

THE CONNECTION

November 2018

Volume No. 3



We feel extremely proud to have been able to host in our sanctuary the county-wide gathering of our inter-religious community on October 28th, 2018 in response to the violence at The Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. It was a service of prayer, of kaddish, of song, silence and sacred solidarity.

We have received a virtual outpouring of words of comfort, of shared grief, of worry and of hope. The most important thing that we have learned, however, is that our strength is in our coming together. We demonstrated that power in the hours following the tragic shooting in Pittsburgh as more than two thousand of us gathered in our sanctuary from all across the Jewish community and across lines of faith and race. We were joined by elected officials, the American Jewish Committee, the Westchester Jewish Council, and clergy and congregants from Muslim, Christian, Buddhist and Shinto communities - and rabbis and cantors from all streams of the Jewish community. "We'll fight hate together," we sang. And that is the way - together! "We may have come on different ships, but we're all in the same boat now." *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

Congregation Kol Ami • 1923-2018 • 95 Years
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

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Assistant Executive Director ☆ Emily Campbell

ECP Director ☆ Nan Blank

Interim Religious School Director ☆ Pam Pass

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Maurice Davis ∞

Mark L. Winer

CANTOR EMERITUS

Raymond Smolover ∞

∞ of blessed memory

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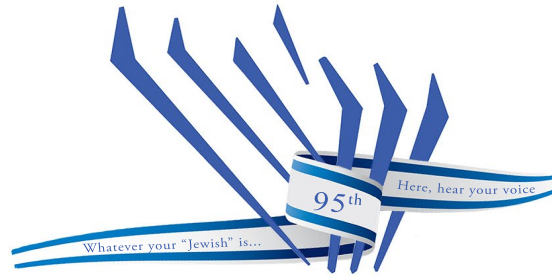
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CONGREGATION KOL AMI

Celebrating our past, living our present, imagining our future

1923-2018 • 95 YEARS

**A Jewish journey is about history.
Where you are going, and where you have been.
It is about times, and places, and people.
It is about quiet moments with oneself and with God.
It is about joyous moments spent with others.**

Congregation Kol Ami's Jewish journey began in 1923 when the Jewish Community Center of White Plains was formed and land was purchased on Sterling Avenue in White Plains to build a religious school and a temple. As the temple and the school expanded, in 1944 7 ½ acres of land were purchased at Soundview Avenue.

In May 1995 the Jewish Community Center of White Plains changed its name to Congregation Kol Ami, meaning "The Voice of My People".

From the start, and continuing today, our purpose has been to nurture the divine spark within, and to connect each of us to a meaningful Jewish journey.

Whatever your "Jewish" is, you'll find it at Kol Ami.

**Here, our members- of every age and with
diverse backgrounds and identities-
are our heartbeat.**

**Here, we cultivate relationships
with family, friends, staff, and clergy.**

**Here, we are rooted in our synagogue, in our community,
in our country, and in Israel.**

**Here, we celebrate Jewish traditions and culture,
nourish our souls through music and arts,
and explore relationships with God.**

Here, we evolve and challenge ourselves.

Here, we worship, we learn, we celebrate, we engage.

Here, we practice Tikkun Olam.

"Kol Ami" means "the voice of my people".

Here, hear your voice.

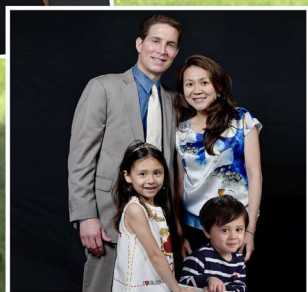
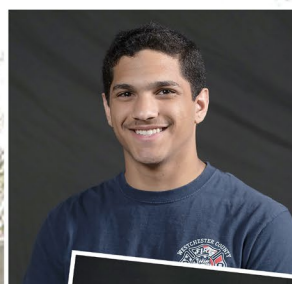


1923-2018 • 95 YEARS
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Celebrating our past, living our present, imagining our future

WHATEVER YOUR "JEWISH" IS, YOU'LL FIND IT AT KOL AMI

Here, our members - of every age and with
diverse backgrounds and identities -
are our heart beat.

Here, hear your voice!



Photos by:

Todd Shapira
PHOTOGRAPHY

252 Soundview Avenue White Plains, NY 10606 www.nykolami.org

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



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.

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 November

Week ending November 3, 2018

Parashat Chayei Sarah Genesis 23:1-25:18

The first words of this parashah translate as “the life of Sarah,” but it begins with her death. Abraham purchases land in which to bury his wife, and then sends his servant to the village of his brother to acquire a wife for his son Isaac. The servant observes Rebekah, who offers water to him and to his camels to drink. Rebekah follows Abraham’s servant back home and becomes Isaac’s wife. Abraham dies at the age of 175 years, and Isaac and Ishmael bury him with Sarah in the cave of Machpelah.

Week ending November 10, 2018

Parashat Toldot Genesis 25:19-28:9

Isaac marries Rebekah, and after 20 childless years they become parents to twin boys, Esau and Jacob. The brothers are quite different from one another and are at odds with each other well into adulthood. Rebekah favors Jacob, whereas Isaac seems aligned with Esau. Rebekah and Jacob conspire to deceive Isaac into giving the blessing due his firstborn son, Esau, to Jacob. The sibling rivalry between Esau and Jacob reaches a feverish pitch, and becomes a recurring theme in Genesis.

Week ending November 17, 2018

Parashat Vayetze Genesis 28:10-32:3

Vayetze, meaning “and he went out,” refers to Jacob’s journey to Haran, his mother Rebekah’s birthplace, to escape his brother Esau’s wrath over stealing his blessing. On his journey, Jacob dreams of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven, and is given the same promise that God gave Abraham and Isaac, i.e., that he will inherit the land and be blessed. Jacob meets Rachel at the well and works for her father (his uncle Laban) for seven years in order to marry her. Jacob, who deceived his brother Esau, is himself the victim of deception. Laban substitutes Leah (his older daughter) for Rachel. Jacob must serve Laban an additional seven years in order to wed his intended spouse Rachel. Jacob eventually has a total of twelve sons and decides to return to his homeland.

Week ending November 24, 2018

Parashat Vayishlach Genesis 32:4-36:43

Jacob is now ready to return home after fleeing twenty years earlier, and realizes he will have to reconcile with his brother Esau. On the way, Jacob once again has a dream and encounters a divine messenger. After the dream, Jacob is renamed Israel, meaning “struggles with God.” Our narrative leaps forward in time to the moment when Jacob’s children are now adults and his daughter, Dina is raped. Two of Jacob’s sons Simeon and Levi avenge the crime.

Please note:

The articles and content for the November 2018 Connection Magazine were finalized before the October 27th tragedy in the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

We honor them every day in our thoughts, prayers, and actions.

To view the video from our Community Inter-Faith Service in Solidarity from Sunday, October 28th please go to www.nykolami.org

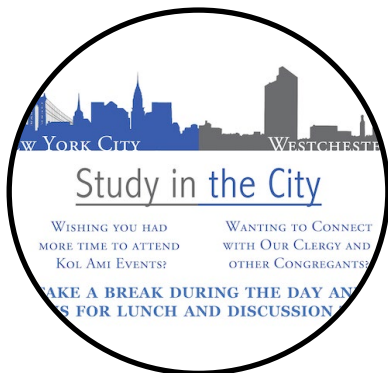
November Calendar



Shabbat Sheli and ECP Book Share
Friday, November 2nd



Congregational Trip with Rabbi
Shira Leaves for Israel
Sunday, November 4th



Study and Lunch with Rabbi Tom
Wednesday, November 7th

Thursday	1	9:30-11:00am	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
		11:00-12:00pm	Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
		12:00-2:00pm	Parenting Teens Workshop
		5:45pm	AA Meeting in the Chapel
		7:30pm	Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel
		7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	2	5:30pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Families and Book Share
		5:30pm	Shabbat Sheli for Elementary Aged Children
		6:00-7:15pm	Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children
		6:15pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary
Saturday	3	<i>Lift Your Shabbat in the Chapel</i>	
		9:00am	Coffee and Conversation
		9:30am	Torah Study
		11:00am	Shabbat Services
		10:30am	Bar Mitzvah for Marc Rosenthal
		5:30pm	Bar Mitzvah for Matthew Welling
Sunday	4	<i>Congregational Trip with Rabbi Shira Leaves for Israel</i>	
		<i>Please note: Daylight Savings</i>	
		9:00-11:00am	K-6th Grade Religious School
			2nd Grade "What's in a Name" Project
			3rd Grade Archaeological Dig
		11:00-11:30am	Or Chadash Children's Choir with Cantor David
		11:00-1:00pm	Cooking for the Homeless
Monday	5	9:15-10:45am	Grandparenting Group
		11:00-12:20pm	Current Events with Beth Kava
		6:00pm	12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel
		7:30-9:00pm	Kol Ami at the Movies in the Conference Room
		7:30pm	Mah Jongg Mondays in the Gallery
Tuesday	6	<i>Election Day</i>	
		5:45pm	AA Meeting in the Chapel
Wednesday	7	9:00-10:30am	KA Reads Book Club
		10:30-12:00pm	Wise Aging
		10:00-2:00pm	Mah Jongg
		12:00-2:00pm	Study and Lunch in Westchester with Rabbi Tom Weiner
		3:00-4:00pm	Religious School Canteen
		4:00-6:00pm	4-6th Grade Religious School
		6:00-6:30pm	Youth Dinner
		6:30-8:30pm	7-12th Grade Religious School



