5:30-7:00pm ECP Family Lego Night
7:30-9:00pm The Jews of Spain

Wednesday, January 24th

10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg
4:00-6:00pm Religious School
6:30-8:30pm Religious School

Thursday, January 25th

9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages
5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel
6-7:30pm Adult Choir (Purim Spiel Rehearsal)
7:30-9:00pm Adult Choir
7:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

Friday, January 26th

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods, followed
by Crafts and Light Supper for Young Children
6:00pm Synaplex Hors d'Oeuvres
6:15p Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary
7:15pm Synplex Shabbat Dinner
8:15pm Synaplex Shabbat Shira featuring Divahn
9:15pm Dessert and Coffee Oneg

Saturday, January 27th

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel
9:00am Coffee and Community
9:30am Torah Study
11:00am Shabbat Service in the Chapel
10:30am Bar Mitzvah Service for Thomas Chestnut
in the Main Sanctuary
4:00-6:00pm 4th Grade Havdallah Hispanica

Sunday, January 28th

9:00-11:00am Religious School
11:00-1:30pm Cooking for the Homeless
11:00 Or Chadash Choir
11:00-1:00pm URJ Camp Presentation
2:00-3:00pm Family Concert with The Levins

Monday, January 29th

7:30-9:00pm The Sephardic Experience

Tuesday, January 30th

5:45pm AA in the Chapel
7:30-9:00pm The Jews of Spain

Wednesday, January 31st

Tu B'shevat
10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg
4:00-6:00pm Religious School
6:30-8:30pm Religious School
7:30-8:30pm Israel in the News

SAVE THE DATE FOR FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 7th

7:45-8:45am Women's Roundtable Breakfast

Thursday, February 8th

7:00-10:00pm ECP Couples Evening

Friday, February 9th

Synaplex Shabbat with Karen Brenan

Saturday, February 10th

ECP Havdalah in Pajamas

Sunday, February 11th

Sisterhood Ladies Night Out

Monday, February 12th

7:30-9:00pm Kol Ami at the Movies

Wednesday, February 14th

ECP Bake Sale

Wednesday, February 28th

Purim Carnival



A Message from our Rabbi

“Cry the Beloved Country: by Aaron Barnea, bereaved father and Parents Circle member”

In the new year of 2018, with its lovely “chai” ending, we will need to work harder to bring more life -and not more destruction- into our world. We will need to search out and learn from those who dare to hope in the face of despair and who trust in the face of fear. The following letter was just posted by a member of the Parents’ Circle, Israeli and Palestinian families bereaved by the conflict. For Israel, for America, for the world, there must be a better way. *-Shira*

Last week I had a very difficult experience that I’d like to share with as many people as possible.

I joined five other bereaved members of the Parents Circle to make a team of six: three bereaved Israelis and three bereaved Palestinians. As it turned out, I was the only bereaved father among the group. All the others were the sons or brothers of victims of the conflict.

First, a personal confession: I came to Israel full of Zionist belief, which I hold to this day, and I have raised my children and grandchildren in the light of that belief. My youngest son, Noam, was killed in April 1999 near Beaufort in Southern Lebanon, five days before the end of his IDF service, on the eve of Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Our team of six was scheduled to speak together before students from Nesher High School. It’s a regular activity of the Parents Circle, and has been taking place since 2000. Our message is clear: we, the members of the Parents Circle, Israeli and Palestinian families who have lost their loved ones in the conflict, clearly say that we want no more bloodshed. We are living, breathing proof that dialogue between the two peoples is possible, that reconciliation is possible. We also claim that without a process of reconciliation between the two peoples, a lasting peace will not be possible. Only a process of reconciliation, which deals with the deep wounds of the two peoples during the long conflict, can guarantee a process that will lead to peace. Our statement is moral, not political or sectarian.

While we were on our way to Nesher, we learned that a local politician published a post on Facebook that morning, in which he wrote “Bereaved Palestinian father = IDF soldiers are killers. Is this what we want to teach the children?” He immediately followed that by a call to arms: “Dear Jews, where are you? Come to Nesher with Israeli flags and help us cancel the talk by the Palestinian ‘bereaved father’ at Nesher High School at 10am”.

When we reached the school, we were greeted by a boisterous group of seven people, who greeted us with curses that cannot be printed here. The “best” response came courtesy of a man from Lehava, who said to me, “I wish an Arab would kill you.” Several policemen stood at the entrance, keeping the peace, also as a result of Zino’s post.

We entered the school and were very warmly greeted by the school principal and the entire teaching staff. The Parents Circle has been speaking at the school for more than a decade, and has always been warmly received for its humanistic message. As we sat down and began planning our visits to the classrooms, the phone rang. It was the Ministry of Education, demanding that the talk be canceled. The principal called the regional supervisor who repeated the demand that the talk not take place.

The entire school staff was shocked. Teachers stormed the principal’s office, saying “we are ashamed to be Israelis today!” One teacher said that the events brought to mind 1933 in Germany. Some teachers burst out crying. We all felt that this event was unprecedented in all our years of educational activity.

We told the staff that this event must be leveraged as a learning opportunity. The principal and staff responded immediately: “We will go into the classrooms in your place, and explain the reason for the cancellation.” The Principal called the mayor of Nesher, himself a bereaved father, and he expressed full support of the school staff’s actions. As we left the school we met the mayor, and realized he meant every word he said. A group of students, who noticed us leaving the school, ran to us and expressed deep sorrow at the cancellation of the activity.

We, at the Parents Circle, will not stop working endlessly to share our stories, together, in one voice. to show that there is another way. To show that there is a possibility for peace and that if we, who have paid the highest price to the conflict, can acknowledge and recognize the other side, anyone can and should.



A Message from our Rabbi



Keeping our Teens Safe, Centered and Empowered

Between the “Weinstein” phenomena, the seemingly ever increasing stressors in their lives, as well as the world around them feeling so dysfunctional and even dystopian . . . we have reworked what we offer our teens here at Kol Ami. Just as we would never let our kids drive a car without the prerequisite knowledge and skills; we don’t want to send our students off to college without the tools they need to have healthy and safe relationships, the ability to self-monitor and deal with their own stress, as well as being empowered to play a role in fixing and healing the crazy world around us.

What are we doing?

We have purposefully engaged Danny Mishkin and his Sababa Camp team to join us for the 10th Grade Confirmation Weekend as well as providing the educational and spiritual content of our Tikkun Olam mission to Costa Rica in February. The heart of all of their curriculum and methodology is to help students develop the self-awareness and tools they need to de-stress, to keep life’s pressures in perspective, and to nurture in themselves a healthy appreciation for their own spiritual resources.

Over these past two weeks we have engaged adolescent educator Scott Fried to meet with our high school students then separately with parents and grandparents. He spoke to our kids quite directly about sexual abuse, appreciation of the sanctity of the other, as well as acknowledging one’s needs but only in the context of respecting and fully communicating with one’s partner. Senator Chuck Schumer said of Scott’s work, “I commend Scott Fried on a career that is marked by outstanding service and valor. Through his many years of service as an educator and motivational speaker, he has been a model of leadership and courage to America’s youth.” His two-hour presentation to our students was clear, powerful, and even a bit discomfoting. After all, these are tough and powerful issues. Our goal is that his presentation will help students understand not only their own feelings, but create in themselves the tools for healthy, respectful and safe relationships as they are launched into the next phases of their lives.

As for changing the world? Our annual trip to the Religious Action Center provides an amazing weekend of learning about political advocacy on the local and national levels. The culmination of the weekend is the Monday visits to the offices of our Senators and Representatives to give eloquent and powerful thoughts on legislative solutions to the worlds problems.

Yes, the world sometimes seems so fraught with dangers and challenges. Our hope is that using Jewish values, sacred texts, and the student’s own instincts for doing what is right, that we help make their life journeys more joyful, safe and sacred.

Rabbi Tom



A Message from our Cantor

Reflections on the 2017 URJ Biennial-A Blessing for the Masses

In the Talmud (B. Brachot 58a) we are told that there is a special blessing for seeing a multitude of Jews as an assembly. The Talmud goes on to define a multitude of Jews to be at least 600,000, or the equivalent to the number of Israelites that were supposedly present at the foot of Mount Sinai. While I am not sure it will ever be possible to see this many Jews or associates at a given time during my life span, I know that the Biennial is probably as close as I am going to get... with over 5,500 to be more precise.

