



CONGREGATION KOL AMI

A REFORM SYNAGOGUE

914.949.4717 **☆** www.nykolami.org

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

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

(Crafts and Activities for Young Children are available during services)

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.



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!



Join us for Shabbat Sheli "My Shabbat" a time for families with elementary aged children

The 1st Friday of every month

Stories, songs, Torah study, prayer exploration, sanctuary tour, mitzvah projects, and more!
Led each week by one of our rabbis, cantor, and staff.

Parents are invited to enjoy a glass of wine together, join for Shabbat Sheli, or stay with younger siblings at our Shabbat in the Woods. Come as you are!

For a full
Shabbat Evening
enjoy our
Family Oneg
at 6:00pm
or bring your
own dinner
and stay for our
6:15pm Shabbat services
in the Main Sanctuary

The 1st Shabbat of the Month is also

Shabbat in the Woods Book Share Night! Take home a book as our gift.

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 March

Week ending March 3, 2018 Parashat Ki Tisa Exodus 30:11-34:35

Moses lingers on Mount Sinai for forty days. The people become agitated during Moses' long absence and persuade Aaron to fashion a golden calf. Upon returning with the 10 Commandments, Moses sees the Israelites cavorting around the calf and he smashes the tablets of God's law. Joined by the Levites, Moses executes a campaign to root out the offenders. Moses then pleads with God to secure divine mercy for the people. The parashah ends with a restoration of mutual faith and Moses carving a second set of tablets inscribed with Ten Commandments.

Week ending March 10, 2018

Parashat Vayak'heil- P'kudei Exodus 35:1-40:38 This double parashah, brings us to the end of the Book of Shemot (Exodus). In Vayak'heil, Moses reminds the people that God commanded them to keep Shabbat, not to perform any work on the seventh day, and to make the day holy. The parashah continues with Moses asking the Israelites to donate materials for the building of the mishkan (sanctuary). In the second part of this double parashah, P'kudei, Moses describes every object, every attribute of the structure, every manner of work, and every detail of the altar that is needed in building a Mishkan to God. As the building of the sanctuary and its holy objects are completed, Moses blesses all of the people who took part in their creation

Week ending March 17, 2018 Vayikra Leviticus 1:1-5:26

We begin the third book of the Torah Vayikra (Leviticus) with a description of five types of sacrifices that are offered in the Temple. Voluntary offerings are burnt offering, meal offering, and the sacrifice of well-being. The sin offering and guilt offering are mandatory for those individuals who have committed certain offenses.

Week ending March 24, 2018 Parashat Tzav Leviticus 6:1-8:36

Tzav, the second Torah portion in Leviticus, continues with the regulations for sacrifices, and then outlines the ritual of priestly ordination for Aaron and his sons.

Week ending March 31, 2018

(1st Day of Passover) Bo Exodus 12:37-42, 13:3-10 We re-read these portions from parashat Bo, as the text tells us to explain to our children, "It is because of what God did for me when I went free from Egypt." The Hebrew word for explain, v'higgadta, has the same root as Haggadah, the book from which we read on Passover. It is this story, more than any other that is central to Judaism. God redeemed us from slavery and we therefore know the heart of the stranger.



March Calendar

Thursday, March 1st

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

Friday, March 2nd

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods 5:30pm Shabbat Shelli ** new program** 6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary 6:15-7:15pm Crafts and Light Supper Available for Children during Shabbat Services

Saturday, March 3rd

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

Sunday, March 4th

9:00-11:00am Religious School 9:00-11:00am Be the Light: Moms Demand Action Sunday, March 11th Against Gun Violence Meeting in The Chapel 11:00am Or Chadash Choir 11:30-1:00pm Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal

Monday, March 5th

Congregational Trip leaves for Spain 12:30-2:00pm Mussar Class 6:00-7:00pm 11-Step Meditation in the Chapel 6:00-7:00pm Green Team Meeting 7:30-9:00pm The Sephardic Experience

Tuesday, March 6th

5:45-6:45pm AA in the Chapel

Wednesday, March 7th

9:00-10:30am KA Reads Book Club 10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg 4:00-6:00pm Religious School (4th-6th Grade) 6:00-6:30pm Wednesday Youth Dinner 6:30-8:30pm Religious School (7th-12th Grade) 7:30-8:30pm Israel in the News

Thursday, March 8th

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

Friday, March 9th

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods 6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary 6:15-7:15pm Crafts and Light Supper Available for Children during Shabbat Service 7:30-10:00pm International Potluck Dinner: Shabbat Across Kol Ami

Saturday, March 10th

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel 9:00am Coffee and Community 9:30am Torah Study 10:00-1:00pm 5th Grade Family Shabbat & Brunch 11:00am Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary

Daylight Savings 9:00-11:00am Religious School 9:00am 1st Grade Pancakes & Pajamas 10:00-11:00am 2nd Grade Book Club 11:00 Or Chadash Choir 11:00-1:00pm Cooking for the Homeless 11:30-1:00pm Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal 11:30-1:00pm Rosh Chodesh in the Chapel 6:00-8:30pm Sisterhood Ladies Night Out!

Monday, March 12th

11:00-12:00pm Current Events 6:00-7:00pm 11-Step Meditation in the Chapel 7:30-9:00pm Kol Ami at the Movies

Tuesday, March 13th

5:45-6:45pm AA in the Chapel 7:30-9:30pm Retreat Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 14th

10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg 4:00-6:00pm Religious School (4th-6th Grade) 6:00-6:30pm Wednesday Youth Dinner 6:30-8:30pm Religious School (7th-12th Grade)

Thursday, March 15th

Congregational Trip Returns from Spain 9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel 11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages 5:45-6:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-8:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-9:00pm Adult Choir in the Sanctuary

Friday, March 16th

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods 6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary 6:15-7:15pm Crafts and Light Supper Available for Children during Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 17th

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel 9:00am Coffee and Community 9:30am Torah Study 10:30am Amanda & Marc Sherer B'nai Mitzvah Service in the Main Sanctuary 11:00am Shabbat Services in the Chapel

Sunday, March 18th

9:00-11:00am Religious School 9:00-11:00am 6th Grade B'nai Workshop #3 11:30-1:00pm Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal 11:30-1:00pm Rosh Chodesh in the Chapel

Monday, March 19th

6:00-7:00pm 11-Step Meditation in the Chapel 6:00-9:30pm Men's Council Meeting 7:00-8:30pm The Sephardic Experience 7:30-8:30pm #MeToo Support Group in the Chapel

