THE CONNECTION

January Synaplex
Shabbat!
Page 22

White Plains PD
Appreciation
Shabbat
Page 23

Religious School
Director Search
Parlor Meetings
Page 15 and 24

Family Concert with

Joanie Leeds

Page 14 and 27

Congregation Kol Ami 1923-2018 ~ 95 Years 252 Soundview Avenue White Plains, NY 10606





CONGREGATION KOL AMI

A REFORM SYNAGOGUE

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

RABBIS

Rabbi Shira Milgrom & Rabbi Tom Weiner

ECP Director ⇔ Nan Blank

Interim Religious School Director \$Pam Pass

Director of Youth Engagement \$\primetright\$ Idan Santhaus

RABBIS EMERITI

Lawrence W. Schwartz ∞

Maurice Davis ∞

Mark L. Winer

CANTOR EMERITUS

Raymond Smolover ∞

 ∞ of blessed memory

OFFICERS

President, Scott Musoff, Scott.Musoff@skadden.com
President, Susan Kohn Arovas, srkohn@mac.com
Vice President, Judith Arner Brown, gojustjudi@gmail.com
Vice President, Lisa Hochman, lisahochman@mac.com
Vice President, David Okun, david.okun@me.com
Treasurer, Jonathan Litt, jlitt@monticello.nyc
Secretary, Rachel Eckhaus, boardsecretary@nykolami.org

Board of Trustees, EmailTheBoard@nykolami.org

COMMITTEES...

Adult Learning, Jennifer Lemberg, AdultEd@nykolami.org
Annual Fund, David Okun, AnnualFund@nykolami.org
B'nai Mitzvah Mentor, Judy McEvoy, BnaiMitzvah@nykolami.org
Budget and Operating, Jeff Gelfand,

OperatingBudget@nykolami.org

Capital Budget, CapitalBudget@nykolami.org

Calendaring, Rachel Eckhaus, BoardSecretary@nykolami.org **Coachman Family Center**, Alison Adler, Lisa Hochman,

HelpTheCoachman@nykolami.org

College Youth, Stacey Matusow, Lori Okun,

CollegeYouth@nykolami.org

Digital Communication, Judy Sarch, Webmaster@nykolami.org

Dues Review, DuesReview@nykolami.org

ECP, Cindy Musoff, ECP@nykolAmi.org

Facilities, David Seicol, FacilitiesCommittee@nykolami.org

Food Pantry Pam Millian, Pantry@nykolami.org

Green Team, Bonnie Hagen, Green Team@nykolami.org

Inclusion, Marci Frankenthaler and Beth Tomkiewicz

Inclusion@nykolami.org

Inter-Faith Outreach, Julie Carran,

InterfaithOutreach@nykolami.org

Israel, Jack Berger, SupportIsrael@nykolami.org

Inter-Faith Families, WelcomeInterfaithFamilies@nykolami.org

The Judaica Shop, Judy McEvoy, jkmcevoy@optonline.net

Kol Ami Cares, Betsy McCormack, Ginny Ruder,

KolAmiCares@nykolami.org

Leadership Development, LeadershipDevelopment@nykolami.org

Marketing, Marketing@nykolami.org

Men's Council, Adam Hutter, MensCouncil@nykolami.org

Membership, Dana Ross, Adrienne Pollak

Membership@nykolami.org

Personnel, Donna Joseph, Personnel@nykolami.org

Premium Dues, Ellen Kurtz, Ilene Miller,

PremiumDues@nykolami.org

Planned Giving, Leslie Wiesen, Judi Brown,

PlannedGiving@nykolami.org

Retreat, Genna Farley, Erik Klein, Eric Staffin, Retreat@nykolami.org

Religious School, Sara Elkin, Religious School Parents@nykolami.org

Social Justice, Ronnie Cohn, Lori Abrams,

Socialjustice@nykolami.org

Spring Fundraiser, Liz Ilberg, Danielle Gecht,

SpringFundraiser@nykolami.org

Volunteering, Maggy Weber, Volunteer@nykolami.org

Worship, Sheryl Brady, Worship@nykolami.org

WRJ Sisterhood, Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus,

Stacey Matusow, Sisterhood@nykolami.org

Youth Groups, Elizabeth Mayeri, YouthGroup@nykolami.org





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 $7\frac{1}{2}$ 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.