THE JEWISH WEEK
in collaboration with
FEDERATION OF NEW YORK IN WESTCH
is proud to present

**Judaism survive
21st Century?**

SYNAPLEX at Kol Ami

◆ learn ◆ pray ◆ eat ◆ connect ◆ enjoy

An exciting way to experience Shabbat

November Calendar



Coachman Thanksgiving
Celebration
Saturday, November 17th



Offices and Building Closed
for Thanksgiving
November 22nd and 23rd

Thursday	15	9:30-11:00am	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
		11:00-12:00pm	Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
		11:00-2:00pm	Wise Aging in the Conference Room
		5:00-8:00pm	ECP Parent Teacher Conferences
		5:45pm	AA Meeting in the Chapel
		7:30pm	Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel
		7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	16	<i>Confirmation Retreat Begins</i>	
		5:30pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Families
		6:00-7:15pm	Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children
		6:15pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary
		Synaplex Shabbat!: Neve Shalom: Oasis Village of Peace	
		Dinner Catered by Gyro Gyro of Hartsdale	
Saturday	17	<i>Lift Your Shabbat in the Chapel</i>	
		9:00am	Coffee and Conversation
		9:30am	Torah Study
		11:00am	Shabbat Services
		10:30am	Bar Mitzvah for Harley Formica
		3:00-8:00pm	Coachman Thanksgiving Celebration
		7:30pm	A Night of Music and Joy with Westchester Cantors
Sunday	18	<i>Confirmation Retreat Returns</i>	
		9:00-11:00am	K-6th Grade Religious School
		9:00-3:00pm	Sisterhood Holiday Boutique
		11:00-11:30am	Or Chadash Children's Choir with Cantor David
Monday	19	11:00-12:30pm	Current Events with Beth Kava in Room 20
		2:30-9:00pm	9th Grade Religious School HUC Soup Kitchen Trip
		6:00pm	12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel
		7:30-9:00pm	Judaism: Real and Imagined with Paul Davis
		7:30-9:00pm	Mah Jongg Mondays
Tuesday	20	11:30-12:45pm	Cooking for the Homeless
		5:45pm	AA Meeting in the Chapel
		7:30-9:00pm	Poetry Salon at Rabbi Shira Milgrom's
Wednesday	21	10:00-2:00pm	Mah Jongg
		12:00pm	ECP Closes for all Classes
		Religious School Closed	
Thursday	22	<i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	
		Offices and Building Closed	

November Calendar



India Trip with Rabbi Tom
Traveler's Meeting
Tuesday, November 27th

Friday	23	Offices and Building Closed 5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods for Families No Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children due to holiday weekend 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary
Saturday	24	<i>Lift Your Shabbat in the Chapel</i> 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Torah Study 11:00am Shabbat Services
Sunday	25	Religious School Closed
Monday	26	6:00pm 12 Step Recovery 7:30-9:00pm Judaism: Real and Imagined with Paul Davis
Tuesday	27	5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-8:45pm Israel in the News in Room 20 8:00-9:00pm India Trip Travelers Meeting in the Conference Room
Wednesday	28	10:00-2:00pm Mah Jongg 10:30-12:00pm Wise Aging: Learning to Live with Joy 3:00-4:00pm Religious School Canteen 4:00-6:00pm 4-6th Grade Religious School 6:00-6:30pm Youth Dinner 6:30-8:30pm 7-12th Grade Religious School 6:30pm 7th Grade Religious School Yad Project
Thursday	29	9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel 11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner 5:45pm AA Meeting in the Chapel 7:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel 7:30-8:45pm Choir Rehearsal with Cantor David Rosen in the Sanctuary
Friday	30	5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods for Families 6:00-7:15pm Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services in the Sanctuary with Volunteer Appreciation Blessings

Looking Ahead to December

Wednesday, December 5th: Study and Lunch in NYC with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Friday, December 7th : Synaplex Shabbat and Hanukkah Celebration

Friday, December 14th: High School Youth Shabbat

Saturday, December 15th: Dr. Ellen Umansky: Guest Speaker on Stories of Jewish Resistance at the Lift

Tuesday, December 25th: Closed in Observance of Christmas Day

November B'nai Mitzvah



Marc Rosenthal, son of Fran and Daniel, and younger brother to Marina, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Marc is in 8th grade at the Highlands Middle School. During the school year, Marc is involved in select choir, swim team and he plays the trombone in the school band. Marc also enjoys playing baseball, reading, and attending summer camp at Camp Mohawk. For his mitzvah project, Marc volunteers at The Miracle League of Westchester, a non-profit, all inclusive organization created to give Westchester children and adults with disabilities the opportunity to play baseball as a team member in an organized league and safe environment. Marc is looking forward to sharing his special day with family and friends.



Matthew Welling, son of Susie and Michael Welling, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 3, 2018. He is a 7th grader at the Highlands Middle School in White Plains. Matthew is a huge music fan and sports fan. Having received two stem cell transplants from complete strangers at the age of 1, Matthew is no stranger to mitzvahs, which have played a significant role in his young life. Through this experience he has connected with the Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation, Be the Match Bone Marrow Foundation, Make a Wish Foundation, Music Therapy Institute at the Music Conservatory of Westchester and the Garden of Dreams Foundation which has resulted in his musical performances at Radio City Music Hall, Madison Square Garden and other venues. He composes songs, plays the drums, plays the keyboard and sings. Matthew's mitzvah project is in partnership with the Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center in Yonkers, where he works with Music Therapists to entertain the children with his music. He attended Seton's White Plains campus, The John A. Coleman School as a preschooler.



Sasha Emily Levenson, daughter of Joele and Andrew Levenson, and sister to Talia and Miles, will be called to the Torah on November 10th, 2018. Sasha is in the 7th grade at Scarsdale Middle School and enjoys her summers at Raquette Lake Girls Camp. During the school year, Sasha plays soccer for the Scarsdale travel soccer team, modified field hockey and lacrosse for her middle school. She also enjoys singing, acting and spending time with family and friends. For her mitzvah projects Sasha participated in Kids for a Cause, organized a bake sale and joined Team Addie for the Cure JM Walk for a Cure in Scarsdale. The Kids for a Cause are a group of young people, ranging in age from 7 to 13 years old, who are using their talents to make a difference in the community. The Kids for a Cause perform a 30-minute musical revue, filled with songs and dances from classic Broadway musicals. Thanks to family and friends, Sasha raised over \$2500 for Cure JM through the walk and bake sale! Sasha is very excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with all her family and friends!!

November B'nai Mitzvah



Parker Small, son of Adam Small and Robin Davies-Small and brother to Brennen, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 10, 2018 also the day of his 13th birthday. He is in 7th grade at Ardsley Middle School. This past summer, Parker finished another great season at Cedar Lake Camp where he completed the requirements to earn a jet ski/small boaters license. During the school year Parker is involved in cross country, cooking club and basketball. Parker enjoys playing sports with his friends. For his mitzvah project Parker volunteered at the Challenger League, which is a sports program that offers Special Needs children a safe and appropriately competitive place to learn and enjoy team sports. He was paired with Conor, a 6-year-old boy with autism. Parker helped Conor practice baseball, soccer or basketball, and after school on Fridays, Parker would go to Conor's house to play with him and help Conor's parents. Parker says, "Conor taught me to be more tolerant and patient of people with special needs." Parker is excited to share this special day with his family and friends.