Tuesday, March 20th

12:00-2:00pm Cooking for the Homeless 5:00-8:00pm ECP Parent Teacher Conferences 5:45-6:45pm AA in the Chapel

March Calendar

Wednesday, March 21st

Kol Ami Van Trip to Gun Lobby Day in Albany 10:30-2:00pm Mah Jongg 4:00-6:00pm Religious School (4th-6th Grade) 6:00-6:30pm Wednesday Youth Dinner 6:30-8:30pm Religious School (7th-12th Grade) 7:30-8:30pm Israel in the News

Thursday, March 22nd

9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel 11:00-12:00pm Wise Aging 11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages 5:45-6:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-8:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-9:00pm Adult Choir in the Sanctuary 8:00-10:00pm Board Meeting

Friday, March 23rd

Synaplex Shabbat!
5:00pm Explorations in Jewish Music
with Cantor David
5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods
6:00pm Hors d'Oeuvres
6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary
6:15-7:15pm Crafts and Light Supper Available
for Children during Shabbat Service
7:15pm Shabbat Dinner: Catered by Lombardo's
(RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)
7:30-9:30pm Gym Activities for Children & Teens
8:15pm Keynote Speakers:
Coalition of Immokalee Workers
9:15pm Dessert Oneg

Saturday, March 24th

Kol Ami Bus Trip to March on Washington D.C. Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel 9:00am Coffee and Community 9:30am Torah Study 10:30am Leo Pushkin Bar Mitzvah in the Main Sanctuary 11:00am Shabbat Services in the Chapel 12:30-2:00pm Adult Ed Luncheon in the Gallery 5:30pm Anna Feldstein & Elyssa Banker B'nai Mitzvah Service in the Main Sanctuary

Sunday, March 25th

9:00-11:00am Religious School 11:00 Or Chadash Choir 11:30-1:00pm Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal

Monday, March 26th

11:00-12:00pm Current Events 6:00-7:00pm 11-Step Meditation in the Chapel 7:30-9:00pm The Sephardic Experience

Tuesday, March 27th

5:45-6:45pm AA in the Chapel

Wednesday, March 28th

8:30-11:30am ECP Passover Play and Celebration 4:00-6:00pm Religious School (4th-6th Grade) 6:00-6:30pm Wednesday Youth Dinner 6:30-8:30pm Religious School (7th-12th Grade)

Thursday, March 29th

ECP Closed for Passover Break 9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel 11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages 5:45-6:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-8:30pm Al-Anon in the Chapel

Friday, March 30th

ECP and Offices Closed for Passover No Shabbat Services in Observance of Passover

Saturday, March 31st

Lift Your Shabbat Services in the Chapel 9:00am Coffee and Community 9:30am Torah Study 11:00am Shabbat Services 5:00-8:00pm Congregational Second Night Seder with Guest Opera Singer, Marques Hollie

SAVE THE DATES FOR APRIL

Sunday, April 1stNo Religious School

Monday, April 9th ECP Re-Opens

Friday, April 20th Synaplex Shabbat!

Friday, April 27th ECP Family Shabbat Dinner

Please Note:

During the winter months, the Cushman Road entrance is not plowed. Please use the entrances and exits on Soundview Avenue.

Thank you.

March B'nai Mitzvah



Amanda Rachel Scherer,

daughter of Donna and Jesse Scherer, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah alongside her twin brother Marc on March 17, 2018. Amanda is in 7th grade at Edgemont Junior-Senior High School. She is an avid theater fan who loves to perform. Amanda also enjoys writing, reading, drawing, spending time with her friends and family and

spending her summers at Camp Eagle Hill. This year she has been working with Kol Ami kindergarten students as part of the religious school's Madrichim program. She finds working with young children very rewarding. For her Mitzvah project Amanda is working to support Blythedale Children's Hospital, a facility which is dedicated to improving the health and quality of life of children with complex medical illnesses and conditions. Amanda is looking forward to sharing her special day with her brother Marc and the rest of her family and friends.



Marc Benjamin Scherer, son of Donna and Jesse Scherer, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah alongside his twin sister Amanda on March 17, 2018. Marc is a 7th grader at Edgemont Junior-Senior High School. He loves playing soccer, tennis, and basketball and is an avid New York Rangers fan. Marc enjoys spending his summers at Camp Eagle Hill and he also enjoys

working on his new hobby, juggling. For his Mitzvah project Marc is drawing on both his passion for the game of soccer and his desire to help others as he volunteers with Backyard Sports helping teach special needs children to play soccer. Marc is looking forward to sharing his special day with his sister Amanda and the rest of his family and friends.

March B'nai Mitzvah



Anna Feldstein, daughter of Jane Veron and Andrew Feldstein, and sister to Emily and Julia Feldstein, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 24, 2018.

Anna, a seventh grader at Scarsdale Middle School, participates in a myriad of activities including basketball, tennis, dance, field hockey, and student government.

Anna also plays the harp and piano and enjoys skiing, singing,

reading, and serving as a mother's helper. For her mitzvah project Anna has carried on the family tradition, assisting her grandmother Sheila Veron at the Alzheimer's Association socials and fundraising walks. She loves to spend time with friends and family and looks forward to including them in her special day.



Leo Milton Pushkin, son of Stacey Winnick Pushkin and Robert Pushkin, and brother of Max Pushkin, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 24, 2018. Leo is in the 7th grade at Briarcliff Manor Middle School. An avid ice hockey player and budding chef, he plays the bassoon in his school band and helps construct the scenery for the Briarcliff Manor

Elementary School's Musical. Leo enjoys spending his summers at Camp Winadu in The Berkshires. He's a Madrich at the Kol Ami Religious School and recently participated in his first Minyan at the synagogue. For his Mitzvah Project, Leo has been volunteering at The SPCA of Westchester assisting with the care of the animals. Leo is very excited to be able to share his special day with all his family and friends.



Elyssa Ryan Banker will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday evening March 24th, 2018, 12 days after her 13th birthday. She is a 7th grader at Ardsley Middle School and is passionate about dance. Elyssa dances several days a week and has been a member of the Central Park Dance community since she was two years old. For her Mitzvah project she has been

collecting gently worn dance shoes for donation to Footloose, a nonprofit organization that brings the proper footwear to aspiring young dancers in need. Elyssa also enjoys fashion design, sewing, gymnastics and spending time with her family (parents, Jamie and David, and 9 year old sister, Sydney) and friends. She has been working so hard and is very excited for this meaningful day.