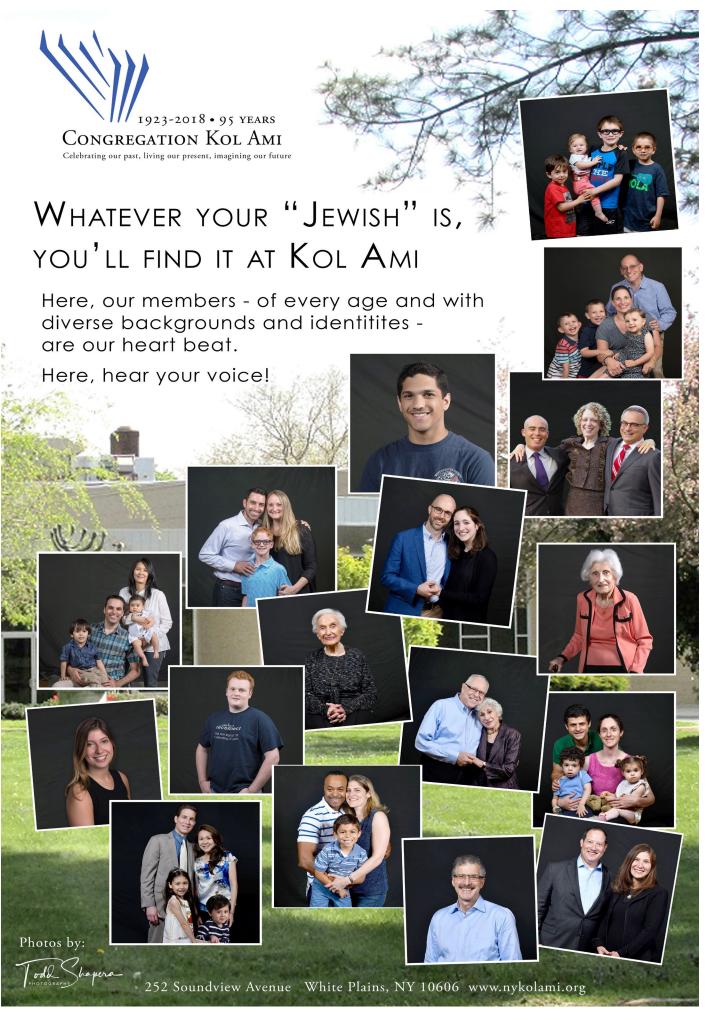
Here, we cultivate relationships with family, friends, staff, and clergy.

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.



Worship Opportunities



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 January

Week ending January 5, 2019 Parashat Va'era Exodus 6:2-9:35

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

Week ending January 12, 2019 Parashat Bo Exodus 10:1-13:16

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

Week ending January 19, 2019 Parashat B'shalach Exodus 13:17-17:16

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

Week ending January 26, 2019 2019 Parashat Yitro Exodus 18:1-20:23

Yitro, also known as Jethro, is Moses' father-in-law. He observes the toll that Moses' leadership of the Hebrews is taking and advises Moses to delegate some of the responsibility and authority. In this parasha, the people find themselves at the base of Mount Sinai after several weeks of wandering. This is the site where God presents Moses with the Ten Commandments.



Building and Offices Closed Tuesday, January 1st



Kol Ami Movie Night Monday, January 7th



Kol Ami Volunteers at AFYA Wednesday, January 9th

Tuesday	1	New Year's Day: Buildling and Offices Closed			
Wednesday	2	9:00-10:30am 10:00-2:00pm Religious School	KA Reads Book Club Mah Jongg Closed for Winter Break		
Thursday	3	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:00pm 12:00-2:00pm 5:45pm 7:30pm 7:30-8:45pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel Wisdom of the Sages in Room 20 Parenting Teens Workshop AA Meeting in the Chapel Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary		
Friday	4	6:15pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Families with Young Children Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary hat Book Share and Shabbat Sheli will be on Jan 11th***		
Saturday	5	Lift Your Shabbar 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 5:30pm	t in the Chapel Coffee and Conversation Torah Study Shabbat Services Bar Mitzvah of Max McEvoy		
Sunday	6	9:00-11:00am 11:00-11:30am	Religious School Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David		
Monday	7	9:15-10:45am 11:00-12:30pm 12:30-2:00pm 6:00pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:30-9:00pm	Grandparenting with Susan Davis Current Events with Beth Kava Mussar Class with Rabbi Pam Wax 12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery Kol Ami at the Movies: The Cakemaker		
Tuesday	8	11:30-1:00pm 5:45pm 7:30-8:45pm	Women in Transition AA in the Chapel Israel in the News		
Wednesday	9	9:30am 10:00-2:00pm 4:00-6:00pm	Kol Ami Volunteer Day at AFYA Mah Jongg 4th-6th Grade Religious School		