The Blessing for seeing a multitude of Jews at one time is translated as “Blessed are You, God, our Lord, King of the universe, the sage of secrets.” (B. Brachot 58a). The commentators tell us that God has the power to know the secret thoughts of every person in a crowd despite each person’s individuality. Despite the differences in people’s minds, opinions, thoughts and personalities, the Almighty knows the secrets of all of us. Whether or not you support this interpretation of the blessing, we can all agree that there is truly something magical that happens when large gatherings of people with similar interests gather in one space.

Yes, there were wonderful and inspirational speakers like Rabbi Rick Jacobs, Reverend William Barber II and Senator Elizabeth Warren. There were also stages filled with performers from across North America and Israel, who brought with them the latest compositions and trends in Jewish music and spirituality. There were also dozens, if not hundreds, of workshops offering best practices on everything from synagogue budgets to songs of Social Justice. There is no doubt that those that attended the Biennial will be sharing some of these best practices and we will be implementing some of the ideas that were shared in many different aspects our congregation’s daily operations.

Yet, despite all these happenings, there is something for me that is always more powerful and magical than the programming, it is simply the gathering of all these people, in one space at one time that continues to blow my mind. And in addition to the sheer number of people that are gathered, it is for so many (including myself) a trip down memory lane. It is like a time warp! In a matter of hours, I can run into my professors from cantorial school, the rabbi at my first student pulpit, the Past President of my first congregation, my rabbinical and cantorial colleagues from my year in Israel, and then sit down to dinner with 45 members from our Kol Ami community. Wow.

I think the highlight of the Biennial for me this year was to see the Biennial through the eyes of those from our community who were experiencing it for the first time. We are grateful to Lisa Borowitz and the fund she has established over the years to cover the cost of Registration for first time Biennial attendees. And we are grateful to Hank Rouda who was the leader of our delegation, producing the second largest cohort of attendees from over 900 URJ congregations. Both of you are true inspirations to our congregation and the community at large.

I look forward to sharing the stories and information over the weeks to come that were absorbed during this incredible assembly. But most importantly, I look forward to celebrating and sharing these best practices with all of you.

*In awe,
Cantor David*

A Message from our Co-President



2018. Bring It On.

My family has an obsession with the Times Square Ball. From the youngest of ages, I recall staying up to watch the revelry in midtown and to join in the chorus of voices counting the last seconds until the start of a brand new year. There was and still is nothing like the excitement, joy, love and hope all on full display in Times Square each December 31st.

So it should not have been surprising that my own kids would create an even greater connection to the infamous Ball. It started out innocently enough. I was planning a last-minute, surprise road trip, and my kids caught onto the idea that we were going to head out of town for the long New Years weekend. To divert their attention, I told them that I had considered the idea of going away but thought we would have more fun staying home together and making a replica of the Times Square Ball. My kids like projects, and I thought this would pique their interest. It worked. When I revealed to them that we were, in fact, heading out for the holiday, instead of the cheers I had anticipated, I was met with three confused faces. “Great, Mom, but we really wanted to make the Ball.”

What did we do? We already paid for our weekend trip, so we packed up the car and left town. While we were away, though, we spent hours discussing the Ball. Funny how my image of our project (paper mâché and cardboard) did not mirror my son’s (glass, metal, electronic countdown clock and wireless controls). After 365 days – and many late nights, engineering setbacks, and soldering accidents – thanks mostly to the work of my son with my husband’s guidance, we had our very own 10-foot Ball drop at home, a tradition that continues to this day.

We all need to have our own Times Square Ball. Something that brings excitement, joy, love and hope. Something that seems outrageous at first but, with determination and drive, incredibly fulfilling in the end. It has been six rewarding months since Scott Musoff and I became Co-Presidents, and in that time, we have seen the most awe-inspiring characteristics of our community in action: Our ability to push the envelope, to see possibility where others might see roadblocks, to foster new ideas and see them to gratifying fruition.

What will 2018 bring for us as a congregation? I can say with full confidence that we have an exciting year ahead – from new youth programming to opportunities for our entire community to learn and celebrate together to new social action and social justice initiatives. But allow me to raise the bar and ask: What would you create at Kol Ami if you had the chance?

I challenge us all to think big and to think different. For now, let our only constraints be the limits of our imagination. Who knows? What may seem outrageous now may turn out to be a most valued tradition in the future.

What will our Times Square Ball be?

L Shalom

Susan

A Message from our Executive Director



This past month, I had the pleasure and privilege of participating with 44 other Kol Ami members in the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Biennial in Boston from December 6th – 10th. The theme throughout the week was social action and Tikkun Olam. Beginning with Reverend William J. Barber’s inspirational preaching regarding the resuscitation of the heart of our nation at the Wednesday evening plenary, to Senator Elizabeth Warren’s brilliant discussion of the economic justice issues she champions on Friday morning, to Rabbi Rick Jacob’s brilliant D’var Torah on Shabbat morning, and Fran Drescher’s comedic relief Saturday evening, the Biennial was an incredibly powerful and meaningful experience from beginning to end. I hope to convey the essence of this emotional and enriching experience by sharing some reflections.

Al Vorspan, Senior Vice President Emeritus of the URJ, and Rabbi David Saperstein, Director Emeritus of the Religious Action Center (RAC) reflected on the great political and social justice crises of their lifetimes, the Reform Movement’s responses, and the implications for the social justice challenges of today.

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO and National Director of the Anti-Defamation League and Rabbi Tom Gutherz, from Congregation Beth Israel of Charlottesville, Virginia led a discussion in which they shared thoughts and strategies for responding to acts of hate. As a result of their powerful spiritual message, I came to better understand our responsibility to stand up even when it isn’t easy. Each of us is obligated to help repair the world, and we each have the responsibility to stand up and march arm-in-arm with others. Judaism is an important component of social activism – we need only look at the Torah – as we make religiously informed decisions while we engage in social action.

I was also moved by the Reform movement’s cantors, musicians, lay choir, and song leaders during the Kabbalat Shabbat, Saturday morning, and Saturday evening worship services.

Notwithstanding the above, I found I reflected the longest on a discussion regarding the meaning and importance of community. Community is important to the survival of Judaism and the Jewish community is important to the global community. Many families, like mine, include non-Jewish family members. These non-Jewish members of our community are part of our Jewish story and fully embracing them makes us stronger.

We are a diverse community, and it is important that each member of our community knows that we see them, we value them, and we recognize that their contributions to our community make us stronger. Community means giving and receiving love, comfort, and support in good times and bad. Community means being strengthened by each other. When you engage in a sacred community you create caring and connections. **To help us realize the impact of being part of the Reform Movement, we were asked to complete the following sentence “Because of the Reform Movement....” I adapted this and asked Kol Ami’s Biennial attendees to complete the statement “Because of Kol Ami...” A few responses follow:**

“Because of Kol Ami I have found that my voice and the voices of my fellow congregants can make a difference in our local and larger community.” *Lori Abrams*

“Because of Kol Ami I am a part of a strong, moral community which cares for each of our members and has provided lifelong friends. Because of Kol Ami my children are well grounded in their Jewish roots, culture and moral fiber. I am so grateful for/to Kol Ami and the role it plays in my life.” *Debbi Marcus*

Because of Kol Ami I have found, not only a place where I can worship in a way that feels profoundly spiritual for me, but also a community that has accepted me, embraced me and fulfilled a need I didn’t even know I was missing. I had not expected my circle of friends to expand so vastly at this stage of my life, but Kol Ami has given me those connections which I cherish beyond words.” *Jean Rouda*

“Because of Kol Ami I am part of a vibrant and ethical community, one that seeks to teach, challenge and inspire.” *Michael Zweig*

“Because of Kol Ami my family is part of a strong Jewish community.” *Andrew Levenson*

“Because of Kol Ami, my family and I are enriched, supported and uplifted by a most giving community; we engage in meaningful prayer, Jewish customs and celebrations; and we learn through the examples of others each and every day.” *Susan Kohn Arovas*

“Because of Kol Ami I have been able to explore my Judaism, become an adult Bat Mitzvah, develop my spirituality, engage with community, and join with others to perform acts of tikkun olam.” *Ellen Bittner*

I would love to hear how you would answer the question “Because of Kol Ami...”

Wishing you a happy, healthy and joyous New Year!