A Message from our Rabbi

In 2013, the New York Daily News published this editorial (excerpted) by Rabbi Rachel Kahn-Troster "On Passover, Jews around the world will gather for seders, family meals coupled with ritual story telling. As we convene, our children will ask us the eternal question: "Why is this night different from all other nights?"

"The answer begins with the story of the Jewish people's enslavement in Egypt, illustrated with foods: a bitter herb to symbolize the tears of misery, matzah, the flatbread of affliction — and a tomato. No, a tomato does not traditionally belong on a seder plate. But I will put one there in solidarity with the farmworker who picked it.

More than 90% of America's fresh tomatoes eaten in the fall, winter and spring come from Florida. But when you eat a Florida tomato, there is a chance that the person who picked it was a victim of forced labor-modern-day slavery, which afflicts some 27 million people around the world, who are exploited to work in domestic work (nannies and health aides), brothels, farms and elsewhere.

Since 1997, nine cases of human trafficking have been prosecuted in Florida's agricultural sector, involving more than 1,000 workers and more than 12 employers. In Barry Estabrook's book "Tomatoland," one federal prosecutor called Florida "ground zero" for human trafficking in America. And these cases represent only part of the full picture, as cases are dropped because victims fear repercussions.

But the Passover story wouldn't be complete if we only saw it as a story of slavery and misery—it is also a story of liberation, with the Israelites leaving Egypt and crossing the Sea of Reeds to freedom. Likewise, the tomato on the seder plate is not just a symbol of exploitation, but of the new day dawning in the Florida tomato industry, thanks to the historic efforts of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers.

The Fair Food Program of this worker-led group fights modern slavery at its root causes, asking growers to institute a human-rights code of conduct in the fields and asking corporate buyers (like grocery stores and fast food chains) to pay a one-penny-per-pound premium for tomatoes that goes straight to workers. The CIW's efforts are making a real difference in the lives of the people who pick the food we eat every day. To date, 11 major corporations (including Whole Foods and Taco Bell) and close to 90% of Florida's tomato growers have signed Fair Food Agreements to ensure that the workers who pick their food are treated with respect.

The true answer to our children's questions about why Passover is significant can be found in another refrain of the seder, with the parents' grounding of their contemporary obligations in the experience of our ancestors: "It is because of what God did for me when I went free out of Egypt." (Exodus 13:8)

As I place the tomato on our seder plate, I commit to ensuring that by next year, only free hands will have picked it.

The week before the first Passover Seder, at the March 23rd Synaplex, Kol Ami will be host to three extraordinary people who are part of the story of this modern day liberation from slavery. They are Rev. Noelle Damico, the Honorable Laura Safer Espinoza and Gerardo Reyes. The CIW (Coaltion of Immokalee Workers) has been the recipient of many awards, among them the Clinton Global Initiative Award - and the subject of a documentary called "Food Chains."

They are jaw-dropping inspiring.

We often say that one person can't make a difference - but they have made a tremedous difference against enormous odds. Come and be inspired - and add a new dimension to your Passover Seder.

-Rabbi Shira Milgrom

A Message from our Rabbi

Torah, Surfing, Iguanas and Kol Ami Rabbi Tom Weiner

When the recipe includes Torah, surfing, daily meditation, early sun rises, the rejuvenation of a sea turtle sanctuary, the clearing of mountainous jungle hiking paths, sweat, laughter, sore muscles and eighteen incredible high school students; the resulting banquet is the Kol Ami/Sababa Surf Camp trip to Costa Rica of February 2018.

We returned home at 5AM this morning, so the thoughts are still fresh and not yet fully digested. But in the weeks to come, through photos, students sharing stories from the bema and social media, the rest of Kol Ami can get a glimpse of the incredible experience.

Danny Mishkin and Lynn Lancaster, the Directors of Sababa Surf Camp, did a wonderful job of leading us all in meditation, daily prayer and discussion using well selected Hebrew songs, Jewish liturgy and Rabbinic texts. These elements are combined to help our kids create sacred moments and sacred spaces in which to develop tools for deeper self-understanding, emotional growth and the ability to unplug from the stresses of school and exciting and sometimes huge challenges of adolescence. (By the way, their program works pretty well for adult types as well.)

The community service piece allowed for further growth in all of these areas as well. During our days the kids donned their work gloves, picked up shovels, rakes used lots of elbow grease and back muscle to work on the Tikkun Olam projects I mentioned above. And, by the way - typical of a Kol Ami teen group – there was virtually no complaining; just a lot of good energy, mutual support and great attitude.

We were all lucky to enjoy this first serious journey co-led by our new Director of Youth Engagement, Idan Santhaus. He brought his warmth, great energy, experience and compassion to the trip each and every day. We were all in great hands.

Where will our next adventure take us? Plans are in the works!







Rabbi Tom Weiner

Charlie Abrams, Emma Adler, Yonah Adler, Alex Arovas, Jenna Ginsburg, Charles Gluck, Ari Greenberg Ben Hostetter, Sam Hutter, Jack McEvoy, Michael Mayeri, Ryder Rose, Lexie Sohl, Becca Sparer Sam Weiner, Gillian Zitrin



A Message from our Cantor

"Im Tirtzu"—-If You Will It, it is no dream"—-The Birth of a New Westchester Jewish Day Camp

Unlike many of my colleagues, and Jewish friends, I was not blessed to grow up in the Jewish camp movement. While many of my friends were off for four weeks, sometimes 8 weeks, at the many different Jewish overnight camps there were to chose from, I chose to play competitive baseball. I remember those years fondly, traveling to different baseball parks across Ontario

and just south of the border. There was, however, something I was missing...something that anyone of you who went to Jewish camp know what I'm talking about...

It took me years before I understood what it is that I had missed. I clearly wasn't the next Sandy Koufax, and if I had to do it all over again, I might have sacrificed my field of dreams for the incredible, incomparable experience of Jewish Summer camp. Yes, it is that good!!