6:00-6:30pm

6:30-8:30pm

7:00-8:30pm

Youth Dinner

7th-12th Grade Religious School

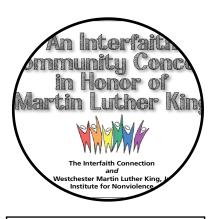
Parenting Teens Group with Susan Davis



WPPD Appreciation Shabbat Friday, January 11th



Havdallah in Pajamas with Rabbi Tom Saturday, January 12th



Annual Interfaith Concert Honoring MLK Jr. Sunday, January 13th

Thursday	10	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:00pm 5:45pm 7:30pm 7:30-8:45pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel Wisdom of the Sages AA Meeting in the Chapel Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel Choir Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary
Friday	11	5:30pm 5:30pm 6:00-7:15pm 6:15pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Families with Young Children Shabbat Sheli for Elementary Age Students Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary with Religious School Kindergarten and 1st Grade, and ECP Families Shabbat, along with White Plains Police Department Appreciation Evening
Saturday	12	Lift Your Shabba 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 4:00-5:00pm 4:00-6:00pm 5:30pm	t in the Chapel Coffee and Conversation Torah Study Shabbat Services Havdallah in Pajamas with Rabbi Tom Weiner Sisterhood Wine and Wisdom with Rabbi Shira Milgrom Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Bernstein
Sunday	13	9:00-11:00am 9:00-11:00am 11:00-11:30am 11:00-1:00pm 1:00-3:30pm 4:00-6:00pm	Religious School 6th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Cooking for the Homeless RAC NY Informational Meeting Interfaith Concert for Martin Luther King Jr.
Monday	14	9:30-11:00am 6:00pm 7:30-9:00pm	Blessings of a Skinned Knee with Susan Davis 12 Step Recovery in the Chapel Judaism, Real and Imagined
Tuesday	15	•	h Rabbi Tom Leaves for India Cooking for the Homeless AA in the Chapel Poetry Salon at Rabbi Shira's
Wednesday	16	10:00-2:00pm 4:00-6:00pm 6:00-6:30pm 6:30-8:30pm 7:45-8:30pm	Mah Jongg 4th-6th Grade Religious School Youth Dinner 7th-12th Grade Religious School 7th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Parents Meeting w/Cantor David



Synaplex Shabbat! Friday, January 18th



Buildings and Offices Closed Monday, January 21st



Friday

25

5:30pm

6:15pm

6:00-7:15pm

Religious School Director Search Parlor Meeting January 23rd and 27th

Thursday	17	9:30-11:00am 5:45pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:30pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel AA Meeting in the Chapel Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel	
Friday	18		Shabbat in the Woods for Families with Young Children	
Saturday	19	Lift Your Shabba 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 10:30am	t in the Chapel Coffee and Conversation Torah Study Shabbat Services Bar Mitzvah of Cameron Kopczynski	
Sunday	20	Religious School Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend		
Monday	21	Building and Offices Closed for MLK Jr. Day		
Tuesday	22	5:45pm 7:30-9:45pm	AA in the Chapel Israel in the News	
Wednesday	23	10:00-2:00pm 4:00-6:00pm 5:00-7:30pm 6:00-6:30pm 6:30-8:30pm	Mah Jongg 4th-6th Grade Religious School RS Director Search Parlor Meeting Youth Dinner 7th-12th Grade Religious School	
Thursday	24	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:00pm 5:45pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:30pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel Wise Aging AA Meeting in the Chapel Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel	

Shabbat in the Woods for Families with Young Children

Crafts, Light Supper, and Babysitting for Children

Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary



Sunday Family Concert with Joanie Leeds and Or Chadash Choir Sunday, January 27th

Saturday	26	Lift Your Shabba 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am	t in the Chapel Coffee and Conversation Torah Study Shabbat Services
		4:00-6:00pm	4th Grade Havdallah Hispanica
Sunday	27	9:00-11:00am 9:00-11:00am 9:00-11:30am 11:00-1:00pm	Religious School 5th Grade Holocaust Survivors Speakers RS Director Search Parlor Meeting Joanie Leeds Family Concert with Or Chadash Choir
Monday	28	11:00-12:30pm 6:00pm 7:30-9:00pm	Current Events with Beth Kava 12 Step Recovery in the Chapel Judaism, Real and Imagined
Tuesday	29	7.50 7.00pm	Jacaisin, iteat and imagined
Wednesday	30	5:45pm	AA in the Chapel
·		10:00-2:00pm 4:00-6:00pm 6:00-6:30pm 6:30-8:30pm	Mah Jongg 4th-6th Grade Religious School Youth Dinner 7th-12th Grade Religious School
Thursday	31	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:00pm 5:45pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:00-10:00pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel Wisdom of the Sages AA Meeting in the Chapel Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary ECP Mom's Night out in the Gallery