Harley Ryan Formica, son of Stephen and Dena, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on November 17, 2018. He is in 8th grade at the White Plains Highlands Middle School where he excels in his studies, plays hockey and lacrosse for the modified teams and is part of the select choir. Harley has also been playing travel hockey for eight years with the White Plains Plainsman Hockey Program and he plays lacrosse for the White Plains Lacrosse travel team. Harley loves visiting his family in Montreal and spends his summers in the Laurentian mountains at Camp Kanawana. Harley is honored to be the last of his siblings to be a bar mitzvah at Congregation Kol Ami.



A Message from Rabbi Milgrom

Moving Toward the Heat

I've had the opportunity twice in the month of October to participate in workshops whose focus is to engage others over issues that divide us. The first workshop was sponsored by the Westchester Board of Rabbis: "Resetting the Table – Building a Culture of Dialogue on Israel, Speaking Across Differences." Israel was once the subject that unified us; it's painful that talking about Israel now often divides us. The second workshop, sponsored by the MLK Institute for Nonviolence, is "Undoing Racism" – a 3-day workshop.

As I write this, I am only in Day 1 of this workshop. So far, I gather that the workshops – created in different cultural settings and for different communities – share an essential methodology. You might not think (as I didn't) that when in dialogue with a person of a different perspective, the more important conversation may not be seeking common ground and finding what we share (Does it really matter that we both like tortilla chips?) – but rather, moving toward the heat – moving toward the serious issues that divide us.

Of course, getting to the place where we can move toward the heat will require several other essential steps: establishing safety, learning deep listening, coming to the conversation without judgment or agenda. We are being asked to be "at the growing edge" – the place at our edges where we might do the most growing, where we could stretch ourselves with new learning.

I will certainly need to cultivate and take this new learning with me to Israel – as we seek to immerse ourselves in the complicated, varied and painful stories we will undoubtedly encounter. The promise of this method is that we will reconnect to our humanity – a goal I will keep front and center – as we move toward the heat.

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

A Message from Rabbi Weiner



INTERGENERATIONAL BRILLIANCE

Wednesday: 4th, 5th, 6th Grade Tefilla/Services: (10, 11 & 12 year olds)

The question was asked to the hundred or so 4th, 5th and 6th graders at Tefilla this past Wednesday; “Why does the Amidah begin with ‘Blessed are you, the God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, God of Sarah, God of Rebecca, God of Rachel, and God of Leah?’ ” Wouldn’t it have been much easier and convenient to say, “The God of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, etc.?” After all, God is God!

But our 9, 10 and 11 year olds got it! “God is different to different people”, one said. “God felt different to each of the first Jews”, said another. “Even within one family, people can have different thoughts about God.” They so beautifully grasped the idea that God has a different relationship with each individual and is differently experienced by each of us. And may not be experienced at all by others! God may well have been experienced quite differently by Sarah than by Abraham then by their son Isaac. Out of the mouths of babes.

Thursday’s Wisdom of the Sages Class: (From 50 to 99 years old)

We were reading a 9th century Midrash asking, “What exactly did God reveal to Moses on Mt. Sinai during his 40 days up there?” Was it only 10 words, just the 10 commandments, the entire Torah (Five Books of Moses), or the whole Tanakh (the whole Jewish Bible)?”

Through the variety of wise answers offered by the members of the class, they showed us that Judaism never has had one, single, correct answer to these very basic questions. Even in the 9th century the Jewish discussion included that wide variety of possibilities of what exactly Moses received on Mt. Sinai; and who actually wrote the Bible?

Such wisdom from our own Kol Ami sages!

That was just Wednesday and Thursday! What will Friday bring?

Rabbi Tom Weiner



A Message from Cantor Rosen

The Greatest Showman Comes to Congregation Kol Ami!!!

On Wednesday March 20, Kol Ami will produce an original spiel entitled: "The Greatest Haman? ... a Purim farce! The music and story to this wonderful plot is gaining popularity by the second. Expert Purim Spiel writer Jamie Marx (who wrote our Hamilton Spiel two years ago) was commissioned by Kol Ami to write this extraordinary Purim show.

For those that have not yet seen the movie, The Greatest Showman is an amazing story about doing what you love instead of what is the status quo, about how important trust and family are, and equality for those who are not "normal". BT Barnum (the show's producer) highlights people who are usually laughed at and ridiculed into the spotlight. He gives them hope and courage to face the people who have made them feel like fools; he helps them become proud of themselves through performing with the circus. It's message is all about not listening to those who hold you back and being afraid of your differences, but embracing them as amazing qualities that you should be proud of. If you haven't yet seen the movie, now is the time!!

For those of you who have not auditioned for a spiel in recent years and you would like to come to see if the Greatest Haman is for you, please schedule an audition with me by writing me at cantordavid@nykolami.org. This includes teens and children of all ages!! Auditions will take place on Thursday November 8th from 6:00-7:30pm. If you cannot make the rehearsal time but still want to audition, please let me know and we will try to find you another time.

Hope you will be a part of our wonderful Spiel this coming Purim!!

Cantor David Rosen

The following is a tentative schedule for the Spiel with all the rehearsals. All rehearsals will be from 7-9pm in the Main Sanctuary:

12/13 (blocking and read thru)
12/20 (blocking and read thru)
1/17 (music rehearsal)
1/24 (music rehearsal)
1/31
2/7
2/14
2/21
3/7
3/14
3/19 (dress rehearsal with the band)
3/20 Purim — Spiel night!!



A Message from our Co-President

Thanksgiving

I love Thanksgiving. It is the one holiday in which time seems to slow down for my family. There is no rushing home from regular week activities to get Erev dinner on the table before sundown. There is a built-in four-day weekend with my immediate family in one place, which, for us, is nothing short of a mini-vacation. And we are blessed to be able to enjoy a table full of delicious food we prepared together. It is a holiday, by its very name, in which we express our gratitude for these blessings, and more. We give thanks.



But what does it really mean to **give** thanks? I think we often confuse expressing with giving. We say “thank you”; we send a message to convey our gratitude; we offer a token of appreciation. All these acts are meaningful. Acknowledging that we are grateful for something or, especially, the efforts of someone, is thoughtful, respectful and kind — attributes of which we need more in this world.

That said, what if we all set the bar higher? What if we chose not only to express our gratitude but also to give of ourselves in some meaningful way as a sign of appreciation? What if we actually **gave** thanks?

As I sit around my Thanksgiving table this year, I will talk to my family about how I plan to give thanks to them and to those I hold dear. I am deeply grateful for the countless blessings in my life, including being part of our incredible Kol Ami community. So, to my Kol Ami family, I express my profound gratitude for all you give me each and every today, and I will give you my thanks by supporting the Congregation in any way I can — by joining you in celebration and sorrow, by rolling up my sleeves alongside you as we host events and activities, and by attending to Kol Ami’s business needs responsively and thoughtfully.

Kol Ami provides all of us with so many opportunities to give thanks — to each other and to communities and the world around us. We bring birthday joy to children who are without a permanent home. We comfort congregants suffering losses. We join in prayer and song as our children become b’nai mitzvah. We provide food for the hungry. We help support events with our time, with our money and, when possible, with both. We create beautiful music in our choir and our orchestra. We find ways to make our building more environmentally sustainable. The list is long and deep.

Thanks to the efforts of Maggy Weber, it is now easier to find a place at Kol Ami to give of yourself. Maggy has offered to serve as our Volunteer Coordinator, connecting congregants with projects, activities and groups that would be of interest to them. All it takes is a quick message to Maggy, who can be reached at volunteer@nykolami.org, or by using the flyer on page 28 of this month’s Connection Magazine.

I hope as you celebrate this most wonderful holiday, you, too, will think about the blessings in your lives and join me in expressing, and giving, thanks.

L’Shalom

Susan Arovas

A Message from our Executive Director



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE PART OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY?

Jewish law teaches us about our obligations as Jews. One of these sacred obligations is performing acts of love and kindness. Another is consoling the bereaved. Being part of a minyan at a funeral service, encompasses both of these. Being part of this minyan when reciting the kaddish prayer helps to ensure that the mourner is not alone, but is surrounded by community.