There are wonderful camps (both day and overnight) that exist within a short radius of our community. These camps offer wonderful activities, facilities and are safe places for our children to have wonderful summer experiences. So why Jewish camp? The URJ has often noted the correlation between those who attend Jewish camps and those who grow up to live meaningful Jewish lives. Over the last few years the URJ has created increasingly attractive options for sleep away camps. What has been missing is a local Jewish camping experience for those who are too old for our exceptional ECP summer camp and too young for Jewish sleep away camps. Accordingly, I am excited to share information regarding a new summer camp experience, which at its core offers the opportunity to strengthen our children's Jewish identity in the process of having their summer fun.

This coming summer, Camp Pinebrook will enjoy its inaugural year as it opens its facility on the site of Temple Israel in New Rochelle. Camp facilities will sit on 15 wooded acres centrally located and will offer fun, immersive Reform Jewish experiences that empower children to better themselves and their communities. Rabbi Jesse Gallop is the Director of Camp Pinebrook and the camp is aimed at 4-8 year olds. The camp models itself after many of the Union for Reform Judaism's overnight camps as a method for younger children to become introduced to the "camp world" and hopefully inspire them to enroll in Jewish overnight camp in a few years.

I cannot begin to express how lucky we are to have such a camp in our neighborhood. We have already signed up our six year old son, Joel and many other people within our Kol Ami community are beginning to enroll their children or are considering Camp Pinebrook as a choice for their child's summer experience.

As a modern Reform Congregation, Kol Ami supports the wonderful initiative and would like our community to learn more about Camp Pinebrook.

In this spirit, on March 17 from 4:00 – 5:30PM ending with a havdalah service, I will be offering an ice cream social at my home in an effort for others to become more familiar with the camp. The Director, Jesse Gallop, will also be present to answer any of your questions. For those interested in attending this gathering, please RSVP to Ginny Herron-Hanoil at ginnyherron_hanoil @nykolami.org. More details to follow...

Wishing all of you a Happy Passover,

Cantor David Rosen

A Message from our Co-President

As I write this, I am preparing to head out of town for a week, my fourth trip in the past two months. For a variety of reasons, these trips have required much advanced planning and careful packing. Checklists were drafted and consulted; schedules were created and confirmed, and bags were checked and counted. For good reason, unpacking is not as thoughtful. Dirty clothes get sent to the laundry room, clean clothes to the closet, and packing checklists to the recycle bin. One of these recent trips, however, stood out as a significant exception. I was honored to be part of our delegation of Kol Ami members, staff and Clergy to the Union for Reform Judaism's Biennial in December. Yes, that was three months ago. Why wait so long to discuss it here? It was the unpacking.



No, it was not the physical unpacking that took so long. I needed time to process my thoughts and ideas to understand what was most meaningful to me and what I most wanted to share with you.

This was my first Biennial, and there was much to take in. I shared ideas with presidents of other synagogues for strengthening our congregations and engaging our members, attended workshops on enhancing communication through social media, and celebrated Shabbat, joined in prayer and song with thousands of other Reform Jews — all of which provided inspiration for great new programs, processes and plans for Kol Ami. But what struck me most strongly during my time at Biennial, and what has remained on my mind since then, has been our responsibility for our youth.

In his moving keynote address, Rabbi David Stern of Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, Texas, reminded us that our youth, who are our present as well as our future, learn through our example. He urged us always to demonstrate the best of ourselves, just as we would set the finest of examples whenever we invite company to our homes, because our kids are watching us. As we go about our daily lives, we must always remember, "We have company."

This simple phrase, repeated throughout the keynote, made a lasting impression on me. Yes, we most certainly have company. We have a responsibility to our youth to teach them, through our own acts, how to make the world more giving and just. We have a duty to show them how to be compassionate members of our families and our communities and responsible citizens of our country and our world. I thought about what this meant for me, as a parent, as a congregational leader, and, most simply, as an adult.

reserved for expressions of love, fourteen students and three Parkland, Florida, were killed mercilessly by a young man wielding an AR-15 rifle. Many others were injured, and an

My thoughts were interrupted on February 14th. On a day staff members at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in entire community, like Columbine and Virginia Tech and Sandy Hook before them, was forever changed.

In the days and short weeks following the shooting, the Stoneman Douglas teens showed us the depth of their strength, courage, and conviction and took charge. They let us know that we adults had let them down, that we adults — the ones who are charged with the responsibility for caring for them and for keeping them safe — had failed to protect them. With great urgency I was reminded of the three words of Rabbi Stern. "We Have Company".

As the students intelligently, passionately and powerfully take the lead, they are watching us. They are looking to see how we respond to their needs, concerns, ideas and demands — whether we will act to effect change so that the horror they experienced will never be repeated. They are looking to see that we are committed to ensuring that no child ever again will face a gun in school. They are not asking for our thoughts and prayers. They are not interested in our words. They want and deserve our action.

Kol Ami, through the work of our Be the Light social justice task force, has organized several events to address gun violence.

On Sunday, March 4th, we will hold a discussion led by the Westchester Chapter of Moms Demand Action, and from Everytown for Gun Safety at 9-11am in the Chapel.

On Wednesday, March 21st, Kol Ami has reserved a 24person coach van for members interested in participating in Moms Demand Action Lobby Day in Albany.

On Saturday, March 24th Kol Ami also has reserved a large coach bus to Washington, D.C., for the March for Our Lives. The March "is created by, inspired by, and led by students across the country who will no longer risk their lives waiting for someone else to take action to stop the epidemic of mass school shootings that has become all too familiar."

I urge you to join us. Our children are counting on us, and they are watching.

The Connnection ◀ March 2018 ◀ Page 15

A Message from our Executive Director

Shortly after I became Executive Director I noticed Nan Blank's sign which reads: "Building A Community Of Friends, One Family at a Time." What a simple and brilliant statement. I keep a jar of chocolates on my desk. Regularly, ECP students, Religious School students, our staff members, adults in the building for a class, and even an immediate Past President, stop by for a piece of chocolate and a quick chat.

I like to believe that I am "Building a Community, One Piece of Chocolate at a Time."









But, what does community really mean? And, how do we build one?

The concept of community and engagement are inextricably linked. Community isn't created when we become a Kol Ami member or attend a program. That's just the first step. What is most important is that we engage and meet other congregants. In other words, that we form meaningful relationships because relationships build community.

So, how do we establish meaningful relationships at Kol Ami? It may start with a simple conversation and the exchange of basic information about each other, perhaps because you enrolled your child in our ECP or Religious School or attended one of our classes or programs. A second conversation may follow and more important aspects of our lives may be shared. From there you may move to one shared experience and then another. Before you know it, you have established trust and stories which connect you to each other and deepen your connection to the Kol Ami community and to each other. Relationships make our joyous times more joyous in the sharing and enable us to get through the tough stuff.