– *Jess*



A Message from our ECP Director

December ECP Dates:

- 1/3 ECP Opens**
- 1/15 ECP Closed**
- 1/23 Family Lego Night**
- 1/28 Family Concert featuring The Levins**

December ended on a fabulous note. On the eighth day of Chanukah our entire ECP community gathered together and enjoyed a holiday concert featuring the singing duo, The Levins. They delighted us with Chanukah songs and lots of other favorites. After the concert was over we gathered together as one community to enjoy latkes, applesauce, jelly donuts, and clementines. A very special thank you goes to our parent volunteers who were instrumental in helping the morning to work flawlessly. It was truly a wonderful way to end our month of light.

January promises to be filled with lots of winter fun. We'll be hosting our Family Lego night – an evening geared to 3-K year olds and their parents or caregiver. Join us on Tuesday, January 23rd from 5:30-7:30 for an evening of fun. We'll start with Pizza at 5:30 and begin building at 5:45! It's free and fun and everyone with young children is invited and welcome. Please RSVP to nanblank@nykolami.org by Friday, January 19th. For planning purposes please make a reservation as we will not be able to accommodate walk-ins.

Come in from the cold and join us on Sunday afternoon, January 28th for our family concert afternoon for young children featuring The Levins, <https://www.thelevinsmusic.com>. The concert will begin at 2:00pm and it promises to be an afternoon of fun. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

The Early Childhood Program of Congregation Kol Ami has served our own community and the greater community of lower Westchester for well over 50 years. Our philosophy is simple; we are dedicated to implementing a comprehensive and developmentally sound early childhood curriculum that promotes social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth. We have an incredible, vibrant and talented staff and an inviting facility that is warm and welcoming. In short, we have a great deal to be thankful for and proud of.


What else could we possibly need? We need you! We need everyone in our congregation to partner with us and to help us continue to build our community of friends' one family at a time. We need you to spread the word to your family, friends and neighbors that Kol Ami's Early Childhood Program is a very special place. We need you to build with us today so we can strengthen our Congregation's foundation for tomorrow. Partner with us, support us and help us continue to build for a strong future. It's in all of our hands and well within our reach.

-Nan



CONGREGATION KOL AMI
early childhood program
building a community of friends one family at a time

Kol Ami Early Childhood Program
Warm, Nurturing and Enriching
Registration for 2018-2019 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
A Step Ahead! Our Pre-K program
For children turning 5 from September through December
Extended Day Program for 3's, 4's and Pre-K's
Nan Blank, Director at Ext. 107
Call for an appointment & tour today



Thinking about a Pre-K Year?
Our A Step Ahead Kindergarten Readiness Program may be just right for your child

Congregation Kol Ami
Early Childhood Program
building a community of friends one family at a time

Full Day Program Created for Children Turning 5 years old in the Fall	Teacher Guided Learning, with a 3 Teacher Team who combine Masters in Special Education N-6, Early Childhood Certification, and Social Work
STEM Learning Child Initiated Individual and Small Group Learning	Designed to encourage your child's academic, as well as social and emotional growth
Extensive Outdoor Classroom and Garden Program	

Nothing takes the place of a tour.
Come and see what we are all about!

Congregation Kol Ami
Early Childhood Program
Serving Lower Westchester for over 50 years
Nan Blank, Director
NanBlank@nykolami.org

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at a Time

A Message from our Religious School Director



As our 7th Graders begin their second trimester of learning, we shift gears a little... instead of “electives” we lead a series of workshops to give our students an opportunity to learn about and experience the very important ideas of Mitzvot (commandments) and Middot (values). As a crucial part of their Jewish learning, becoming a good person, a *mench*, is a big part of what we’re trying to do. Living a Jewish life, being a Jewish person and especially becoming bar or bat mitzvah requires this basic understanding. Here’s what our students will be doing and experiencing as they rotate through our workshops.

MITZVOT & MIDOT WORKSHOPS – What’s a Mitzvah anyway?

As current and soon-to-be B’nai Mitzvah, we believe it is vital for our 7th graders to understand mitzvot in more detail, and to live them each week in our building. As you know, for the first trimester we had an array of elective choices for our 7th Graders, both on Wednesdays and one alternate day. The alternate day electives will continue. For Wednesdays, we have created 5 Mitzvah Workshops, all based on different mitzvot. The Mitzvah Workshop program was piloted last year and was so successful we’re continuing this year.

For these Mitzvah Workshops, the 7th Graders will rotate through, learning more about, and participating in, a different mitzvah each week.

Morah Shelly – Tzedakah (Justice, righteousness, fairness)

Activity: Beautiful tzedakah boxes to take home and fill.

Enduring Question #1: Why is it called tzedakah, and not the Hebrew word for charity?

Enduring Question #2: Which is better, giving \$1 every day of the week or \$7 once a week?

Morah Pam – Bikur Cholim (Visiting the sick)

Activity: Making chicken soup for the kids to bring to someone sick, along with stickers on the containers with a message of *refuah sh’leima* (a complete healing).

Enduring Question: Is it better to visit someone who is sick or say a *mi shebeirach* (the prayer of healing we say on Shabbat)? The group was split in two, with each having to make an argument for one side.

Morah Jessica – Gemilut Chasadim (Acts of loving kindness)

Activity: Being a peer mentor for the students in our Yad b’Yad (Hand in Hand) program

Enduring Question: Have you interacted with the teens in our Yad b’Yad program (typically during pizza time)?

Morah Ingrid – Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the ancestors)

Activity: Yoga and Meditation

Enduring Question: How can movement and breathing effect our spiritual wellness and what does our wellness have to do with being Jewish?

Morah Mindy – Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World)

Activity: Participate in a Community Connection Program (learning about other communities) with a public school in the Bronx—writing brief bios about our suburban communities and receiving write-ups from the public school students

Enduring Question: A community where 40% of the students live in shelters, the students often come to school hungry, tired and disheveled and are likely to be children of “Dreamers”—how far away do you think this is from us?



A Message from our Director of Youth Engagement

Midnight Run on 1/13/18
(see flyer on page 38 for full information)

Dear Kol Ami Community,

Last month I had the opportunity to spend a weekend with our 10th graders at their Confirmation Retreat. It is a wonderful group of teens with great insight, strong and independent opinions, and sensitivity. I am looking forward to more travelling with these young congregants.

I also travelled with some of you up to Boston for the URJ Biennial. My two days there were intense and informative and I came back with some fresh ideas for our Youth program. In almost every conversation I had and every session I attended I thought to myself: "Sure, we can always improve, but at the same time we are already doing many great things at Kol Ami." As an Israeli who is attuned to the current events in Israel by a stream of information and opinions from family, friends and the media I would like to share some thoughts and opinion about recent occurrences in Israel.

By the time you read this, the decision whether to press charges against Prime Minister Netanyahu will have been made. The Prime Minister has been investigated for the past few months for (alleged) corruption. My hometown, Afula, has a small part in the story.

Manny Naftali, who is the former superintendent at Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem, is from Afula. Mr. Naftali is now leading a weekly demonstration in Tel Aviv against corruption and the Prime Minister. A much smaller weekly demonstration has taken place in Afula every Saturday night for the past 10 months. I first learned of the demonstrations upon receiving a text message from my Mom. The message included a photo of my Mom holding a protest sign. She was voicing her concerns in the main square of our little town together with 20 or so people.

The last time my Mom went out to the streets with a sign was on Sept. 25th 1982 when she and my Dad joined some 400,000 Israelis to call for the creation of a government commission to investigate Israel's role in the Sabra and Shatila massacre. I grew up hearing about that night, and since my Mom is not politically active in her daily life I always thought that the cause that drove her to Tel Aviv in 82' must have been of enormous importance. That is why I admire her for going to our Afula's weekly demonstration (which last week saw some 300 people gathering to demonstrate); she must think it's for an important cause.

My Dad attended one more demonstration since 82'. It was in the summer of 2011. He, my brother and I joined some 500,000 people in Tel Aviv to call for "Tzedek Chevrati" – Social Justice. We had to park the car in Geevataim and walk about 6 miles in order to get to Habima in central Tel Aviv. The streets were filled with happy faces, young people with hope and purpose. I was optimistic. It was my first (and so far my only) demonstration. It was truly an uplifting moment for me. "Tzedek Chevrati" did not arrive yet.