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 6th: Study in the City with Rabbi Tom Weiner Thursday, February 7th: ECP Parent's Evening of Trivia! Friday, February 8th: Synaplex Shabbat! "Never Again? Ending Genocide" Sunday, February 10th: Sisterhood Ladies Night Out Monday, February 18th: Building and Offices Closed for Presidents Day

ECP Mom's Night out in the Gallery Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

Monday, February 18th-Sunday, February 25th: ECP and Religious School Closed

for February Break

7:30pm

January B'nai Mitzvah



Max McEvoy, son of Judy and Kevin and brother to Jack, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 5th, 2019. Max is a 7th-grader at Scarsdale Middle School. He enjoys baseball, skiing, karate, running cross-country, playing trumpet and video games. He also loves his summers away at Camp Echo. For his mitzvah project, Max chose a variety of causes to volunteer for. He collected gently used sneakers with his brother Jack for the Dunk Your Kicks program, which helps low-income families battling pediatric cancer. He sorted donated medical supplies for the AFYA foundation, and participated in a UJA program packing meals for Westchester's hungry. Max also volunteered for the Hope Soup Kitchen's Thanksgiving food drive, packed Christmas goody bags for the Grace Church Soup Kitchen and volunteered with the Scarsdale Ambulance Corp. during emergency disaster training. Hearing that socks are one of the least things donated to the homeless, Max is asking people to bring new packages of crew socks to his bar mitzvah, where they will be collected for the next Kol Ami Midnight Run. Having started his Jewish learning at Kol Ami in the 2's, Max is incredibly grateful to the entire Kol Ami community for helping him to reach this significant milestone in his life. He is looking forward to sharing this important day with family and friends.



Gabriel Noah Bernstein, Son of Lisa & Rob Bernstein will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah Saturday, January 12th, 2019. He is a 7th grader at Highlands Middle school in White Plains. He spends his summers at Crane Lake Camp and lounging at the pool with his siblings, Ari, Sasha & Reece. During the school year he enjoys violin lessons, playing video games and hanging with his family and friends. Gabriel is super excited to share his Bar Mitzvah with his family and friends. We love you Gabriel!!



Cameron Kopczynski, son of Amy Freedman and Kevin Kopczynski, and brother to Eric and Alyssa Kopczynski, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 19, 2019. Cameron is a 7th grader at Louis M. Klein Middle school in Harrison. Cameron is an accomplished pianist and tennis player. For his Mitzvah project Cameron volunteered at the Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Rye, NY. Projects included beach clean-ups and educational programs. Cameron was motivated by his interest and concern over bird habitats and environmental problems which affect animals in our own neighborhoods. Cameron is looking forward to sharing his special day with a close group of family and friends.



A Message from Cantor Rosen

Music Helps to Warm Us Up in January!!

There are three wonderful musical events coming to Kol Ami this January! The first one will take place on **Friday, January 18th for Synaplex Shabbat Shira** (**the sabbath of Song**) as we welcome Canadian superstar Jazz and Gospel singer, Jackie Richardson to our main event for the Synaplex evening. Richardson is a three-time nominee for the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television Gemini Award, and won the Gemini Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Dramatic Program or

Mini-Series for The Gospel According to the Blues. In 2003 she was nominated for the NAACP Image Award for Best Actress in a Television Movie for Sins of the Father. Richardson is also a noted stage performer, winning a Dora Award in 2004 for the musical Cookin' at the Cookery. Other high-profile projects include Milk and Honey, More Tales of the City, Further Tales of the City, and 3 Men and a Baby. She will be accompanied by another Canadian talent, Jason Jestadt. As well as receiving awards for his choral compositions, Jestadt has also conducted the international productions of We Will Rock You, Billy Elliot, Rock of Ages and Lord Of The Rings. Currently, Jason is one of the conductors for the acclaimed Toronto production of Come From Away and is music director for the internationally acclaimed singer from Les Miserables and The Phantom of the Opera, Colm Wilkinson.

Both Richardson and Jestadt will offer an eclectic program entitled "Songs of Freedom," in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend.

Also in celebration of MLK weekend, Kol Ami will once again host an **Interfaith Choral Concert on Sunday, January 13th at 4pm.** This concert will feature our own Kol Echad choir along with various other choirs from religious institutions across White Plains. As part of the three selections that we will be presenting at this concert, one of them is entitled "Duet of Hope." Composed by the late Jack Gotlieb, this haunting contemporary arrangement merges the famous folk song "Wayfaring Stranger" with the Israeli national Anthem, "Hatikvah."