Relationships often begin with a personal invitation. I would like to invite you to share coffee or tea with me. I hope that sharing coffee or tea will enable us to get to know each other. I hope to learn more about you, what you care about and what interests you. I would love to hear what you would like to see us do at Kol Ami and to learn if there is a speaker who would entice you to join us. I would love to understand how you would like to connect to Kol Ami and how I can assist you in the areas where you would most like to engage.

Please let me know if you are interested in a "coffee date". My hope is to enrich your life by connecting you to something Jewish at Kol Ami and that in turn, you will enrich our community and the lives of others at Kol Ami. I look forward to hearing from you!

Warmly,

-Jess Lorden



A Message from our ECP Director

March ECP Dates:

3/20 3's and 4's Evening Conferences 5:00-9:00pm 3/20-4/9 School is closed for Passover break

Oh Purim is a time when We laugh and sing...

And laugh we will – and sing, and eat Hamentaschen, and listen while Rabbi Shira reads the Megillah and leads our costume parade. We'll enjoy our very own ECP Purim Carnival on Thursday morning, March 1st.

Megillah, gillah, gillah roll Gillah roll away...

Right after our Purim celebration we'll be diving right into our exploration of Passover. The 2's will be planting Parsley, and making Matzah Covers, and the 3's, 4's and 5's will begin writing their classroom Haggadah, making Kiddush cups, Seder plates, Matzah Covers. The 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's will also be making Charoset and Macaroons. We will also be practicing for our Passover play! That's right, all of our 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's along with our incredible teaching staff and Rabbis Shira and Tom and Cantor David will delight our families with our version of the Passover story – truly a must see for all!

This month we will also take part in our annual **One Community, One Book program.** We will lend every 3's, 4's and 5's family a copy of a wonderful book called A Sick Day for Amos McGee to be read at home. Along with the book, each child is sent home age-appropriate questions, prompts and discussion points. Reading and talking about the story will provide our families with a special time together at home as well as help them understand some important messages the story holds. At school we will be discussing the story as well so that it becomes a shared experience with their peers and teachers. Some meaningful and fun follow-up projects are planned as well.

As you can see our month is packed with wonderful opportunities for learning and fun. Our registration for next year is filling up and we are delighted! See our full information on page 39 for details.

Remember you are always welcome to visit us – you'll surely leave with a smile!

-Nan Blank

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at a Time

A Message from our Religious School Director



We're told March comes in like a lion – March 1st (Adar 14) is Purim... and goes out like a lamb – March 31 (Nisan 15) is the first day of Pesach. Interesting right? As we look ahead to the longer days and more light (daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 11th) March looks to be a very busy month!

Between Purim and Pesach, we look forward to celebrating the **5th Grade Family Shabbat on Saturday, March 10th** with our 5th Graders and their families. On **Sunday, March 11th,** everyone is invited to join us for what we hope will become an annual event at Kol Ami... **Pancakes and Pajamas!** We're planning all kinds of programs and activities for our kids and parents on this day, so keep an eye out for additional info and mark your calendars for March 11th.

The **3rd Bar/Bat mitzvah Workshop** will take place on **Sunday, March 18th**. Our 6th Grade students and their parents will join Rabbi Tom and Cantor David for a morning of learning together as our families continue on their Jewish journey.

And then, just like that, we're preparing for Passover! March is the only month of our school year where there are no vacations or days off... so we look forward to having 4 weeks of connected, consistent learning, playing and exploring. And then spring fever sets in!

We hope to see you at all the upcoming events!

Felice Miller-Baritz



Congregation Kol Ami Religious School Passover Candy Sale Going on now

through March 1st!

Get great deals on delicious chocolates and other Passover treats.

Gift items also available.

This sale is an important fundraiser for the Religious School and helps fund projects and programs for all of our children throughout the year.

Thank you!

To shop go to: http://bit.lu/kolamicandu



A Message from our Director of Youth Engagement

We have lots of fun things happening in March in the Youth Groups at Kol Ami!

I am writing from beautiful Costa Rica. This is the last night of our Senior Youth Group's mission here. It has been an exhausting week full of laughter, fun and meaningful learning. Watching the group spend time together has allowed me to observe friendships form, different personalities of the group's members and how they react to new and sometimes challenging situations (let's just say that it's really warm in here and there are a lot of bugs...) and interactions among the teens. Let me tell you; Kol Ami has a lot to be proud of when it comes to this group. Our young congregants are respectful to the locals, to our hosts, to the chaperons and to one another. The trip is being led by Danny Mishkin (a former Kol Ami Director of Youth Engagement) who has brought us to spiritual heights through his innovative Sababa Beach Surf curriculum and the important work we did at a turtle refuge center and a nature reserve. All week I have been asking myself: What can I take from this trip, and what can a teenager take from this experience? I have traveled extensively and have been away from my family for long periods of time; for some of our teens this is the first trip abroad. I have experienced eco-tourism first hand whereas for some of our teens this trip provided an amazing new way of experiencing a country. I have seen wildlife in nature; for some of the teens this was a first encounter with the wild. While the differences are clear, the commonalities we can bring home with us are equally striking.

Being away from home puts things in perspective. Perhaps back home I have more than I need. This past week reminded me of what's really important in my life; some of our teens shared similar thoughts. Watching our hosts' way of life: Markus – out tour guide lives in the thick of the jungle and Sean, Arielle and Brian built a beautiful guest house where they have lived for the past 15 years, is inspiring because it allows for a clam and pleasant rhythm of life, free from heavy traffic, pollution and stress. Again, many of our teens shared similar reflections. Eating well in Costa Rica means fresh fruits and vegetables picked from local farms or from our hosts' garden and a homecooked nutritious meal. Each of us shared a similar appreciation for the food on this trip. And then there is the local phrase "Pura Vida" which translates to "pure life". It's a phrase of greeting everyone here uses. People here are nice to each other. I haven't heard a single car horn the whole week, traffic moves slowly but effectively and the beach where we surfed is kept clean although there are no trash cans. It seems like people here respect nature and each other. I have a feeling that the entire delegation will take some of this "pure life" attitude back to NY tomorrow.

Pura Vida!