This past summer Rabbi Shira received an email from a woman named Ellen Marcus, who lives in Texas. Ellen explained that she found Kol Ami on the internet while searching for a Reform temple near Ferncliff Cemetery, where her Uncle Albert was currently interred in an unmarked grave. She wanted to know if Shira would officiate at her great uncle Albert's reinterment service. She also asked if Shira could gather a minyan for this service. Ellen explained to Shira that Albert Blumlein was her mother's half-uncle and was born in Nuremberg, Germany in 1876. When he was twenty, Albert stowed away on a ship to America and made his home in New York City. When the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, Uncle Albert sponsored Ellen's mother so that she could escape the Nazis. Ellen's mother was able to celebrate her eighteenth birthday on the ship that took her to America.

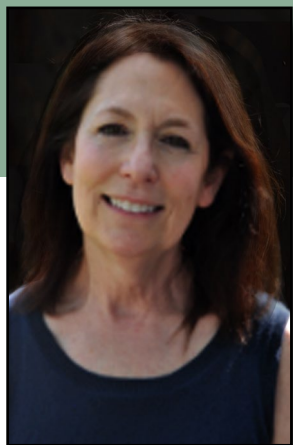
Uncle Albert never married or had children of his own; but he often visited Ellen and her family when Ellen was a little girl. Uncle Albert died when Ellen was only 5 ½ years old, and it wasn't until she was an adult, that she learned about the circumstances of Uncle Albert's death. Ellen engaged a genealogist who learned that Uncle Albert had been cremated and that his remains were buried in a pauper's grave at Ferncliff Cemetery in Hartsdale, NY. Ellen felt that Uncle Albert, who had saved her mother's life, deserved a proper funeral and burial; so, Ellen hired an attorney in New York in order to get a court order to allow her to have Albert's remains disinterred and reinterred in a proper grave in the same cemetery. Once Ellen's request was granted by the court, she searched the internet for a synagogue near Ferncliff Cemetery. Her search led her to Congregation Kol Ami, she found Shira.

I was privileged to be among an amazing group of Kol Ami members who joined Shira at Ferncliff Cemetery on October 11th to be part of this beautiful interment ceremony. Until that moment, Ellen Marcus, her husband, one of Ellen's cousins, and the attorney who assisted Ellen in her case had been strangers to us. We introduced ourselves, Ellen shared her uncle's story, and Shira led all of us in a beautiful and meaningful funeral service. Following the service, we joined together for lunch and got to know each other even more. Ellen thanked us for our kindness and generosity of spirit, and we all left that lunch with the feeling that we would see each other again.

In her Yom Kippur remarks, Co-President Susan Kohn Arovas shared that, to her community is "living and breathing" and that "we have responsibilities to our communities, and our communities have responsibilities for us. We look out for each other, we share in each other's successes and joy, and we comfort each other in times of loss and sorrow." We generally understand that within the Kol Ami community; but what about our responsibility to the broader Jewish community?

Before October 11th, Ellen Marcus was a stranger to us. I was proud that we at Kol Ami appreciate our responsibility to the larger Jewish community and that we came together to provide comfort and support to Ellen. I was honored and privileged to be part of the minyan present for Ellen when she gave her uncle a proper burial. I was humbled that at Kol Ami it is not only understood, but also practiced, that we have responsibilities to the Kol Ami community, the broader Jewish community, and the world at large.

Fondly, Jess



A Message from our ECP Director

November ECP Dates:

- 11/9 Book Fair Begins
- 11/12 Closed for Veterans Day
- 11/13 Author Reading at 2:30pm with Nancy Kimmelman
- 11/15 ECP Evening Conferences for all children-babysitting available
- 11/16 Annual Turkey Trot and Food Drive
- 11/23-24 Closed for Thanksgiving

One doesn't have to walk too far to hear the sounds of laughter coming from the children and staff of our Early Childhood Program. It's everywhere - on our playgrounds, in our classrooms and with each of our special instruction activities. Our curriculum is full and enriching with learning and exploration and opportunities in Yoga, Israeli Dance, Soccer Shots, Music, Art, Teva, Garden and Torah Alive!

This month the ECP will be hosting our annual Book Fair opening Friday, November 9th and running through Friday, November 16th. Every day of the Fair we will be presenting author events and story times. On Tuesday, November 13th at 2:30 pm well known children's author Leslie Kimmelman who's written such child favorites including We're Amazing 1, 2, 3, and Celebrate you! Celebrate me! will be on hand to read her newest stories. Please refer to our flyer in this month's Connection for information and details about the upcoming programing. Many thanks to Co-chairs Sara Elkin and Courtney Rabb and their committee for organizing our Book Fair this year.

Our 11th Annual Turkey Trot will be held on Friday morning November 16th during school from 11:00-12:00. We'll be trotting rain or shine! We cannot do this event without your partnership. We are asking all Kol Ami families to help by contributing food for us to distribute to the Westchester Food Bank in time for Thanksgiving. We are asking each of our 2's families to donate cans of peas and carrots, our 3's families' bags or boxes of stuffing, our 4's families' cans of potatoes or cans of apples, and our 5's families cans of pumpkin or cans of cranberry sauce. After we're finished "trotting" around the neighborhood the children will enjoy a cup of cider and turkey stickers to bring home.

The ECP will have the honor of filling candy bags and making cards for the Coachmen Thanksgiving dinner held here at Kol Ami on Saturday, November 17th. And we'll be feasting ourselves - that's right the, 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's will be feasting at our "Thanksgiving" celebrations enjoying such holiday favorites as sweet potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce and corn muffins.

This month also marks the beginning of our Pre-Registration for the 2019-2020 school year. Next year, we will again be offering our very popular First Friends Program for children 14-22 months, 2, 3, 4, and 5 - day, 2's classes, 3, 4, and 5-day 3's classes, a 4's morning program, and a 3-full 2 half-day program for 4's an extended day choice for 4's and 5's and our A Step Ahead! Kindergarten Readiness Program specifically designed for children turning 5 from September to December. Please feel free to call the ECP office for more information about any of our programs and our nursery school - we look forward to talking with you and touring you around our school.

Be well,

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at a Time

Nan

A Message from our Religious School



Moving forward by going back...to basics.

We have all encountered times in our busy lives when we feel an unequivocal and inevitable need to hit our internal “reset” button. When we do this, it brings us back to our unburdened self – reminding us that we needn’t make things so complicated; that, if we just take a step back and regroup, our goals once again will become clear.

As a new Religious School year gets underway, our teachers and staff have adopted this approach with regard to the education of your children. Taking us all back to basics seems fitting – we start everything fresh...again, only to be renewed by the wonderful familiarity of established routines and surprised by new practices we hadn’t considered in the past.

This year, our Religious School staff will refresh, renew, and rediscover the basic ideas and beauty of Judaism, along with your children. Using this creative approach, I am confident we will be able to engage and excite your children with a dynamic curriculum. We will focus on the following 6 building blocks:

Hebrew: Decoding our ancient language and understanding our tefillot (prayers) to build a personal connection

Holidays: The customs and rituals, their meaning and significance in our lives, how we can personalize our experiences, and how holidays are celebrated around the world

Jewish History: Where we came from, how our history informs and enriches us, and how we carry it forward

Jewish Values: The richness of Judaism’s beautiful mitzvot (commandments) that illustrate how we should treat ourselves, each other and the world around us (far beyond do’s and don’ts)

Israel: Her ancient history and beauty; why she is important/relevant to us today; and the current issues she faces that make it even more important to be informed and connected (our shinshinit (gap-year Israeli ambassador), Carmel, will really bring Israel to life for us!)

Torah: As it says in Entrances to Holiness, the green siddur we use for Shabbat prayer: “And the study of Torah is equal to them all, because it leads to them all.”

In addition to discussing these six basics individually, we will also explore how they all intertwine; how they work together to create the whole picture in each of us, in our Kol Ami community, and in our people.

In short, when we make things simpler, our vision becomes unencumbered thus allowing us to focus on what’s most important. To me, educating your children in the beauty of Jewish basics gives them a wide and clear view of who they are and what they can learn—and practice—throughout their lives. *Pam Pass*





A Message from our Director of Youth Engagement

Dear friends,

Our Midnight Run last month was a huge success. 20 of our high school teens and 3 of their friends prepared food and sorted clothes at Temple. Then we went into the City and served food and handed clothes to some 70 people. Our teens were incredible: their encounter with the people we served was respectful and humble and I am proud of them for representing Kol Ami in such a way.