The third concert will take place on **Sunday, January 27th at 11am as Joanie Leeds comes to Kol Ami.** Joanie performs nationwide, has produced seven full length CDs, and has also released 2 full length DVDs: City Kid Live and Joanie Leeds & The Nightlights- Live from Madison Square Park. Joanie is currently touring the country performing at concerts and leading songwriter workshops while maintaining a busy teaching schedule, song commission work and of course her favorite job is mama to her 3 year old daughter. Joanie will be joined by our wonderful children's choir, Or Chadash.

Hope to see you at one or hopefully all of these wonderful events!!

As I write this article, I am about to embark on a 10 day journey to Israel with some of our Kol Ami Teens. I cannot wait to experience Israel with them for the first time, especially when they take that first bit into a schwarma or a falafel...

Cantor David Rosen

A Message from our Co-President

Celebrating Our Past, Living Our Present, Imagining Our Future

These words, which grace many of our communications this year, reflect our perspective as we proudly commemorate Kol Ami's 95th anniversary. Though they apply to all areas of congregational life, they have a particularly significant meaning with respect to education. An important aspect of our history is that it was children's desire for a lewish education



aspect of our history is that it was children's desire for a Jewish education that led to our formation in 1923.

The foundation of our congregation, thus, rests on learning, and education has been a cornerstone of our mission ever since. Over the past 95 years, we have educated thousands of our youth. We have shared lessons of Torah, Hebrew, prayer, history, and heritage. Most importantly, we have provided our children with meaningful connections to Judaism and instilled in them strong, proud Jewish identities.

For this, we owe much gratitude to our educators, past and present, who have led, taught, and inspired our children day in and day out. To our Early Childhood Program Director Nan Blank and our Interim Religious School Director Pam Pass, we say thank you. For understanding that education is dynamic. For incorporating creativity, innovation, love and compassion into the classroom. For bringing Jewish history, celebration, and values to life each school day.

As we enter this New Year, we look to our future. I urge us to look beyond the year ahead and imagine what Jewish education can and should be in the next 5 years and beyond. We all should ask ourselves: What do we deem important in our children's Jewish education? What do we want our children to learn at Kol Ami? How would we like to see our children ta Kol Ami? How do our children feel about their Jewish education? How do we want our children to feel about their Jewish education? How do we want our children to feel about being Jewish?

Please lend your voice to our discussion. Scott and I, and members of the Religious School Director Search Committee, will be meeting with congregants this month to hear what you envision for your children's Jewish education, our children's Jewish education. The meetings will take place on:

Wednesday, January 23rd from 5 - 7:30 pm in the Gallery

Sunday, January 27th from 9 - 11 am in the Gallery

If you are unable to attend either session, please reach out to us directly at president@nykolami.org. We look forward to having you join us in this important conversation and in imagining our future together!

B'Shalom

Susan Arovas

A Message from our Executive Director

A few months ago, during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we as Jews had an opportunity to reflect on our past actions and make plans to change our ways for the new year 5779. As the secular year comes to an end, we once again have occasion to make New Year's resolutions.

The tradition of making New Year's resolutions involves a person resolving to change an undesired trait or behavior, to accomplish a personal goal or otherwise improve their life; or adding a desirable

behavior to their lives for a positive change. At its core, a New Year's resolution is an attempt to change your behavior by either creating a new habit or by changing an old one. For me, New Year's resolutions are the perfect opportunity to refocus and make changes I need to make.

As you know, it takes more than just good intentions to keep a New Year's resolution. New Year's resolutions, after all, are well known for their failure rate. To make a resolution with staying power, you need to be sufficiently motivated to do it, you must be realistically capable of doing it, and you need opportunities in your life to make it happen.

In researching this article, I came across a list of the 50 most common New Year's resolutions. I've included a few of those that involve some personal change. If any of these resolutions are on your list this year, we at Kol Ami are prepared to help you achieve some of them.

- Meeting new people: When we get stuck in a rut, we usually end up staying at home most of the time, missing out on a lot of interesting
 opportunities for networking and having fun. Attending Shabbat services or one of Kol Ami's wonderful programs will help you achieve
 this goal.
- Spending more time with the people that matter: There is just too little time in this life for us to waste it on insincere, duplicitous and
 toxic people. We should focus on the people who we care about deeply and who care about us. Enjoying a Shabbat meal with family or
 friends is a perfect way to achieve this goal.
- Traveling more and seeing the world: Consider joining one of Kol Ami's clergy on their next Kol Ami trip to experience different cultures and meet new people in near and faraway places.
- Expressing yourself artistically: Expressing yourself in a creative, artistic way is a great form of stress relief and helps keep your mind sharp. Joining Kol Ami's choir or multigenerational orchestra or leading a craft activity for a Coachman birthday party will help you reach this goal.