Idan Santhaus



What were you doing in 1993? Graduating College? Graduating High School? Watching your kids on the soccer field? Wondering what Y2K would bring? At the time Bill Clinton was becoming the 42nd President of the United States, "Sleepless in Seattle", "Dazed and Confused", "Groundhog Day", and "Schindler's List" were all hits at the box office, The final season of "Cheers" and "Saved by the Bell" were on ty, people were reading "The Client" by John Grisham and "Like Water for Chocolate" by Laura Esquivel, and there were Jeep Grand Cherokees on the road everywhere.

On February 15, 1993, Madiha Tubman was fighting the INS to stay in the United States with her $3\frac{1}{2}$ year old son....and starting her first day of work at Congregation Kol Ami.

"Hard to believe where time has gone! But 25 years later, this synagogue continues to be a second home to this Muslim woman, and her son. And the people here continue to be my second family", says Madiha Tubman, Comptroller at Kol Ami, when asked about where 25 years has gone and what they have meant to her. 'There is no me without Kol Ami'; my second home, my shelter, my pillar. It is these grounds that gave me the strength to stand firm and my faith to continue to strive.... Here at Kol Ami we practice "Tikkun Olam" (Repairing the World). Well, for this Muslim woman who survived escaping her husband's homeland with just the clothes on her back and a young son to care for, Kol Ami helped me repair my world. In turn, I have dedicated my life to helping repair others."

Madiha was born in Kenya and lived there until the age of 11 when she moved to Tanzania to live with her mother. Her parents had divorced when she was 4 years old. Madiha worked hard and graduated from high school in Tanzania, but unfortunately two years later her mother passed away. "When a mother dies, a daughter's mourning never completely ends," Hope Edelman writes in her 1994 book, "Motherless Daughters", which was one of the first books to chronicle the emotional terrain a woman travels when she loses a mother. "Motherless women have always intuitively known this." We see this in Madiha throughout her 25 years at Kol Ami. She nurtures, she listens, she hugs, she motivates, and she is often described as "always lifting up all those around her". Always taking care of people. Just as a mother would.

After the passing of her mother, Madiha moved to New York to live with her uncle and graduated from Pace University in 1986. After graduation, she married a man from Liberia and together, they moved to live in Monrovia, Liberia, where their son was born. However, due to a civil war in 1990, Madiha and her family were forced to escape Liberia with just the clothes on their backs. The civil war in Liberia lasted from 1989 until 1997. The conflict killed about 250,000 people and eventually led to the involvement of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and of the United Nations. The peace did not last long however, and in 1999 the Second Liberian Civil War broke out. By 1999, Madiha had already worked at Kol Ami for 6 years, her son was 11 years old, her husband half-way around the world, and she was still fighting the INS every day to stay.

...... Check the April Connection for the continuation of Kol Ami and Me:

The Madiha Tubman Story

And SAVE THE DATE for Thursday, May 3rd for the "Kol Ami and Me" 2018 Benefit to Honor Madiha Tubman's 25 years at Kol Ami



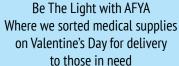
Around Kol Ami.... #nykolami









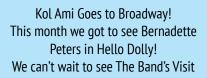








The Early Childhood Program celebrates the Opening Ceremonies for the Olympic Games!



ECP Trivia Night was a huge success in bringing together families for a fun evening, and fundraising for the Early Childhood Program.



Around Kol Ami.... #nykolami



5th Grade at Home Shabbat brought lots of families together with friends, both new and old!





We had 2 amazing Syanplex Shabbats two weeks apart! What amazing times we are having on these Fridays together





Our Cooking for the Homeless Group is doing such an important mitzvah each month, while also having a great time!













Around Kol Ami.... #nykolami



Synaplex fun continues! We are looking forward to March 23rd!























Kol Ami Sisterhood Women of Reform Judaism



Please Join us for MARCH MADNESS Kol Ami Sisterhood Ladies Night Out

AT Sam's OF GEDNEY WAY, WHITE PLAINS (THE PATIO!)

Sunday, March 11TH

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Advance registration and advance payment online at:

nykolami.org/sisterhood

DROP OFF YOUR CHECK IN THE MAIN OFFICE (DEADLINE MONDAY, MARCH 5).

MEMBERS \$36

Non-members \$45

Price includes one glass of wine,

SODA, DINNER BUFFET, AND DESSERT.

Raffles, and of course,

LOTS OF GREAT CONVERSATION AND SCHMOOZING.



Kol Ami Sisterhood Women of Reform Judaism

Send our 2018 Confirmands a Greeting!

Confirmation will be held on Sunday, May 20th, 2018
On that day, our 10th Grade Religious School Students will participate in the Shavuot Confirmation Service, dedicating themselves anew to the values of our faith. We rejoice with them and their families on this special occasion.

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

Each Confirmand will receive a booklet of greetings which will make for a wonderful keepsake. The link below contains the names of each Confirmand and the option to create a personal greeting or choose from several pre-made greetings if you prefer.

The deadline for sending these greetings is Friday, May 4th. We hope you will participate in this meaningful project.

Please visit:

https://congregationkolami.formstack.com/forms/confirmation2018

Feel free to share this link with friends and families of Confirmands outside of Kol Ami too!

2018 Confirmands

Alex Arovas Melanie Barest Caitlin Barotz Lauren Clarke Melissa Cohen Jenna Ginsburg Charles Gluck Brett Goldstein Sam Hutter Michael Mayeri

Jack McEvoy Levie Sohl Oren Tirschwell Cate Ward Gillian Zitrin



Co-Presidents Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus, Stacey Matusow

Social Action Tikkun Olam



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 (betsyrmc@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?

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

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.

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 on Tuesday and Thursday closed 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

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, March 28th at 2:30PM
Sarah Neuman Jewish Home
845 Palmer Avenue
Mamaroneck, 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, $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left$

gift cards, private ordering/delivery contact Jess Lorden, 914-949-4717 ext. 101.

Social Action Tikkun Olam

be the light

for social justice

is time to take action on new and stronger gun laws and policies to protect our nildren.

is time to educate, motivate & mobilize ourselves to take action that will result in ronger laws & policies to save lives.

is time to envision a country where children and families are safe from gun violence. is time....

Join us for 3 important upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018

Leave Kol Ami 5:30am
Return to Kol AMi 5:30pm
Moms Demand Action Lobby Day in Albany, NY
We have reserved a 24 person Coach Van
Cost \$40 per person Space limited
Mom's Demand Action T-shirt included
RSVP to Lori Abrams: socialjustice@nykolami.org

What do they hope to accomplish?