On Shabbat, October 20th, I had a chance to hear Anat Hoffman at the Saturday Morning Lift. I have heard Anat before, but this time was extra special for me because Carmel our Shinshinit (Israeli emissary), her friend Adi, also a Shinshinit, together with the Shaliach (senior emissary) to Westchester, Nadav, were there as well. Seeing them there, and seeing how warmly our community welcomes them every time they are with us is very special. Although I was not able to stay for the whole morning, I heard that Anat introduced them at the end and explained how the 3 Israelis will be our community's emissaries in Israel when they go back. I am thrilled that Kol Ami is involved with the Shinshinim program for that exact reason and for the good, high level work that Carmel and Lior (the second Shibshin at our Temple) are doing. Carmel works at the ECP on Tuesdays, and at the Religious School on Wednesdays both with the lower grades and the high school classes. Lior is with our teens every other Sunday. They bring lots of fun and positive energy to our students. Their teaching and presence with us is enriching our students experience and their connection to Israel. It's really wonderful how they bring Israel into our building in an organic and engaging way. I encourage you to visit our Youth Dinner and meet Carmel, or otherwise look for her and Lior when they are with us on some Fridays. You will see why I am so enthusiastic about them.

Important Youth Group dates to remember:

12/14/2018 Youth Services:

Our youth community is preparing to lead Friday Night Services on that day. They will be playing and singing, leading us in pray and bring their youthful energy to Services that night. Please come and celebrate Shabbat and our teens!

3/ 1-4/2019 High School Weekend Trip to D.C with the Religious Action Center (RAC):

Watch for an email with details and permission slip soon!

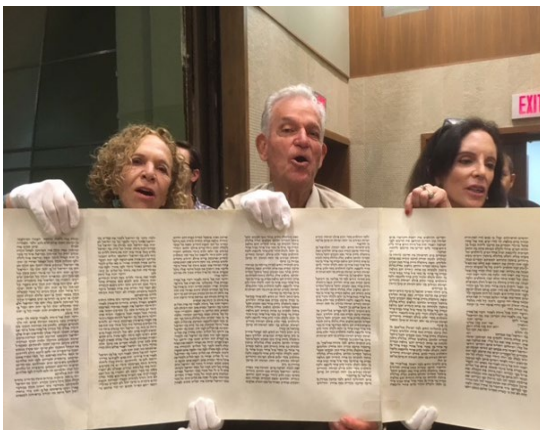
Idan Santhaus

Around Kol Ami....

#nykolami



Our Simchat Torah and
Consecration Celebration
was full of such joy, fun,
and wonderful
memories!



Around Kol Ami....

#nykolami



Our 7th Grade Food Pantry Elective

Congregants of all ages are doing really wonderful community outreach work this Fall!



Our Youth Group Midnight Run



Congregants sorting AFYA supplies



Another great trip to the theater to see Waitress!



We joined 500 other women for The Great Challah Bake 2018!



Cantor David cooked breakfast for our ECP Parents!





I CAN DO THAT

Do you have a
few hours to
help our
Kol Ami
Community?

We are looking for volunteers of all ages who can help with a small project once a year, once a month, or as much time as you choose!

Early Childhood

- ☐ **Book Fair:** Nov 9-16th
- ☐ **Yom Ha'atzmaut:** May 9th
- ☐ **Purim Carnival:** March 21st
- ☐ **Library Day:** Reading to children on Monday or Wednesdays mornings

Religious School

- ☐ **Youth Dinner:** Wed. 6-6:30pm
- ☐ **Traffic Duty:** Sun. 8:30-9:15am
Sun. 10:30-11:15am, and Wed.
3:45pm, 6:15pm, and 8:45pm
(with free coffee and a bagel
on Sundays!)

Synaplex

- ☐ **Set-Up:** On Fridays once a month to help set tables for Shabbat Dinner: 12-2pm

Food Pantry

- ☐ **Pantry Helper:** Sunday mornings for clients who want to come pick up food
- ☐ **Pantry Stocker:** One Thursday a month to help sort/shelve delivered items

Temple Office

- ☐ **General Help:** To help on occasion with mailings, and projects (no clerical skills req.)

Gardening

- ☐ Help grounds be more beautiful with general care of beds and flowers

Judaica Shop

- ☐ **Retail:** Friday Mornings 8:45-12:00pm. Involves sales and general care of the space. Additional times during holidays

If none of the above fits with your time, or interests please let us know. There is plenty of other things in our community to do! Just indicate an AM or PM preference. ☐ AM ☐ PM

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please fill out the form and return to the temple office, or contact Maggy Weber
(914) 260-0986 Volunteer@nykolami.org. Maggy looks forward to working with you!



Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam: Israel's only intentional Arab-Jewish village. Founded forty years ago by Father Bruno Hussar, the Wahat al-Salam - Neve Shalom grew from a collection of tents and caravans to a vibrant community of 70 families, half Palestinian and half Jewish, all with Israeli citizenship. The village is governed by democratically-elected committees that advance the collective goals of equality, democracy, and education for peace.

Join us for Synaplex Shabbat and have the chance to meet and hear from Samah Salame and Vered Marom two members of the Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam Oasis Village of Peace.

Friday, November 16th

Join us for an evening filled with music, shabbat, dinner, & children's activities.
Reservations only required for dinner



Dinner in November catered by "Gyro, Gyro" from Hartsdale

Clip and return this dinner reservation form NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, November 7th
Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue, WP, NY 10606 or go online at: www.NYKolAmi.org/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

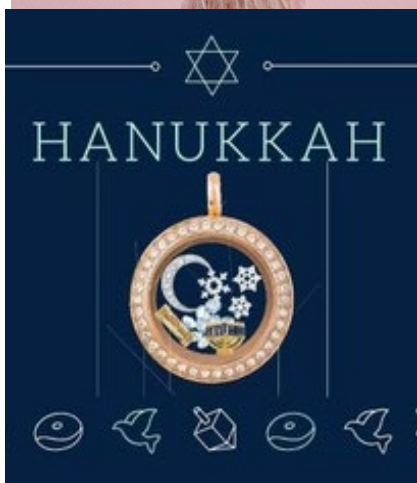
****Please add \$5 additional per person after November 7th****

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

[Click here to reserve a spot at any of our 2018-19 Synaplex Shabbats now!](#)



Holiday Shopping Spree!



Congregation Kol Ami

252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606

Sunday, November 18, 2018

9am-3pm

OVER 40 VENDORS!

Jewelry, clothing, handbags, knitwear, accessories,
handmade crafts, skincare, candles,
kitchenware, raffles, food...
and much, much more!

*Take care of all of your holiday shopping needs
while supporting the Kol Ami Sisterhood!*



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM | Stronger Together

Congregation

Kol Ami Early Childhood Program

Celebrating Over 50 Years of Experience!



Now Registering for the 2019-2020 School Year

First Friends: A Toddler Program

2, 3, 4 & 5 Day 2's • 3, 4 & 5 Day 3's • Full and Half Day 4's

Extended Day Program for 2's, 3's, 4's, and Pre-K's

A Step-Ahead Program for children turning 5 in the Fall

Summer Camp for 2's, 3's, and 4's

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at A Time

Nan Blank, Director

252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains • 914-949-4717 x107

Nothing takes the place of a personal visit! Call for a tour today.



Camp Kol Ami

**If winter is almost here....
summer can't be far behind!**

Camp at Kol Ami has been providing continuity, consistency, and community for young children and their families for over 50 years.

- ⇒ 6 Weeks of Theme Filled Fun
- ⇒ Staffed by Our ECP Teachers
- ⇒ Daily Specials including Music, Nature, Soccer, Yoga, and Gardening
- ⇒ Shaded Outdoor Playspaces
- ⇒ Lots and Lots of Water Play!
- ⇒ Air Conditioned Indoor Playspaces

**A PERFECT summer experience
for your 2-4 years olds**

Incoming 2s
(accompanied by a parent or caregiver)
9:30-11:00am
Tues/Thurs or Wed/Fri
\$775 (June 25-August 1st)

Look at Me, I'm 3!
9:00-12:00pm
(Weds until 1:00pm)
\$1,875 (June 24-August 2nd)
or \$675 for each 2 week session

4s Stay for More!
9:00-1:00pm
\$2,325
(June 24-August 2nd) or
\$790 for 2 week sessions

Spend your Summer with your ECP Friends! Camp at Kol Ami is always a good idea!....
Contact: Nan Blank, ECP Director 914.949.4717 ext 107, nanblank@nykolami.org



Thinking about a Pre-K Year?