Since 2011 Prime Minister Netanyahu has won two more election cycles and is now leading his 4th government. I suspect that 2018 will be a year of election in Israel. My hope is that Israelis elect someone who will make sure that politics in Israel is clean and transparent. Israel deserves that.

Idan Santhaus

Around Kol Ami....



Congregation Kol Ami at the URI Biennial in Boston



Or Chadash Choir attending and performing at the Westchester Youth Choir Chanukah Celebration at Larchmont Temple



A wonderful evening at Kol Ami Adult Hannukah Party

Around Kol Ami....



Hannukah Family Lego Night, where together we celebrated Shabbat, made crafts, and built a 15ft tall menorah!!



Kol Ami 5th/6th grade basketball team after their dominating first win!



Kol Ami Sisterhood

Women of Reform Judaism



Co-Presidents Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus, Stacey Matusow

In December, I had the great pleasure of attending the URJ (Union for Reform Judaism) Biennial and, in particular, the Shabbat lunch session sponsored by the Women of Reform Judaism. Rabbi Sally Priesand was part of a panel discussion marking the 45th anniversary of women in the rabbinate. In October, Aron Hirt-Manheimer, the URJ's editor-at-large, published a conversation with Rabbi Priesand. The following are some excerpted responses to questions posed in the article.

How different is the Jewish religious landscape today from the way it was in 1972, when you were ordained by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion?

Rabbi Priesand: Welcoming women into the rabbinate provided an opportunity to rethink previous models of leadership. When I was growing up, rabbis were expected to be the ultimate authority, often maintaining complete control over the congregation and making whatever decisions needed to be made. Women rabbis made room for empowerment, networking, and partnership.

Female rabbis also influenced theology. I grew up with the image of God as King, omnipotent, and clearly male. Today's children understand that God embodies characteristics both masculine and feminine. For many years now, whenever new liturgy is created, its language is gender neutral.

Do female rabbis still face biases and inequities in progressive Judaism?

Yes. I was surprised to read in *The Sacred Calling: Four Decades of Women in the Rabbinate* that female rabbis were being paid less than male rabbis. This inequity, whether intentional or not, is morally indefensible. Women and men who serve the Jewish people as rabbis do the same work, fulfill the same responsibilities, and therefore deserve equal respect and compensation.

How can we achieve a level playing field? I share the hope of Rabbi Regina Jonas, the first woman rabbi, who was ordained in 1935 in Berlin and died as a hero in Auschwitz. She said: "I hope a time will come for all of us in which there will be no more questions on the subject of 'woman': for as long as there are questions, something is wrong.... God has placed abilities and callings in our hearts, without regard to gender. Thus each of us has the duty, whether man or woman, to realize those gifts God has given. If you look at things this way, one takes woman and man for what they are: human beings." When I was ordained, an Orthodox rabbi in Israel said that I would be little more than a footnote in history. Others said: "gam zeh ya-avor— this too shall pass." And still others warned that my ordination would mark the beginning of the end of the Jewish people.

Fortunately, none of these pronouncements came true.

Rabbi Priesand retired in 2006. Approximately 800 women have been ordained by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion since Rabbi Priesand's ordination in 1972.

Kol Ami Men's Council

Men's Council Team Trivia Night

For fellowship, fraternity and good old fashioned fun!

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Rudy's Restaurant, Sports Bar and Wing Emporium

156 S. Central Ave., Hartsdale, NY, 10530

Assemble at 7:30 pm to organize teams

(or bring your own entire team)

Trivia starts at 8 pm.

\$10 ea. for wings and soft drinks - Cash bar

RSVP to: Adam@hutterauctions.com

so we can have a head count.



Social Action Tikkun Olam

Kol Ami Cares *Opportunities for Volunteering*



Providing 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 for families in mourning, 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 through many other activities of mitzvot.

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. Also, within our Kol Ami community are older congregants who 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.)

In addition, Kol Ami Cares 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.

Betsy McCormack (betsymc@gmail.com)

Ginny Ruder (ginnyruder@gmail.com)

Social Action

Tikkun Olam

KOL AMI COOKS for THE OPEN ARMS MENS SHELTER Want To Have Fun While Doing Good?

Volunteer cooks , men and women, are needed on Tuesdays, 11:30am – 1:00pm. To sign up or ask questions, please contact either Myrna at : mbarzel@aol.com, 914-403-7434 or Leslie at : lsw20@earthlink.net, 914-686-9516

Our well established Sunday Cooking for the Homeless Group under the leadership of Nancy Marcus, will also be continuing this year. Sundays 11:00am-1:00pm To sign on or ask questions, please contact: Nancy Marcus at larrymarcus@aol.com

Cooking will take place in the Kol Ami kitchen. All recipes have been provided.

You don't need to be a chef, but along with the willingness to have a good time, you will need to bring the following: a sharp knife, a cutting board, a towel and 2 pot holders.

The Cabin Group - Alcoholics Anonymous
Weekly (closed) Tuesday and Thursday meetings at 5:45 pm in the Schulman Chapel in the Woods

AL-ANON
Weekly (closed) meetings on Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Schulman Chapel in the Woods

Mitzvah Knitz
Together we'll knit afghans, caps for Israeli soldiers and more.
Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am

The Kol Ami Singers
Accompanied by Paul Schwarz, we sing at local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Join us as we bring a little sunshine to the residents and make a difference in their lives. For information, call Murray Shapiro 914-946-7789
Wednesday, January 24th at 2:30PM
The Grove Rehab (Formerly Hebrew Home)
61 Grasslands Road (beyond the Knolls)
Valhalla, NY



Kol Ami Food Pantry Hours

Kol Ami Food Pantry is open to serve our congregants, staff and guests of both.

The Pantry is located in the entrance of our gymnasium

and is open Tuesdays 9:30am-11:00am, and also

Thursdays 6:00pm - 7:30pm & Sundays 9:30am - 10:30am by appointment

. Gift cards, private ordering and delivery is also available. For information, gift cards, private ordering/delivery contact Jess Lorden, 914-949-4717 ext. 101.

Coachman Corner

Spreading Tikum Olam in our Community

Our December birthday party was sponsored by ECP families, Dina and Shawn Rabin with their children Benjamin and David, and Nirit and Aaron Pisano with their children Maya and Eliana. The Coachman kids enjoyed making a variety of crafts, including gingerbread man boxes decorated with stickers, markers and colorful construction paper. These boxes were quickly transformed into festive holiday keepsakes that the children were eager to share with their families. Further entertainment was provided by our own, Spencer Danzig, representing Backyard Sports. Spencer was assisted by the Mamaroneck High School Lion's Heart Service Club. Together they led the kids in sports and games inducing lots of smiles and laughs while instilling a sense of team camaraderie and good sportsmanship. Everyone feasted on pizza and homemade cupcakes made and decorated by our sponsor families. And all of our Coachman guests left with goody bags that were made earlier in the day by Amy Goldstein and our religious school students.

We are grateful for all of the congregants who donated gifts to our holiday gift drive. Collections were made at our Family Chanukah celebration and Lego Night and throughout the winter holiday season. We also delivered 55 beautifully wrapped gift cards to Coachman families to round out our holiday giving. Robin Davies-Small and her WJCS Shelanu team further added to our efforts of spreading holiday cheer with homemade cards and goody bags filled with holiday treats.

We feel blessed to be part of a community that supports the Coachman Family Center in a myriad of so many ways. We wish everyone a happy and healthy start to 2018.



Adult Education

Gather and Study

Mussar Classes

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 x. 149 to register.

Mondays 12:30-2:00pm, next meeting on January 8th
Fee for Kol Ami Members: \$72 Fee for Non-Members \$100

Women in Transition

Are you experiencing/anticipating some of life's changes.

Please join us in an interactive discussion group.

Topics to be discussed include but are not limited to: retirement, aging, down sizing, relationships with adult children, health/well being and other life transitions.

If you are interested in joining the group please contact Sheila Sturmer at

sturmersheila@gmail.com or 914-391-1227

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month 11:30am-1:00pm,
next meeting on January 9th

Women's Roundtable Breakfast

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

Meets 1st Wednesday of the month, next meeting on February 7th

Wisdom of the Sages

Lively discussions of the world and our lives based on some of the most provocative and fascinating texts of Jewish learning, with Rabbi Tom Weiner.