Resolutions can also involve a change to "Repair the World" — "Tikkun Olam". For 2019, I resolve to devote more time and energy to helping those in need in the Kol Ami and local community. If you would like to join me in this, these are some of the opportunities right here at Kol Ami:

- Hosting a Coachman birthday party
- Cooking for the Homeless
- Working in the Kol Ami Pantry

- Joining Kol Ami Cares Outreach
- Filling out the Kol Ami Volunteer Request Form
- Advocating for change consistent with our core, reform Jewish values

Whatever changes you resolve to make in 2019, I wish you and your families a happy, healthy, and joyous new year.

Fondly, Jess



A Message from our ECP Director

January ECP Dates:

January 2nd: ECP Re-Opens from Winter Break

January 12th: Havdalah in Pajamas (see flyer on page 26)
January 21st: School Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 27th: Family Concert with Joanie Leeds (see flyer page 27)

December ended on a fabulous note. During Hanukkah we enjoyed an early morning visit from Cantor David who whipped up the most delicious jelly donuts right before our eyes. Then, our entire ECP community gathered together and enjoyed a holiday concert featuring the singing duo, The Levins. They delighted us with Hanukkah songs and lots of other favorites. After the concert was over we gathered together as one community to enjoy latkes, applesauce, and clementines. A very special thank you goes to our Cantor David Rosen who helped to make our day sweeter than ever! It was truly a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday.

On Saturday afternoon January 12th from 4:00-5:00 please join Rabbi Tom and me at our annual Havdalah in PJ's program. This is a wonderful afternoon filled with Mitzvahs, crafts, and fun! Come in your PJ's and bring a new pair of PJ's to donate to the local shelter.

Come in from the cold and join us on Sunday afternoon, January 27th for our family concert afternoon for young children featuring Joanie Leeds!, http://www.joanieleeds.com/listen/ The program will begin at 11:00 with pizza for concert attendees and is followed by the wonderful music of Joanie Leeds from 11:30-12:30. Our Or Chadash Choir under the direction of Cantor David Rosen will be singing along with Joanie too. The afternoon is free and promises to be filled with lots of fun. All families with children 0-6 year olds are welcome.

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

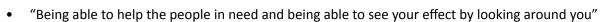
What else could we possibly need? We need you! We need everyone in our congregation to partner with us and to help us continue to build our community of friends' one family at a time. We need you to spread the word to your family, friends and neighbors that Kol Ami's Early Childhood Program is a very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

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at a Time

A Message from our Religious School

What would you say about a Religious School curriculum that offers students choices of how to learn and practice doing mitzvot, mentoring and being role models and helping/connecting with classmates and our larger Kol Ami community and de-stressing (not to mention fun Hebrew learning)?

We offer all of that and more in the form of 7th Grade electives. When asked "What is the value of our 7th Grade electives?" here's what our students had to say:



- "I enjoyed hanging out with kids who are different"
- "Have fun playing games while also making me better at Hebrew so I can participate in Hebrew things"
- "I enjoyed being an example for younger kids and learned to be patient"
- "I learned how to work with others"
- "I felt good about myself as a Jew"
- "I learned more Jewish traditions"
- "It helped me see what being Jewish meant"
- "I gained a better relationship with my classmates"
- "It helped me to not be as stressed—I got to relax and just calm down"
- "I like that it involved physical activities"
- "I liked Helping, greeting and meeting a lot of congregants I didn't know"
- "It allowed me to be more involved with my [larger Kol Ami] community"
- "It was fun"

Powerful statements from our kids—they capture and articulate the Jewish values we intend for them to absorb through electives. No less valuable in their busy and academically demanding lives is relaxing/de-stressing, burning off energy and connecting with their classmates. Electives that offer physical activity and opportunities to socialize are equally appreciated components.

This trimester we added some meaningful new social justice options:

<u>~Helping the Hungry and Cooking for a Cause:</u> These popular social action electives have been rich, meaningful, and bonding for our students—and their parents! It is remarkable that we get to create and offer opportunities for parents and students to become involved in social justice projects at Kol Ami together. (see photos on page 20)

<u>Cour Communities Mitzvah Workshop:</u> Every 7th grader has been involved in a letter exchange with an inner-city class. This has elevated the meaning of Tzedakah from simply "charity" to the more accurate "justice, fairness, righteousness" (as in tzedek, tzedek tirdof—justice, justice you shall pursue). As such, our teens see their partners as equal and people they can relate to. (see photos on page 20)

We filled Christmas stockings for our partner school friends. It was a joy to watch our 7th graders excitedly sorting, personalizing and filling the stockings. Equally gratifying was the outstanding response from the parents. Within the first day and a half, two-thirds of the 7th grade families signed up to contribute to this endeavor, many signing up for multiple gift slots. The very definition of bringing Torah to life.