Our A Step Ahead! Kindergarten Readiness Program may be just right for your child

Congregation Kol

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

Extensive Outdoor Classroom

and Garden Program

Designed to encourage your

child's academic, as well as

social and emotional growth

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
(914) 949-4717 ext. 107



KOL AMI WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME

Guided by the powerfully spiritual, best-selling book,
**"When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough:
The Search for a Life That Matters"** by Harold S. Kushner...

Living a Meaningful Life--Finding Your Happiness

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

7:30-9:30p.m.

at the Home of Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Thursday, December 13, 2018

7:30-9:30pm. (location to be determined)

Rabbi Fredda Cohen, Westchester Chaplain for the
New York Board of Rabbis,
and educator at Bet Am Shalom Synagogue

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

7:30-9:30pm (location to be determined)

Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

7:30-9:30pm (location to be determined)

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

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 9, 2018

☐ Session 3: Wednesday, February 6, 2019


☐ Session 2: Thursday, December 13, 2018

☐ Session 4 Tuesday, April 2, 2019

For further information contact

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

Social Action Tikkun Olam



Join us on Saturday, November 17th as we host our 5th annual Thanksgiving Dinner for families residing at the Coachman Family Center.

We need your help with:

10-20 COOKED TURKEYS
ASSORTED DESSERTS
GREETING GUESTS
DINNER SERVICE
CRAFTS & GAMES
CLEAN UP

Together, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
Let's put our Kol Ami values into action
and give our Coachman friends reason
to feel thankful.

Interested, please contact:

Alison Adler
alisonadler@nykolami.org
or 914-949-4717 ext. 103

Lisa Hochman
lisahochman@mac.com
or 914-834-1555

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 once a month starting October 23rd.

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 for each session: 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

The Kol Ami Singers
Wednesday, Nov 7th at 2:30 pm
The Martine Center (Formerly Schnurmacher)
12 Tibbets Avenue
White Plains, NY

AFYA at Kol Ami

We are off to a great start this year with AFYA!
And the children shall lead....

The youth of Kol Ami sorted dozens of boxes of medical supplies on Rosh Hashanah. We have been named as a UJA donation site for collection of supplies, and the seventh graders are going to be involved in AFYA work from November forward.

This project is part of our continuing efforts to support the AFYA foundation, which has its' headquarters in Yonkers.

Our work down at the warehouse meets again on November 14th, when volunteers from Kol Ami come down to the foundation to sort medical supplies on a monthly basis. We meet at 9:30 am in front of the religious school entrance, the second Wednesday of every month.

Please contact **Barbara Wexler:**
wexlerartworks@optonline.net if you
would like to participate.

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.

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.



MAH JONGG MONDAYS!

for beginner and intermediate players
every other Monday from 7:30 pm to 9 pm

Come and Learn or Bring Your Own Group
in the Gallery at Congregation Kol Ami
Light Snacks, Coffee, and Tea will be served
No RSVP Required- Just Show Up!

October 22nd, November 5th, November 19th, December 3th, December 17th
If you have your own Mah Jongg set please bring it.
Rummikub games can also be accomodated!

...what will your next Mahj group be?!





Study in the City

WISHING YOU HAD
MORE TIME TO ATTEND
KOL AMI EVENTS?

WANTING TO CONNECT
WITH OUR CLERGY AND
OTHER CONGREGANTS?

**TAKE A BREAK DURING THE DAY AND
JOIN US FOR LUNCH AND DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Wednesdays at 12:30pm

November 7th: in Westchester with Rabbi Tom Weiner

at the Law Offices of Milber Makris Plousadis & Seiden, 709 Westchester Ave, 3rd Floor, White Plains

December 5th: in NYC with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

at the Law Office of McGuire Woods, 1251 Avenue Of The Americas, 20th Floor, NYC

February 6th: in NYC with Rabbi Tom Weiner

at the Offices of Ernst & Young, 5 Times Square, NYC

March 13th: in Westchester with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

at the home of Elizabeth Ward, 29 Cooper Road, Scarsdale

April 10th: in Westchester with Cantor David Rosen

at the Law Offices of Kevin H. Cohen, P.C.

4 Westchester Park Drive, Suite 220, White Plains

**\$18pp/per session
(come for one or all sessions)**

SO WE CAN KNOW YOU ARE COMING, PLEASE RSVP TO GINNY HERRON-LANOIL,
ASSISTANT TO THE CLERGY AT GINNYHERRON-LANOIL@NYKOLAMI.ORG 914-949-4717

PLEASE BRING PAYMENT WITH YOU TO THE SESSIONS.



KOL HAZZANIM & WESTCHESTER JEWISH COUNCIL
Present

A NIGHT OF MUSIC & *Joy*

A Celebration of the Season of Thanksgiving and Dedication

A Westchester-Wide Celebration of Music & Community

Saturday, November 17th @ 7:30 P.M.

Temple Israel of New Rochelle

1000 Pinebrook Boulevard, New Rochelle, NY

Enjoy the music of the talented Cantors of Kol Hazzanim followed by a delicious dairy dessert buffet.

\$20 PER PERSON BY NOV. 8th • \$25 PER PERSON AFTER NOV. 8th

Register online at www.wjcouncil.org or payable by check to Westchester Jewish Council
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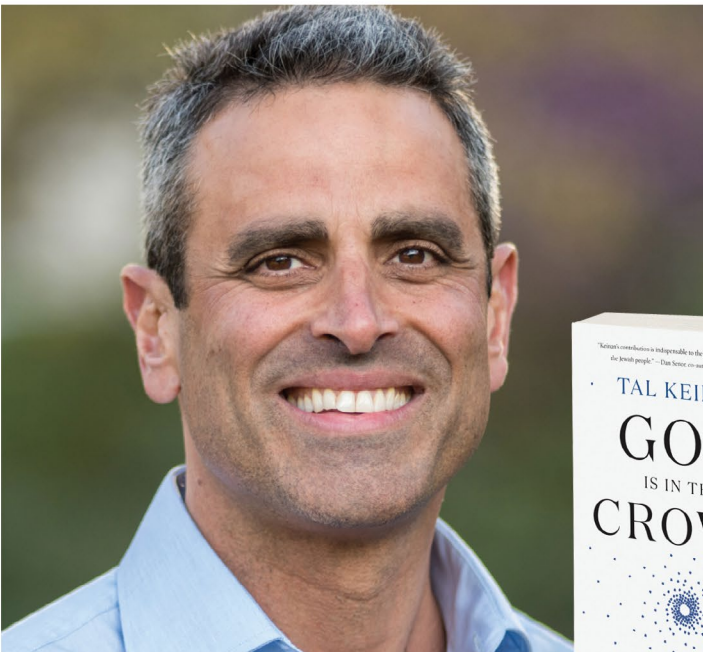
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THE JEWISH WEEK

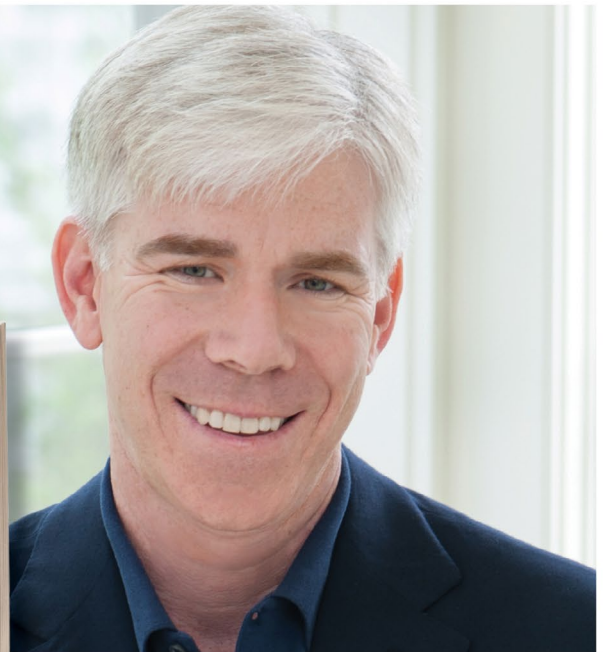
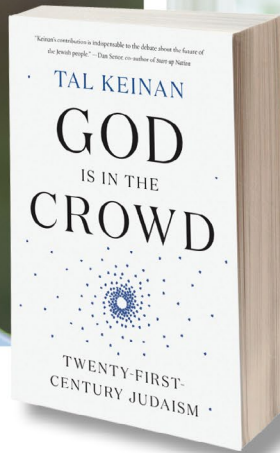
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 7:00PM
CHECK-IN AT 7:00PM | PROGRAM BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM

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Visit the Sisterhood Judaica
for Hanukkah Shopping

**Hanukkah 2018 begins
the evening of
Sunday, December 2**



**See Alison or Kay in the office
to purchase something if the shop is closed**

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 Dec. 10th

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 November 13th

Women's Oasis at Home

Living a Meaningful Life: Finding Your Happiness

This year our sessions will be guided by the powerfully spiritual, best-selling book by Harold S. Kushner,

When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough

Next meeting on December 13th 7:30pm-9:30pm

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

next meeting on November 1st

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

next meeting on November 1st

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 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 rrosenblum@wjcs.com or at 914-761-0600 ext. 148)

Adult Education

Gather and Study

Women's Roundtable Breakfast

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

Next meeting on December 5th at 7:45am

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 Tuesday from 7:30-8:45pm,
next meeting on November 13th*

Current Events with Beth 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 November 5th*

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 DLDDingott@gmail.com

*Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9:15am in Room 20
next meeting on November 7th*

Judaism: Real and Imagined

How Jews and Judaism have been portrayed in literature, arts, cinema, and popular media. Led by Paul Davis and in partnership with the Purchase College Jewish Studies program.

*Meets Mondays 7:30pm,
first meeting on November 19th*

Parenting Teens Workshops

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

*Meets the 1st Thursday of the Month at Noon,
next meeting on November 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 November 5th*

Fun and Games!

Mah Jongg Mondays

Every other Monday at 7:30pm in the Kol Ami Gallery. Please email Lisa Borowitz at lisa.borowitz@cowen.com for more information. Next meeting Nov. 5th.

Mah Jongg Wednesdays

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



Mark Your Calendar!
Give the Gift of Life Blood Drive
Sunday, December 2, 2018
8:30-2:30pm at Congregation Kol Ami

We urge participation by temple members during this semi-annual blood drive.
You don't need to make an appointment.

Please make sure there will be blood available when someone needs it.
YOU can save lives.

Students returning from College are welcome.

Give the GIFT OF LIFE.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old (or 16 with written parental/guardian permission) and weigh at least 110 pounds.

People over 75 can donate blood if they meet all donor criteria and present a physician's letter allowing them to donate. There are, however, some medical conditions that can keep someone from giving blood.

There are also some restrictions based on past travel.

If you have specific questions about your donor eligibility, call 1-800-688-0900 or log on to www.nybloodcenter.org and click on **DONATE BLOOD**.

*Blood Drive Chairman David Klein
761-7659*

*"For the life of all flesh - its blood is its life." Leviticus 17:14
"Whoever saves a life, as it saves an entire world." Mishna Sanhedrin*



Kol Ami's Film Festival

Monday, November 5th at 7:30pm



The film will be: "Bye Bye Germany"

A Holocaust survivor who is trying make it to America is deprived of his savings and overtaken by his shady past. Frankfurt, 1946. David Bermann (Moritz Bleibtreu) and his Jewish friends have escaped the Nazi regime and are now dreaming of leaving for America. But how will they get the money in these tough post-war times? The smooth-talking businessman focuses on what the Germans now need most: fine bed linens nicely wrapped in amusing stories!

Monday, December 10th at 7:30pm



The film will be: "Remember"

As lifelong friends Zev and Max move into their last years, they make a solemn pact to hunt down and take revenge on the Nazi commander who was responsible for killing their families during World War II.

FREE ADMISSION AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

LEGACY FUND

Perhaps You Can Relate To One Or More Of These Statements?

- Kol Ami has been there for me in times of sorrow and joy
- Kol Ami has challenged me intellectually
- Kol Ami has enriched me at High Holidays and Shabbat Services
- Kol Ami has delighted my senses with its music
- Kol Ami programs have allowed my family to grow spiritually and as Jews
- Kol Ami is my second home

If so, please consider including The Legacy Fund of Congregation Kol Ami as a beneficiary of your estate.

To explore ways you can make a planned gift to the Kol Ami Legacy Fund, contact Judi Brown at 646.206.4547, gojustjudi@gmail.com or Evelyne Klein at 914.761.7659 or PlannedGiving@nykolami.org



The Art and Practice of *Mussar*



Mussar is a contemplative Jewish practice of refining one's *middot*, qualities of heart and behavior. We will study texts, practice various techniques for cultivating these virtues, and return each month to share our soul's journey.

9 Mondays: Oct. 15, Nov. 12*, Dec. 10,
Jan. 7, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, Apr. 8, May 6, June 10

Time and Cost:

12:30-2:00 PM

Suggested fee: Congregation Kol Ami members, \$120; \$150 for non-members

Location:

Congregation Kol Ami, 252 Soundview Ave., White Plains

*On Nov. 12 we will meet at WJCS Headquarters, 845 N. Broadway, White Plains

Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax
Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS

REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Contact Rabbi Pamela Wax
at pwax@wjcs.com or 914.761.0600 x149.



Jewish Spiritual Healing Center

The WJCS Jewish Spiritual Healing Center is dedicated to promoting the spiritual, intellectual, physical and mental health of Westchester's Jewish community by infusing our many programs and services with the intrinsic power of Judaism's history and tradition.

We provide the community with opportunities that foster health and healing for the mind, body and spirit within a Jewish context.



Jewish Spiritual Healing Center

is funded through UJA Federation of New York and the generosity of individual donors.



845 N. Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
914.761.0600

Strengthening Lives. Shaping Futures.

Life Cycles

Congratulations

- ✧ To Nora and Robert Groban on the birth of their granddaughter, Molly Groban
- ✧ To Elana and Michael Araj on the birth of their son, Isaiah Benjamin Araj

Condolences

- ✧ To Heidi Kahn and family on the death of her father, Frederick Schenker
- ✧ To Beth van der Heijden on the death of her sister, Gloria Leventhal Kaplan
- ✧ To Sheila Veron and family on the death of her sister, Ellen Hammer
- ✧ To Charles Weiss and family on the death of his father, Dr. Alvah Weiss
- ✧ To Boris Serebro and family on the death of his father, Vladimir Serebro
- ✧ To Frank Kaiman and family on the death of his mother, Ann Kaiman
- ✧ To Charles Weiss and family on the death of his father, Dr. Alvah Weiss
- ✧ To Paul Herman and family on the death of his mother, Florence Herman
- ✧ To Betsy McCormack and family on the death of her sister, Robin Gross
- ✧ To Susan Greenberg and family on the death of her niece, Jaime Rubin Otte
- ✧ To Ingrid Hauptman and family on the death of her brother, Eric Hauptman

In Memorium

- ✧ Dr. Alvah Weiss

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In appreciation of services filled with love, spirituality and hope from Donald and Terri Friedman, parents of tenor soloist, Blake Friedman
- ✧ In honor of Jo Milgrom from Helene and Alan Smith
- ✧ In honor of Alice Seidman for her extraordinary and continuing dedication, skillful pedagogy and profound patience. "What would we do without you!" from her Intermediate-Advanced Hebrew class
- ✧ In appreciation from Talia Milgrom-Elcott
- ✧ In appreciation from Bob Koch
- ✧ In memory of Len Yablon from Michael Jaffe
- ✧ In appreciation from Noam Elcott
- ✧ Wishing Ellen Bittner a wonderful birthday from Barbara Block

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In appreciation of services filled with love, spirituality and hope from Donald and Terri Friedman, parents of tenor soloist, Blake Friedman
- ✧ In continuing support of the high school program from Betsy and Stanly Weiner
- ✧ In honor of Noah's bar mitzvah from Michele and Howard Geller
- ✧ In appreciation from Bob Koch
- ✧ In honor of Audrey's bat mitzvah from Julia and Mark Schonfeld
- ✧ In honor of Dorothy and Yando's wedding from Eva Kadar

Generous Contributions

Cantor David's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In appreciation of services filled with love, spirituality and hope from Donald and Terri Friedman, parents of tenor soloist, Blake Friedman
- ✧ In honor of Noah's bar mitzvah from Michele and Howard Geller
- ✧ In honor of Ellen Bittner from Leni Glauber
- ✧ In appreciation from Jeffrey Kornstein