In addition to showing our support for victims of gun violence, march organizers hope the rally will inspire concrete legislative outcomes. Participants are also coming together to register voters at various marches, to ensure that outrage today will translate to high voter turnout during November's midterm elections.

How can I get involved?

If you can't attenda march or a meeting, there are other ways to help. You can donate to the <u>GoFundMe</u> page Stoneman Douglas students created for the event (any money they receive beyond their \$2 million goal will go to victims' funds), donate to <u>Everytown for Gun Safety</u>, or sponsor a student to travel to the march by contacting <u>info@marchforourlives.com</u>.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

9am-11am

Chapel in the Woods, Congregation Kol Ami Join us for an educational and open discussion about Gun Violence Prevention.

The discussion will be led by Pat Colella & Barry Graubart, Co-leads for the Westchester Chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and Eric Tirschwell, Director of Litigation and National Enforcement Policy for Everytown for Gun Safety.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018

"MARCH FOR OUR LIVES" in Washington, DC on the Washington Mall

We have reserved a large Coach Bus

Cost \$54 per person

Space is limited, first come first served

Leave Kol Ami 4am, return to Kol Ami about 11pm

Please bring check to temple office Questions? contact Julia Probber:

julamom@gmail.com

Click here to purchase a T-shirt

https://represent.com/store/marchforourlives

Supporters are also planning sister marches in New York City, Boston, Los Angeles, and dozens of other cities.

If you can't attend a rally, contact lawmakers and tell them #NeverAgain.

Let's stand with them.

Moving forward, Lori & Ronnie

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 March 5th 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 March 13th

Women's Roundtable Breakfast

Join Kol Ami's remarkable, multigenerational women for learning and friendship with Rabbi Shira Milgrom. Next meeting on April 11th

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

March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

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 March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, is our Partners-in-Caring liaison from Westchester Jewish Community Services, one of the largest social services agencies 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

Center Lane: a center for the LGBT community.... and much, much more

As our congregation's liaison to WJCS, Ruth (an experienced clinincal 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 rrosenblum@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 occassionally guest speakers, both from within and outside Kol Ami, will be invited.

Meets every other Wednesday from 7:30-8:45pm,

next meeting on March 7th

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 March 12th

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 March 7th

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
next meeting on March 5th

Parenting Teens Workshops

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

With Susan Davis, LCSW.

Monte the 1st Thursday of the Month at Noon

Meets the 1st Thursday of the Month at Noon, next meeting on March 1st

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 April 2nd

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

Synaplex Shabbat!

<u>2018</u> Synaplex Dates

March 23rd

April 20th

May 4th

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







Friday, March 23rd, 2018

As we prepare for Passover, come and hear about a current-day journey from slavery to promised land. Through the Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Campaign for Fair Food, farmworkers, laboring in some of our nation's most abject and violent conditions, united with consumers across the nation and harnessed the power of multi-billion dollar retail corporations to end human rights abuses such as forced labor, gender-based violence, and wage-theft that had persisted for generations. Harvard Business Review has named this one of the 15 "most important social-impact stories of the past century." Hear from three of the Fair Food Program's leaders about its origin, operation, and expansion as we consider our power to repair harm and ensure well-being.



An exciting way to experience Shabbat!

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



Dinner catered by Lombardo's Restaurant

Clip and return this dinner reservation form NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, March 14th Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue, WP, NY 10606

or go online at: www.NYKolAmi.org/Synaplex

Adult Names:	
	#Adults
Children's Names and Ages:	#Children/7
	#Children 5
Phone Number:	
	Total Enclo
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 March 14th

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



Please join us for Congregation Kol Ami's community Seder of Freedom at which we will be re-telling the story of the oppression and freedom of the Israelite slaves in Egypt, telling stories of the oppression of people of color and the stories of displaced and refugee peoples around the world. Throughout the Seder, Marques Hollie will be utilizing the musical tradition of Negro spirituals as another format for telling these stories.

We will have an affikomen hunt for children, and each family is invited to bring in their favorite charoset to share (please bring a card with the ingredients)!

Please RSVP no later than March 21st (reservations will not be accepted after that date)

Adult Names:		
Children Names & Ages:		
Phone Number:	Email:	
\$25 per adult for dinner \$18 per child (age 6-18) Children 5 or younger are free \$36 Non-Kol Ami Guests	x #pp = \$	(Total Enclosed) \$

Please make checks out to: Congregation Kol Ami Questions? Please contact Lisa Borowitz at lisa.borowitz@cowen.com







Shabbat Across the World
International Pot Luck Dinner
At Congregation Kol Ami



FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2018

FOLLOWING SHABBAT SERVICES

Sponsored by the Kol Ami Membership Committee



It promises to be a fun and flavorful evening for all!

Join us for a family friendly, international potluck dinner.

There are many ways to contribute - Bring a dish that pays tribute to your family heritage or reflects your cultural sensibility. Or, just a dish your family loves!

Please make sure there is plenty to share. For those who would like to attend and enjoy without bringing a homemade dish or wine, we ask for \$18 per adult. (kids eat free) Questions?: Contact Dana Ross at 917-742-4831/djross914@optonline.net or Adrienne Pollak at 914-582-7995/Adrienne@cyburban.com.

https://CongregationKolAmi.formstack.com/forms/potluck



Players needed for the:

Kol Ami Orchestra



Synaplex on May 4th (5:00 pm) Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center on May 6th (2:00 pm)

Rehearsals at Kol Ami on Sundays @ 11:15 - 1:00: 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29

Open to ALL ages!

To schedule an audition contact Idan at: idansanthaus@nykolami.org

- * Must read music
- * For all instruments other than Guitar, Drums, Piano and Bass



Junior Youth Group

Calling all 7th & 8th graders ... let's go bowling!

Where: Bowlmor Lanes 47 Tarrytown Rd. White Plains

When: Friday March 9th

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$30 unlimited bowling, shoe rental, food and drinks

fill out the online permission slip:

http://CongregationKolAmi.formstack.com/forms/youthgroupbowling

For more info contact Idan at:idansanthaus@nykolami.org





"Me Too": A Conversation

Sexual harassment and sexual abuse cross all racial, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds.

It touches those in our community as well.



We are gathering for a confidential, safe conversation on Monday, March 19th from 7:30 – 8:30 PM in the privacy of the Chapel in the Woods at Kol Ami to courageously empower and support one another.