Selecting for themselves from a well–balanced menu (mitzvah, academic, creative, social action, movement, and leadership-based options) has proven to be extremely successful. The students clearly get it.

There's no question our electives are engaging our 7th graders—and their parents!—in so many interesting, soul-nourishing, and community-building ways. TORAH AND JEWISH VALUES BROUGHT TO LIFE. Our teens may think they're just having fun, but in the words of one 7th grader, the value of electives? "It made me want to do mitzvahs."





A Message from our Director of Youth Engagement

<u>Youth + Holiday celebration + Israel + Shinshinim = fun</u>

In the past month we have had a couple of fun, inspiring and meaningful moments at Kol Ami that involved the youth.

First, during Hanukkah, our teen delegation to Israel, had a preparation gathering where we made Shnizels, Israeli salad and Sfing (Moroccan donuts). Carmel and Lior, our Shinshinim, taught the group of 10 teens, Rabbi Tom, Cantor David and I how to make these delicious dishes and then inspired us by giving us some useful tips for the trip we have at the end of December. That same week, we concluded our weekly Youth Dinner with Channukah candle lighting, blessings and jelly donuts. Thank you Sisterhood for making this possible! Being in a room with some 80 teens at that moment was fun and celebratory. For me, and I think for our teens too, these dinners have become a nice relaxing break from the business of the week and something we look forward to. This particular evening was extra fun. To end the week more than 15 teens joined us for Synaplex Hanukkah Shabbat, and we hope even more will continue to join us for the next Synaplex Shabbat on January 18th.

Then, we celebrated our Youth during Youth Shabbat. The spirit that the teens brought to the Service made the night very special. Listening to Carmel's duet with Cantor David, singing a blessing for Israel, was a highlight of my musical experience at Kol Ami. Seeing our Vaad's co-presidents; Becca Sparer and Jack McEvoy, as well as Melissa Cohen who led us in song with her beautiful voice up on the Bima leading our congregation, was inspiring. Carmel and Lior's blessing to our teen delegation to Israel was wonderful and playing music with Adi (violin), who is also a Shinshinit in Westchester was so much fun. What a night that was!

I would like to thank the musicians who participated: Charlotte Blotner (Trumpet), Adi Nulman (Violin), Oren Tirschwell (Cello), Nadav Snir-Zelniker (Percussion), Gabriel Garibaldi (Drums), Sebastian Garibaldi (Guitar), Koby Hayon (Bass), Carmel Mena (Piano and Voice) and special thanks to Lenora Eve.

I wish everyone a happy 2019!

Dates: RAC trip to Washington D.C 9th -12th Grades on March 1st-3rd 2019



Idan Southaus

Around Kol Ami.... #nykolami









From the preschool, to our teens, to the adult parties, to the community events... we loved December!







Israel Trip Teens get in the spirit before their trip by cooking Israeli foods together



7th Graders decorate Christmas Stockings as gifts





Our new "Cooking for a Cause" social justice elective for Religious School has students hands-on in the kitchen!



Around Kol Ami.... #nykolami







We celebrated Hanukkah in so many wonderful ways!!























Hannukah 2018



Shabbat Shira
Shabbat Shira
Shabbat Shira





Friday, January 18th



oin us for an amazing night of music all the way from Canada!

Enjoy our January "Shabbat Shira" Synaplex and hear
music from award winning performer Jackie Richardson
and award winning composer Jason Jestadt.

Dinner catered by Lombardo's Restaurant

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

Adult Names:

#Adults __x\$25 =\$ ____

Children's Names and Ages: ____ #Children 5 and Under __ = N/C

Phone Number: ____ Total Enclosed: \$ ____

Email Address: ____ Please make checks out to: Congregation Kol Ami

Please add \$5 additional per person after January 9th

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



"Oh, What a Night!"

Shabbat

We invite everyone to join us as we host officers from the White Plains Police Dept. for a Shabbat Appreciation Evening!

Shabbat Services begin at 6:15pm and the children from our Religous School Kindergarten,
1st Grade, First Taste,
and ECP will be helping to lead the service

Congregation Kol Ami

252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains NY 10606

www.nykolami.org

Parlor Meeting



Wednesday, January 23rd 5:00-7:30pm Sunday, January 27th 9-11:30am

All interested congregants are invited to attend!

Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served.

We Point With Pride to....

Lisa Borowitz, Hank Rouda, Ronnie Cohn, and Ellen Bittner



Kol Ami is honored, and blessed, to have such a depth of representation at the Union of Reform Judaism's Board.