Meets on Thursdays 11:00am-12:00pm

January 4, 11, 18, 25th

Jewish Mindful Meditation

Newcomers are always welcome! Join us in learning mindful 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, certified meditation teacher, and the WJCS Partners-in-Caring clinician for Kol Ami.

Meets Thursdays from 9:30-10:45am

January 4, 11, 18, 25

The Jews of Spain

Tuesday nights will feature the study of texts and poetry of some of the luminaries from this Golden Age with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Meets Tuesdays from 7:30-9:00pm, meeting on January 16th and 23rd

Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, is our Partners-in-Caring liason from Westchester Jewish Community Services, one of the largest social services agencies in Westchester. WJCS, a non-secretarian 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

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 counseling, accessing needed resources and making appropriate referrals. Ruth can be reached at rosenblum@wjcs.com or at 914-761-0600 ext. 148)

Adult Education

Gather and Study

Israel in the News with David Gravitz

Each session will feature in-depth discussion of news items regarding Israel, both within Israel and regarding Israel's relations with other countries and with diaspora Jewry. History and geography will be featured where appropriate and occasionally guest speakers, both from within and outside Kol Ami, will be invited.

*Meets every other Wednesday from 7:30-8:45pm,
meeting on January 3rd, 17th, and 31st*

Current Events with Beth & Gene Kava

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.

*Meets every other Monday from 11:00am - 12:30pm,
next meeting on January 8th and 22nd*

Kol Ami Book Club

Meets the first Wednesday of every month throughout the year. Come whether you've read the book or not; the discussion is always lively. For more information contact Doris Dingott 914-289-0869 or DLDingott@gmail.com

*Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9:15am in Room 20
next meeting on January 3rd*

The Sephardic Experience

We will look at this remarkable history through the eyes of many of the people who lived it, including using the book "The Jews of Spain, a History of the Sephardic Experience" by Jane Gerber

*Meets Mondays 7:30pm on
meeting on January 8th and 29th*

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.

With Susan Davis, LCSW.

*Meets the 1st Thursday of the Month at Noon,
next meeting on January 4th*

Grandparenting Workshops

Exploring inter-generational experience and Jewish wisdom as we share the challenges and opportunities of grandparenting, with Susan Davis, LCSW.

*Meets the 1st Monday of the Month at 9:15am,
next meeting on February 5th*

Fun and Games!

Mah Jongg

Wednesdays at 10:30am in
the Kol Ami Atrium
Please email Betsy McCormack
at Betsyrmc@gmail.com
for more information



Ritual Riches: Tu b'Shevat

The “roots” of Tu b'Shevat can be found in the third book of the Torah. In Leviticus 19:23-25, the Israelites are told “When you enter the land and plant any tree for food, you shall regard its fruit as forbidden. Three years it shall be forbidden for you, not to be eaten. In the fourth year all its fruit shall be set aside for jubilation before God; and only in the fifth year may you use its fruit –that its yield to you may be increased.” In the fifth year - and all subsequent years –the farmer would be able to harvest the crop for his own use.

In order to determine how the “birthday” of a tree could be marked, the early Rabbis established the 15th day of the Hebrew month Shevat as a general “birthday” for all trees, regardless of when they were actually planted. By this time, the majority of the annual rainfall has usually fallen in Israel, providing a healthy, water-logged soil in which to plant new trees. The holiday, Tu b'Shevat, derives its name from its date. “Tu” is the pronunciation of the Hebrew letters (tet + vav) that have a numerical value of 15; and the holiday occurs in (b') the Hebrew month of Shevat. This year Tu b'Shevat falls on January 31st on our secular calendar.

In current times, Tu b'Shevat is considered to be a Jewish Arbor day or “Earth Day” that teaches about Judaism’s attitudes towards responsible stewardship of God’s creation. Some observe this holiday by planting trees and promoting environmental activism. It is also traditional to eat fruit associated with the land of Israel. Another custom is to eat a new fruit or to eat from the “seven species” The “seven species” mentioned in Deuteronomy 8:8 are wheat, barley, grapes (vines), figs, pomegranates, olives and dates (honey).

The new fruits of the season fall into four categories. The first, hard on the outside and soft on the inside, symbolizes the protection that the earth gives us and reminds us to nourish the strength and healing power of our own bodies. These include walnuts, coconuts, or almonds. The second fruit is soft with a pit in the center (such as olives, dates, peaches, apricots, etc.) and symbolizes the life-sustaining power that emanates from the earth. It reminds us of the spiritual and emotional strength that is within each of us. The third fruit is soft throughout and is completely edible (figs, grapes, and raisins) and symbolizes God’s omnipresence and our own inseparable ties with the earth. The fourth fruit has a tough skin on the outside but sweet fruit within (mangos, bananas, avocados, or sabra) and symbolizes the mystery of the world and the Torah.

Another tradition, developed by the Kabbalists, is the Tu b'Shevat seder. The seder begins with the recitation of the Shehecheyanu, thanking God for bringing us to this joyous time of celebrating rebirth and change. Modeled on the Passover seder, the Tu b'Shevat seder includes eating fruit and drinking four cups of wine. These cups of wine contain varying percentages of red and white wine, possibly representing the shifting of the four seasons. The seder may also include readings on trees and fruit from a range of Jewish literature.

However you celebrate Tu b'Shevat, it is a time to reflect on our connection to the land of Israel, as well as to the land and nature throughout the world.

This article was written by Ellen Bittner.

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

Pointing with Pride

Think Global | Act Local

AJC Global Jewish
Advocacy

Pointing with Pride to Congregant, Judy Rieger, who was honored this month with the AJC Annual Light of Chanukah Award for outstanding volunteer work



What We Believe

What We Do

Who We Are

[Home](#) / [Who We Are](#) / [URJ Leadership & Governance](#)

URJ North American Board of Trustees

We point with pride to Ronnie Cohn! Three years ago Ronnie joined the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) North American Board. Not surprisingly, Ronnie has excelled in this leadership position. This past week Ronnie was appointed to represent the North American Board on the Commission on Social Action (CSA) of Reform Judaism, beginning January 2018.

(photo: Ronnie Cohn, and Kol Ami Be The Light Co-Chair, Lori Abrams at the URJ Biennial in Boston, December 2017)




Community

















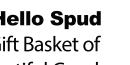

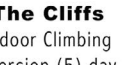
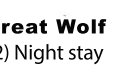



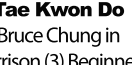
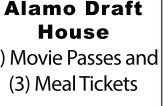



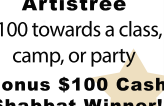

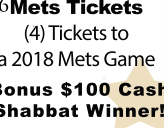

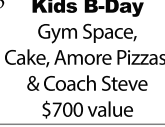
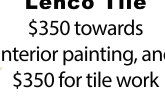













Join us in supporting the ECP's "Month of Giving, Month of Winning" Fundraiser!
All proceeds will go to helping the Early Childhood Program of
Congregation Kol Ami with such important programming as Artist in Residence Experiences,
Family Concerts & Events, Family Shabbat Programs, and ECP Scholarships.
Each raffle is only \$20 and there are 28 chances to win,
plus a bonus cash winner every Friday!!

Speak with someone in the ECP Office to fill out a raffle ticket today!
914-949-4717 ext 107 or nanblank@nykolami.org

Congregation Kol Ami
Early Childhood Program
building a community of friends one family at a time



2018 February Month of Winning Calendar Raffle

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
            	      	   	   	   	   	          
<p>Each raffle entry is \$20.00 28 chances to win in the month. Plus, (4) separate bonus cash winners every Shabbat! PLEASE RETURN WITH \$20 BY JANUARY 29th TO THE ECP OFFICE</p>						

Name: _____

Email: _____

Tel: _____

Make checks payable to: Congregation Kol Ami
Questions? Please email nanblank@nykolami.org

PLEASE RETURN WITH \$20 BY JANUARY 29th TO THE ECP OFFICE

Synaplex Shabbat!