The group will be professionally led by Pat Grossman, LCSW
For more information, please call Pat at 914 671-1908 or email at patgro@optonline.net

This initial gathering is being offered to women. A group for men may also be scheduled. Please be in touch to let us know your interest



Wishing you had more time to attend Kol Ami Events?

Wanting to Connect with Our Clergy and other Congregants?

WORK IN, OR AROUND, MIDTOWN MANHATTAN?

Join Rabbi Tom Weiner on Wednesday, April 4th at 12:30pm Hosted by Michael Zweig at Loeb & Loeb LLP 345 Park Avenue

JOIN CANTOR DAVID ROSEN
ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 9TH
AT 12:30PM
HOSTED BY SCOTT MUSOFF
SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE,
MEAGHER, & FLOM LLP
4 TIMEES SQUARE

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR LUNCH AND
DISCUSSION OF TOPICS SUCH AS:
Why do we pray the way we do?
Does it work?
And what's the green prayer book for?!

\$18PP/PER SESSION
(COME FOR ONE OR BOTH SESSIONS)

So we can know you are coming, please rsvp to Ginny Herron-Lanoil, Assistant to the Clergy Ginnyherron-lanoil@nykolami.org 914-949-4717 Please bring payment with you to the sessions.



Join Kol Ami Goes to Broadway for a fun-filled family show "Once on This Island" featuring Tony Award winner Lea Salonga

Sunday, March 25th at 3pm \$75 for children, \$125 for adults

Circle in the Square Theatre 235 W. 50th (between Broadway and 8th Ave)

"Exhilarating theater! It's impossible to resist!" And where the timeless power of theatre brings us together, moves our hearts, and helps us weather the storm. (NY1)

ame:		
nail:	Phone	e#:
	# of tickets:	x \$75 ^{.00} =
		x \$125 ^{.00} =



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

Call for an appointment & tour today Nan Blank, Early Childhood Director 914-949-4717 ext 107

Help Support Kol Ami with Your Donations For our Spring Benefit

GIFT CERTIFICATES

RESTAURANTS, SALONS, CLEANERS

Products & Services

Decorators, Dentists, Handyman

EVENTS TICKETS TO SPORTS, THEATER, CONCERTS

VACATIONS

TIME SHARES, RENTAL HOUSES

Classes, Lessons

Yoga, Cycling, Mah Jongg, Paint Parties

BE AS CREATIVE AS YOU CAN! It's a great way to promote a business, PRODUCT, OR SERVICE TO THE CONGREGATION

Congregation Kol Ami Spring Benefit 2018 Honoring Madiha Tubman Auction Donation Form

Merchant/Donor:		
CONTACT NAME:		
Address:		
Telephone:		
SOLICITED BY:		
I Would Like to Make a Donation Of: D		

PLEASE MAIL FORM TO: CONGREGATION KOL AMI 252 SOUNDVIEW AVENUE WHITE PLAINS, NY 10606 C/O LISA BOROWITZ AND DEBBI MARCUS, SPRING BENEFIT CO-CHAIRS QUESTIONS? CONTACT DEBBI AT DEBMAR1049@AOL.COM OR LISA AT LISA.BOROWITZ@COWEN.COM

SISTERHOOD

Visit the Judaica Shop for a large selection of

Matzoh and Seder Plates, acrylic matzoh keepers, Finger puppet plagues and wind up matzoh balls and flipping frogs for the kids, matzoh covers, servers, platters and Afikomen bags. All items coming soon to the Sisterhood Judaica Shop. Stop by!

PASSOVER begins Friday March 30th











LEGACY FUND

DID YOU KNOW...

"The Jewish people still exists because in every generation there have been Jews who believed that our existence as a people and what we bring to the world matters. By all odds, we should have disappeared long ago, as many other peoples did. But we are here because we know that Judaism brings something essential to our lives — something that animates and drives and comforts us. No matter the struggles or successes, Judaism asserts that at the end of the day what we do with our time on earth matters."

Lights In The Forest, Rabbi Paul Citrin, editor

Congregation Kol Ami preserves this belief that each of us matters. Help perpetuate this concept into the future by becoming part of a collective legacy to insure the continued existence of Kol Ami for our next generations.

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.



Life Cycles

Congratulations

*To Miriam and Lawrence Kraus on the birth of their granddaughter, Elizabeth Belle Guber

In Memorium

*In memory of Riena Kaplow

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- *In memory of his mother, Eleanor Kopp, from Russell Kopp
- *In memory of Toby Klein from Marjorie Bruckman

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- *In loving memory of the yahrzeit of her father, Harry Klein, from Marjorie Bruckman
- *In honor of Tommy's Bar Mitzvah from Diane Chesnut

Cantor David's Discretionary Fund

- *In honor of Tommy's Bar Mitzvah from Diane Chesnut
- *In appreciation of his wonderful work from Anita Fassler

Refugee Resettlement Fund

- *In appreciation from Judith Arner Brown
- *In appreciation from Susan and Ken Gordon
- *In appreciation from Lori Laubich and Daniel Schuchat
- *In honor of Madiha Tubman's 25th Anniversary of Service to Congregation Kol Ami from Jess and Dave Lorden
- *In appreciation from Arlene Popkin
- *In appreciation from June and Marcus Reidenberg
- *In appreciation from Barbara Shore
- *★*In appreciation from Anne E. Wright

Fund for the Needy

- *In loving memory of Helene Seldal, mother of Chris Stogel, from Lois Stogel
- *In appreciation from Ruth Teig

Kol Ami Fund

- *In honor of Abdul Tubman earning his Masters Degree from Jess and Dave Lorden
- *In loving memor of Jerold (Jerry) Fischer, brother of William Fischer from Arie Genger
- *In loving memory of Jerold Fischer from Jan Nicholson
- *In loving memory of Jerold Fischer from Michele and W.C. Martin
- *In loving memory of Ruth Denison and John Hein from Jane Hein



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 end	closing my check for \$ for the purchase of	_ made payable to Congregation Kol Am Memorial Plaque(s).	

Contributions

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

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



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!

Donors' Address: Occasion:

In Memory of:

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



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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.

> 66 As a father, I know family is econything. I understand the importance of treating your family with respect and compassion during your hour of need. >>>

-Matthew J. Riccillo, Owner & Record Directs







neww.ReliandDurand.com Hagher J. Firelly, CFSP • Owner/Favoral Director

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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