Annual Fund

- ✧ In honor of Lesley and David Friedman and family, from Phyllis Widder

Kol Ami Cares

- ✧ In loving memory of Vladimir Serebro, father of Boris Serebro from Audrey Kaplan

Torah Project

- ✧ In honor of Ellen Bittner's, "Special Birthday" from Maggy and David Weber
- ✧ In Honor of Ellen Bittner's "Special Birthday" from Martin Kahn

Retreat Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Ann Kirvin from her daughter, Jean Rouda
- ✧ In celebration of Genna Farley and Matt Fleming's impending nuptials and for their time and dedication to the Retreat from Jean and Hank Rouda

Religious School Fund

- ✧ In celebration of Ellen Bittner's Special Birthday" from Jean and Hank Rouda

Fund for the Needy

- ✧ In appreciation from Natalie Weissblum Weinstein and Robert Weinstein

Kol Ami Fund

- ✧ In honor of Susan Davis from Nancie Ellis and Geoffrey Domm
- ✧ In honor of Susan Davis from Emily and Mitchell Spector
- ✧ In loving memory of Ilana Kertzman, mother of Elizabeth Ward from Diane Rouda

Synaplex Circle

- ✧ In honor of Wiley Vaughn Kava, son of Jonathan and Rachel Kava, grandson of Beth and Gene Kava from Marian Steinberg

Petschek Music Fund

- ✧ In appreciation of the heavenly music of the High Holidays from Leonard and Shirley Young

Refugee Resettlement Fund

- ✧ In honor of Susan Davis from Nancie Ellis and Geoffrey Domm

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"/> Kol Ami Fund (our general fund)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kol Ami Cares Fund (supports activities of the Caring Community Program)	<input type="checkbox"/> Refugee Resettlement Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action 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"/> Rick Kraver 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 Confirmants (10th graders)	Giving Opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund for the Needy (provides assistance to those in need)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petschek Music Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a Friday Night Shabbat Oneg
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Education Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Synaplex Circle Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a Religious School Sunday Morning Bagel Breakfast



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Front row, L to R: Sierra Trono, Megan Davis, Vanessa Day, Luke

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Under a new New York State law, every employer in New York State is required to establish a sexual harassment prevention policy. Although Kol Ami has had an abuse prevention policy in place for several years, we updated our policy to comply with the requirements of the new law. At Kol Ami we are committed to ensuring a workplace that is free of discrimination or harassment of any kind. Our policy prohibits sexual harassment of both employees and volunteers. We are publishing our new policy in the Connection to ensure all congregants are made aware of our policy against sexual harassment.

Congregation Kol Ami Policy Against Sexual Harassment (Oct. 2018)

As part of its commitment to ensuring a workplace that is free of discrimination or harassment of any kind, Congregation Kol Ami ("Kol Ami") prohibits sexual harassment of any employee, Trustee, volunteer, applicant for employment, intern, contractor, subcontractor, vendor, consultant, or other person providing services in the workplace, or any employee of such contractor, subcontractor, vendor, consultant, or other person providing services in the workplace. This prohibition includes inappropriate conduct by any supervisor, employee, Trustee, volunteer, client, third-party contractor, vendor or visitor based on sex or gender. Such conduct will not be tolerated by Kol Ami. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that at Kol Ami, all individuals are provided with a work environment free from harassment based on sex or gender.

While it is not easy to define precisely what types of conduct could constitute sexual harassment, examples of prohibited behavior include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, obscene gestures, displaying sexually graphic magazines, calendars, or posters, sending sexually explicit text messages, e-mail or voice mail and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as uninvited touching of a sexual nature or sexually-related comments. Depending upon the circumstances, the conduct can also include sexual joking, profanity, vulgar or offensive conversation or jokes, commenting about an employee's physical appearance, conversation about your own or someone else's sex life, or other conduct directed toward a person because of his or her gender that creates an unprofessional and hostile working environment. Sexual harassment also includes the threat or promise of certain benefits or job actions by a person in a position of authority in exchange for participation in or acquiescence to sexual conduct.

If you believe you have been subjected to or if you have witnessed any conduct that may violate this policy, we encourage you to immediately report the matter to your manager, the Executive Director (914-949-4717, ext. 101), or (Co-) President(s) (President@nykolami.org). Individuals who wish to make a complaint under this policy may, but are not required to, utilize the sexual harassment complaint form that can be found at the end of this document. Kol Ami will conduct a prompt, thorough, and unbiased investigation into the facts and circumstances of any sexual harassment complaint. All parties involved in the investigation will be afforded a fair opportunity to provide any information or documents they believe to be relevant to the investigation. To the extent practicable, both the identity of any individuals involved in the investigation as well as any information obtained during the investigation will be kept confidential. All employees are encouraged to cooperate with any investigation. Where appropriate, the complainant will be advised as to when an investigation has been completed, whether Kol Ami was able to determine if any policy violation(s) occurred, and whether any remedial measures have been or will be implemented.

If you are unsure with whom to raise a complaint about sexual harassment, or if you have not received a response within five business days after submitting a complaint about what you believe to be sexual harassment, please immediately contact any Officer of the Board of Trustees. A listing of the Officers of the Board of Trustees may be found at the Kol Ami website (www.nykolami.org). All supervisors and managers who receive a complaint or information about sexual harassment are

required to report such information to the Executive Director or, if the Executive Director is the subject of the complaint, the (Co-) President. Any supervisory or managerial employee who knowingly allows such conduct to occur or continue will be subject to appropriate corrective action, up to and including termination. Kol Ami considers any violation of this policy to be a form of misconduct. Anybody, regardless of position or title, whom Kol Ami determines has engaged in sexual harassment of any kind in violation of this policy, will be subject to prompt, appropriate corrective action, up to and including termination.

In addition, Kol Ami will not allow any form of retaliation against individuals who report or complain about sexual harassment, who cooperate in the investigation, or who otherwise participate in any proceeding under the law. Retaliation means adverse conduct taken because an individual reported an actual or perceived violation of this policy, opposed practices prohibited by this policy, or participated in the reporting and investigation process described below. Such retaliatory conduct is a separate violation of this policy and applicable law.

Sexual harassment is a form of unlawful discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and Section 296 of the New York Executive Law. Similar local laws might also prohibit sexual harassment in the workplace. We are firmly committed to providing all individuals with a work environment that is free of any unlawful sexual harassment. As such, anyone who wishes to make a complaint regarding sexual harassment is encouraged to utilize the internal complaint mechanism provided so that Kol Ami may investigate the matter and take appropriate remedial measures. Nonetheless, anyone who wishes to file an administrative complaint regarding perceived sexual harassment may do so by contacting the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the New York State Division of Human Rights, or, in some cases, a local human rights agency. Such individuals may also elect to pursue their claims in the New York State court system. Individuals subjected to unwelcome sexual harassment may be entitled to recover damages, including reinstatement and/or monetary damages for any job loss or loss in wages incurred a result of the sexual harassment, as well as compensatory damages for emotional distress and attorneys' fees. Under certain circumstances, an individual subjected to sexual harassment may also be entitled to recover punitive damages. Under certain circumstances, sexual harassment may also be considered criminal conduct. Anyone who believes he or she has been the victim of a crime should contact his or her local police department.

Sexual Harassment Complaint Form

New York State Labor Law requires all employers to adopt a sexual harassment prevention policy that includes a complaint form to report alleged incidents of sexual harassment. If you believe that you have been subjected to sexual harassment, you are encouraged to complete this form and submit it to the Executive Director or (Co-) President(s). You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint.

COMPLAINANT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Work Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

Job Title: _____ Department: _____

Select Preferred Communication Method: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ In Person

COMPLAINT INFORMATION

1. Your complaint of Sexual Harassment is made about: Name: _____ Title: _____

Work Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

Relationship to you: ☐ Supervisor ☐ Subordinate ☐ Co-Worker ☐ Other

(If "Other," please describe): _____

2. Please describe what happened and how it is affecting you and your work. Please use additional sheets of paper if necessary and attach any relevant documents or evidence.

3. Date(s) conduct occurred: _____ Is the conduct continuing? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Please list the name and contact information (if known) of any witnesses or individuals who may have information related to your complaint:

The following question is optional, but may help the investigation: _____

5. Have you previously complained or provided information (verbal or written) about related incidents? If yes, when and to whom did you complain or provide information? _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____