Join us Friday, January 26th, 2018
Shabbat Shira
with musical group Divahn

SYNAPLEX!
◆ learn ◆ pray ◆ eat ◆ connect ◆ enjoy ◆
An exciting way to experience Shabbat!

at Kol Ami

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods for Young Children and Their Families

6:00pm Unwind with Hors d'Oeuvres

6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary

7:15pm Shabbat Dinner (RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)

7:30-9:30pm Activities for children and teens

8:15pm Divahn Concert

9:15pm Dessert Oneg

Iranian-descended singer Galeet Dardashti leads the all-female power-house Middle Eastern Jewish ensemble, Divahn. Through its music, Divahn underscores common ground between diverse Middle Eastern cultures and religions.

taiim
Falafel Shack

Dinner catered by the Award Winning Taiim Falafel Shack

All events are free and open to the community with the exception of Friday Dinner

2018 Synaplex Dates

January 26th

February 9th

March 23rd

April 20th

May 4th

Check the monthly flyers for info about each Guest Speaker, Entertainment, and Dinner Information

Clip and return this dinner reservation form NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17th
Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue, WP, NY 10606
or go online at: www.NYKolAmi.org/Synaplex Also register for February 9th Synaplex!

Adult Names: _____

Children's Names and Ages: _____

Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

Shabbat Family Dinner

#Adults ____ x\$25 = \$ ____
#Children/Teens ____ x\$15 = \$ ____
#Children 5 and Under ____ = N/C

Total Enclosed: \$ ____

Please make checks out to: Congregation Kol Ami

****Please add \$5 additional per person after January 17th****
****We are sorry, but we can not accomodate walk-ins****

Synaplex Shabbat!

2018 Synaplex Dates

January 26th

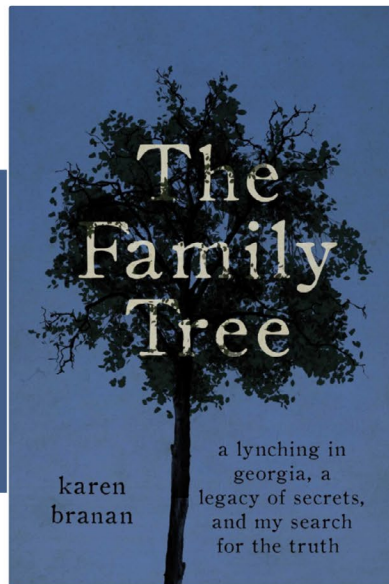
February 9th

March 23rd

April 20th

May 4th

Check the
monthly
flyers for info
about each
Guest Speaker,
Entertainment,
and Dinner
Information



Friday, February 9th, 2018



Dinner catered by the
Great American BBQ Company

Harris County, Georgia, 1912. A white man, the beloved nephew of the county sheriff, is shot dead on the porch of a black woman. Days later, the sheriff sanctions the lynching of a black woman and three black men, all of them innocent. For Karen Branan, the great-granddaughter of that sheriff, this isn't just history—this is family history. Branan spent nearly twenty years combing through diaries and letters, hunting for clues in libraries and archives throughout the United States and interviewing community elders to piece together this remarkable story.



5:00pm Explorations in Jewish Music
with Cantor David

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods for
Young Children and Their Families

6:00pm Unwind with Hors d'Oeuvres

6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary

7:15pm Shabbat Dinner
(RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)

7:30-9:30pm Activities for children and teens

8:15pm Keynote Speaker

9:15pm Dessert Oneg

All events are free and open to the community
with the exception of Friday Dinner

Clip and return this dinner reservation form NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26th
Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue, WP, NY 10606
or go online at: www.NYKolAmi.org/Synaplex. Also register for January 26th Synaplex!

Adult Names: _____

Children's Names and Ages: _____

Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

Shabbat Family Dinner

#Adults ____ x \$25 = \$ ____
#Children/Teens ____ x \$15 = \$ ____
#Children 5 and Under ____ = N/C

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks out to: Congregation Kol Ami

****Please add \$5 additional per person after January 26th****

****We are sorry, but we can not accomodate walk-ins****

Life Cycles

Congratulations

- ✧ To Doreen Chung Waldman and Jon Waldman on the birth of their daughter, Talia Claire Waldman

Condolences

- ✧ To Suzie Oshatz Perlman on the death of her grandmother, Irma Bierman Harrow
- ✧ To John Handelsman on the death of his sister, Sharon Mehl

In Memorium

- ✧ Nancy Wolff

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ Honoring the Civil Rights Trip
 - ✧ "Thank you for being the inspiration for the Civil Rights Trip. It certainly has been one of the most meaningful trips we have taken" from Laura Dann and Franklin Kaiman
 - ✧ "The Civil Rights Journey was extraordinary!" from Myra Oltsik
 - ✧ "For Shira and the wonderful trip" from Florence Glazer
 - ✧ "For including me on this very special and meaningful ride (multiple meanings intended) through our Civil Rights on-going history!" from Nancy Petschek-Kohn
 - ✧ For the Civil Rights trip from Michelle Lichtenberg
 - ✧ For the Civil Rights trip from Alan and Rena Steinfeld
 - ✧ "With gratitude for the extraordinary Civil Rights trip" from Patricia Grossman
 - ✧ For the Civil Rights trip from Joan Pachner and Richard Newman
- ✧ In honor of the baby naming of my great-grandson, Jacob, from Roslyn Hahn
- ✧ In memory of Alvin Jeske and Irving Spector from Leslie Goldfarb Weisglass and Stephen Weisglass
- ✧ In honor of Kol Ami from Robert Koch
- ✧ In honor of our B'nai Mitzvah from Jeremy and Eliot Adler
- ✧ In memory of Myrna Umansky Levy, sister of Ellen Umansky, from Sheila Sturmer
- ✧ In honor of Lindsay's Bat Mitzvah from Liz and Stephen Kaufman

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In honor of Benjamin Landes' Bar Mitzvah from Betty Landes
- ✧ In honor of Eliana's Bat Mitzvah from Debra Asher-Zitrin and Anthony Zitrin
- ✧ In memory of Sy Haber from Carole Haber
- ✧ In honor of Jeremy and Eliot's B'nai Mitzvah from Alison and Andrew Adler
- ✧ In honor of Kol Ami from Robert Koch
- ✧ In honor of Ben's Bar Mitzvah from Aileen and David Landes
- ✧ In honor of Zachary Feldman's Bar Mitzvah from Douglas and Stephanie Feldman

Cantor David's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In honor of Benjamin Landes' Bar Mitzvah from Betty Landes
- ✧ In memory of her father, Allan Shapiro, from Stephanie Tomao
- ✧ In honor of Ben's Bar Mitzvah from Aileen and David Landes
- ✧ In honor of Jeremy and Eliot's B'nai Mitzvah from Alison and Andrew Adler
- ✧ In honor of Eliana's Bat Mitzvah from Debra Asher-Zitrin and Anthony Zitrin
- ✧ In honor of Lindsay's Bat Mitzvah from Liz and Stephen Kaufman
- ✧ In honor of Zachary Feldman's Bar Mitzvah from Douglas and Stephanie Feldman

Synaplex Fund

- ✧ In memory of Tamajl Harmin from Anlee and Mike Marcus

Retreat Fund

- ✧ In honor of Patty Wohl's birthday from Jean and Hank Rouda
- ✧ In honor of Martin Kahn's birthday from Jean and Hank Rouda

Fund for the Needy

- ✧ In appreciation from Marc Weinstein and Linda Rodney
- ✧ In appreciation from Marcy Kroll

✧ **Kol Ami Fund**

- ✧ In loving memory of Alvin Zitrin, Father of Anthony Zitrin, from the Grubman family
- ✧ In loving memory of his wife, Sarita Hart from William Hart
- ✧ In loving memory of Cecilia Brody from Michael and Sandra Mason
- ✧ In loving memory of Alvin Jeske, Father of Andrew Jeske, from Lauri and David Carey
- ✧ In loving memory of Shirley Schiffer, Aunt of Michelle Merer, from David and Karen Cole
- ✧ In loving memory of Richard Unger, Uncle of David Cole from David and Karen Cole
- ✧ In appreciation of the Kol Ami Singers and support received from Congregation Kol Ami from the Bristol Assisted Living Facility

Kol Ami Refugee Resettlement Fund

- ✧ Anne Wright and Robert Lohaus

Thank You



Losing a loved one is probably one of life's most difficult challenges. You may wish to remember your loved one with the placement of a physical reminder in our main sanctuary.

Congregation Kol Ami has a tradition of offering Yahrzeit name plaques as a "living" memorial that perpetuates someone's memory forever.

Beautiful glass engraved plaques may be purchased for \$750 each.

If you would like to purchase (a) Yahrzeit Memorial Plaque(s), please provide the name of each person below as you would like it to appear on the plaque.

Enclose a check payable to Congregation Kol Ami
for all Yahrzeit Memorial plaques purchased.

NAMES

I am enclosing my check for \$_____ made payable to Congregation Kol Ami
for the purchase of _____ Memorial Plaque(s).

Contributions



CONGREGATION
KOL AMI

Congregation Kol Ami is grateful for the many donations that you give both in honor of joyous occasions and in memory of beloved family and friends.

To make the logistics easier and the gifting choices

clearer, a donor form is printed on the back of each monthly newsletter. Donor forms are also available in the Main Office and on our website (www.nykolami.org). We thank you for the generosity that goes into each of these donations!

Your name(s) as you would like it to appear in our newsletter: _____

Donors' Address: _____

Occasion: ☐ In Memory of: ☐ In honor of: Name as you would like it to appear in our newsletter: _____

Send donation acknowledgement to: _____

(Please remember, acknowledgements are sent for contributions of \$18 or more. A listing will be posted as you would like it to appear in the newsletter for any donated amount.)

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please indicate your choice below and mail this form and a check to Congregation Kol Ami, 252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606. If you are interested in planned giving opportunities, please call the temple office at 914-949-4717.

Funds

<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Education Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Kol Ami Cares Fund (supports activities of the Caring Community Program)	<input type="checkbox"/> Refugee Resettlement Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Audrey Greenberg Scholarship Fund (provides ECP tuition assistance for families in need)	<input type="checkbox"/> Men's Council Fund <input type="checkbox"/> WRJ Sisterhood Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities Fund (supports youth-related programs, scholarships and trips)
<input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Gruber Scholarship Fund (provides scholarships for high school graduates).	<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Leadership Fund (supports scholarships to young people to develop leadership)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cantor David Rosen's Discretionary Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund	Plaques and Remembrances
<input type="checkbox"/> College Youth Fund (supports special programs for our college students)	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious School Fund (supports special projects as determined by the Religious School Committee)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yahrzeit Plaques \$750
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Program Fund (supports teacher education and student scholarships)	<input type="checkbox"/> Retreat Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Tree of Life Leaf \$180 (Available in Gold, Silver and Copper)
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers and Landscaping Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Fund for the Confirmands (10th graders)	Giving Opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund for the Needy (provides assistance to those in need)	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Action Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a Friday Night Shabbat Oneg
<input type="checkbox"/> Kol Ami Fund (our general fund)	<input type="checkbox"/> Synaplex Circle Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a Religious School Sunday Morning Bagel Breakfast

An Interfaith Community Concert in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



The Interfaith Connection
and
Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr.
Institute for Nonviolence

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018 at 4:00 PM
at Congregation Kol Ami
252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY

The "Adnan," Muslim Call to Prayer
Calvary Baptist Church Youth Choir & Inspirational Choir
Congregation Kol Ami Choir
The Loft LGBT Community Center's Pride Chorus
Memorial United Methodist Church Choir
Mt. Hope A.M.E. Zion Church Inspirational Choir
Shinnyo-en Buddhist Temple Ceremonial Taiko Drums & Choir
Sufi Music by Amir Vahab
Upper Westchester Muslim Society

REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING CONCERT.
NO ADMISSION CHARGE. THERE WILL BE A FREE-WILL OFFERING.
TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE.

For information contact MLK Institute at 914-949-6555 or connect@mlkwestchester.org
www.mlkwestchester.org

A Service of Honor and Celebration of the
Remarkable Life of
THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

"Bend the Arc Toward Justice"



"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice"
—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

TEMPLE ISRAEL CENTER

280 Old Mamaroneck Road (Corner of Miles Avenue)
White Plains, NY 10605

Sunday, January 14, 2018

7:00 P.M.

*Co-Sponsored by:
White Plains Religious Leaders
Ministers Fellowship Council of White Plains and Vicinity*



Family Lego Night

With Brick Kids

For Families with Young Children 3 years -K
Tuesday evening, January 23rd 5:30 - 7:30
Join us for Pizza and Salad at 5:30
Followed by our Program at 6:00



RSVP by Friday, January 19th
For Planning Purposes RESERVATIONS ONLY
No Walk-ins Please!
nanblank@nykolami.org

An exciting evening of lego building and family fun!!!





CONGREGATION
KOL AMI



Join Kol Ami's Youth Group
for our

Midnight Run #2

Saturday, January 13th at 7:00pm

The midnight run can't happen without your help! We're soliciting the following items for those experiencing homelessness:

Food (non-perishable)

Juice boxes, Granola Bars, Bottled Water, Coffee Cups (with lids), Spoons,
Peanut butter, Jelly, Fruit cups, Ziploc Bags

Clothing (large sizes) *ESPECIALLY WINTER CLOTHES*

Sleeping bags, Winter Jackets, Jeans, Tube Socks, Women's briefs,
Long underwear Shoes (hiking boots & sneakers), New Socks, Sweatshirts, Sweaters,
T-shirts, Gloves, Hats, Scarves, Belts, Backpacks

Toiletries (travel size)

Soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Washcloth, Razors, Shaving Cream,
Deodorant, Lip Balm, Moisturizer, Feminine Hygiene Products

Donations may be placed in the collection bin by the Youth Lounge.

***Teens' parents need to fill out a permission slip Contact Idan at
idansanhaus@nykolami.org for more details***



Come In From The Cold and Enjoy a Warm Family Afternoon!

**Looking for something fun and free to do
with your young children on a cold Sunday afternoon?**

**Join us Sunday, January 28th for a Family Concert
2:00-3:00pm at Congregation Kol Ami
Everyone is welcome!**

**Congregation Kol Ami Early Childhood Program 252 Soundview Avenue, WP, NY 10606
Director: Nan Blank nanblank@nykolami.org**

Join us for

T R I V I A
N I G H T at the

2018 ECP Fundraiser

Thursday, February 8th
7:30pm

**Open Bar, Delicious Food, Great Friends,
Silent Auction, Prizes, and Trivia!**

The night is open to all adults (so bring your friends or family)
and help make this a night to remember!

Benefits from the evening will go to support ECP Programming and Scholarship Fund

Come and find out... who is the smartest of us all?!

Tear off the card below and return to the ECP Office by January 28th

K Yes, I would love to come! \$75pp _____ # of people

O Names: _____

L Phone/Email: _____

A I am unable to attend, but would love to sponsor another adult _____

M Total Enclosed: \$ _____

I Please make checks payable to: Congregation Kol Ami

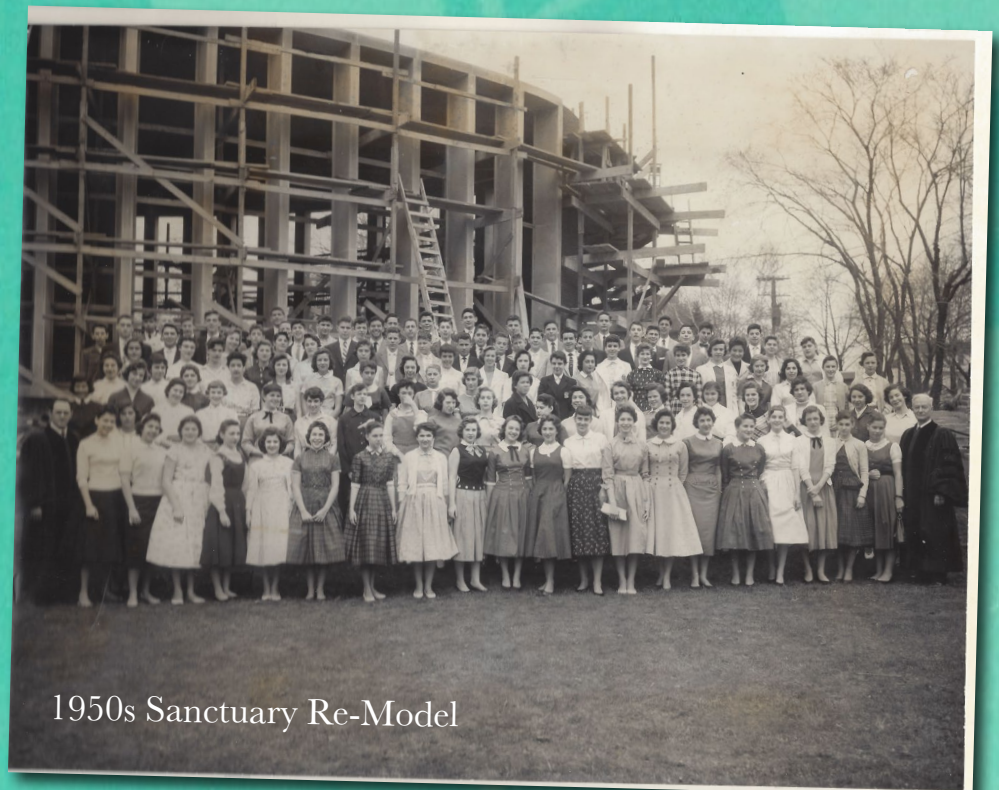
LEGACY FUND

DID YOU KNOW...

The Union of Reform Judaism of which Kol Ami is an active member, suggests that “healthy, adaptive, agile congregations are critical to Jewish life...Synagogues must be equipped to respond to the changing needs of the communities they serve, providing relevant and meaningful ways for people to learn, practice and experience Judaism as well as express their own Jewish identity.”

For 94 years, Congregation Kol Ami has exemplified such attributes. This is why it has been a model for other Reform congregations and has had the continued community financial support to still be here serving us now.

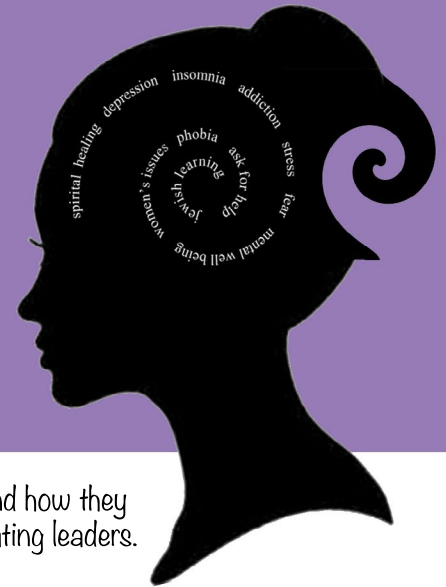
If you would like the future generations of your family to experience their Judaism in the Kol Ami ways of embracing traditional and innovative practices and celebrations, please consider exploring the ways you can make a planned gift to The Kol Ami Legacy Fund by contacting Evelyne Klein at 914-762-7659, aspencup@aol.com, or Judy Brown at 646-206-4547, gojustjudi@gmail.com.



1950s Sanctuary Re-Model

KOL AMI WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH A JEWISH LENS WE CONTINUE...



Because of you, the Kol Ami Oasis at Home continues to explore mental health issues and how they affect women. You will learn from trusted and familiar friends...and meet new and motivating leaders. All of our teachers speak from minds of great wisdom and hearts filled with compassion. Prepare yourselves to be inspired.

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

7:30-9:30 p.m. at the home of Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Rabbi Shira Milgrom and Kathleen Pike, PhD Director
& Scientific Co-Director of the Global Mental Health
Program at Columbia University

A conversation that will cover

"The Toxic Trifecta of Women, Food, and Body Image" --
food relationships at home, in the community and around the world.

Sunday, December 17, 2017

9:15-11:00 am. at the Schulman Chapel in the Woods

Laurence Magro, MBA, MS, LMHC
Psychotherapist and Mindfulness Educator
Certified MBSR teacher

Introduction to Mindfulness – enhancing well-being and
reducing stress through education and practice.
Incorporating mindfulness into daily life.

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

7:30-9:30 p.m. at the home of Jill Abraham

Laurence Magro, MBA, MS, LMHC

The Role of Self-Compassion in Mindfulness Practice—
knowing what self-compassion is and is not,
cultivating and practicing self-compassion
to find a more peaceful and balanced life.

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

7:30-9:30 pm. at the home of Lauri Carey

Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS

When Blood No Longer Binds:

Talking about Family Estrangement—

Using Jewish sacred and secular literature as the backdrop, we will
address the pain experienced by those who choose to estrange
themselves from family members as well as those who
are unwillingly cut-off. Finally, we will discuss the
fundamental Jewish themes of forgiveness and teshuvah
and what happens when such ideals collide with reality.

Register for the Oasis at Home Series today



Refreshments will be served at each session.

Please print this flyer and return it with a check payable to Kol Ami.

Mail to: Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue White Plains, NY 10606

Name _____ Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

☐ Four sessions \$60 (Individual sessions \$18)

☐ Session 1: Tuesday, October 17, 2017

☐ Session 3: Tuesday, February 6, 2018

☐ Session 2: Sunday, December 17, 2017

☐ Session 4 Tuesday, April 10, 2018

For further information contact

Jill Abraham 472-5806 or jill.sa2@verizon.net Lauri Carey 472-8076 or lauricarey@hotmail.com



Do you have a student in
college or grad school?

We want to stay connected with them!
Once we have your student's contact information they will receive invitations
from Rabbi Tom to get together (both at college and locally), as well as
holiday greetings and gifts sent to them from Kol Ami.

Please visit our Website and fill out the online form at:

NYKolAmi.org/College-Info

The form just takes a moment...
the connection lasts a lifetime.

THE SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP AT KOL AMI

Thanks for your generous Support by Shopping at The Kol Ami Sisterhood Judaica Shop in 2017

Proceeds from the Judaica shop allow us to provide financial support for educational programs in the ECP and Religious School, as well as provide funds for holiday celebrations and lifecycle events throughout the year.

Look for New Items Coming Soon

Need a special gift for a lifecycle event? I can special order one for you. Call Judy McEvoy at 714-8288

Put your building on an **ENERGY DIET** and lose the extra WATTS now!



Whether you realize it or not, you're probably using and paying for more electric, gas, and oil than you need every day your business operates. Strategic Partners, Atlantic Westchester and Bright Energy Services, are one of the area's leading commercial energy efficiency solutions providers. Through evaluation of your energy utilization and infrastructure, we recommend and implement a strategic and comprehensive solution to immediately and permanently save money against your energy expenses. Whether it is HVAC, LED Lighting, Building Controls, Solar and other Renewables, Commissioning, Electric & Gas Procurement, Sub-Metering, Energy Bill Analysis, Energy Code and Local Law Compliance, LEED and Energy Star Certification, or securing the financial incentives available through the utilities and government, we can make your building LEAN and we can TRIM your building's operating expenses. Dieting has never been so rewarding.

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FAITH and FAMILY are our GUIDING VALUES



Top row, L to R: Roy Vardola, Matthew J. Corliss, Joshua Latta.
Bottom row, L to R: Jenna Triano, Megan Davis, Tammy Day, Lisa

Family owned and operated since 1932, Ballard-Durand Funeral and Cremation Services has been serving families for over 80 years.

As a family, we will care for your family with the dignity and respect your faith demands and that you deserve.

We appreciate that every family is unique and we will tailor our services to meet your specific needs.

“As a father, I know family is everything. I understand the importance of treating your family with respect and compassion during your hour of need.”

-Matthew J. Corliss,
Owner & Funeral Director



www.BallardDurand.com

Matthew J. Corliss, CFPP • Owner/Funeral Director

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Nothing is more important than protecting your family and home. That's why your neighbors at Scarsdale Security are dedicated to protecting life and property with professionally installed and monitored security systems and services. We'll safeguard your home with the newest, most reliable security technology, including motion and environmental sensors, and real-time video surveillance. Our professional monitoring staff backs you up by verifying alarms and dispatching police, fire or medical personnel in the case of an emergency.

"Peace of mind for your family and home is worth any step you can take. Start today with a call to Scarsdale Security." — *David Raizen, President*



914-722-2200

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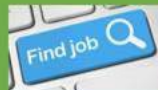
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PLAINS
NEW
YORK

drink thoughtfully

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914.468.6777

Employment Services for the Westchester Jewish Community



Westchester Jewish Community Services
Career>Connect program helps those dealing with
employment instability.

Funded by a grant from UJA-Federation of NY,
Career>Connect provides job-seekers with dynamic
informational workshops and groups on relevant
topics, a Career Boot Camp Intensive (application and
screening required), and individual career counseling
services where appropriate.

If needed, referrals are made for financial, legal and
small business counseling, as well as for emotional
and spiritual support.

Individual assistance is offered by appointment.

Contact:

914.761.0600 x170 or email careerconnect@wjcs.com