Lisa Borowitz is now officially a URJ Board Alumni.

Ronnie Cohn and Ellen Bittner were both elected for 2nd terms, and Hank Rouda was newly elected for his 1st term on the URJ Board.

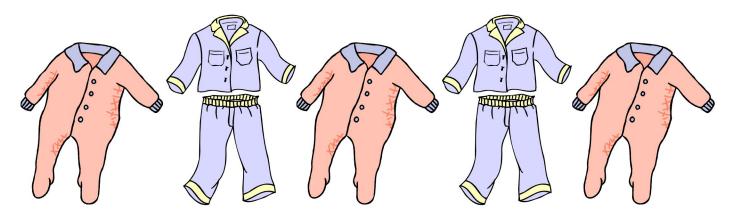
It is remarkable and impressive for any one synagogue to have this level of involvement at the Union of Reform Judaism.

Congratulations to all of these amazing

Kol Ami congregants!

The Early Childhood Program of Congregation Kol Ami Invites all families with young children to

A Havbalah and Sh'ma Pajama Party!



Join Nan Blank, and Rabbi Tom Weiner Saturday Afternoon - January 12, 2019 4:00-5:00



Enjoy the Sweetness of Havdalah with Family and Friends!
Crafts, Family Learning, and a Sweet Snack

Come in your Pajamas!

Admission: Please bring a new pair of Children's Pajamas to be donated to the local family shelter Everyone is welcome — let us know if you'll be coming!

Nan Blank at 949-4717 x 107

nanblank@nykolami.org

See you There!



Community Family Concert featuring the amazing Joanie Leeds!! Sunday, January 27th, 2019

Admission is Free

> Everyone welcome!

11:00 Pizza for Concert attendees 11:30-12:30 Concert including an Or Chadash Choir sing-along with Cantor David Rosen and Joanie Leeds





The Kol Ami Sisterhood Havdallah Series Presents Wine & Wisdom with Rabbi Shira Milgrom



Saturday, January 12th, 4-6pm

RSVP by January 9
Registration: \$18 members / \$25 non-members

Register online at www.NYKolAmi.org/Sisterhood or mail your check payable to Sisterhood to the main office.

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



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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019 at 4:00 PM at Congregation Kol Ami
252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY

The "Adnan," Muslim Call to Prayer
The Amity School
Calvary Baptist Church Youth Choir & Inspirational Choir
Congregation Kol Ami Choir
The LOFT LGBT Community Center's Pride Chorus
Memorial United Methodist Church Choir
Mt. Hope A.M.E. Zion Church Inspirational Choir
Shinnyo-en Buddhist Temple Ceremonial Taiko Drums & Choir
The Westchester Bhai'i Community

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

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

MAH JONGG MONDAYS!

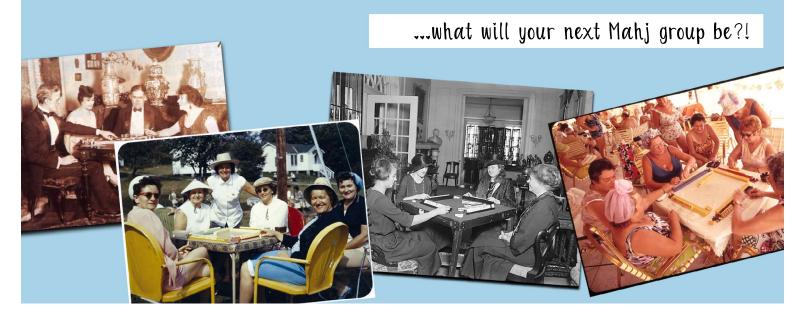
for beginner and intermediate players every other Monday from 7:00 pm to 9 pm

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!

1/7, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/4, 3/18, 4/1, 4/15, 4/29, 5/13, 5/27, 6/10 and 6/24

If you have your own Mah Jongg set please bring it.

Rummikub games can also be accomodated!



Social Action Coachman Corner

HOLIDAY PARTY:

Our December party for the Coachman children was an extravaganza of holiday themed crafts and games and all the kids had a great time. Special thanks to our party sponsors: Brooke Love and Alison Ivler. They, along with Allison & Mason Danzig, Logan & Davin Lent, Neil, Zachary and Ethan Ivler and Simon Worth did a wonderful job organizing the pizza, cookie decorating and paper airplane making to ensure that everything was fun and festive.

SPINNING JOY:

Under the leadership of Sara Elkin and with help from Allison Danzig, we organized a holiday gift initiative called Spinning Joy. Congregants volunteered to purchase a gift for Coachman child by selecting a yellow dreidel with the child's name, gender and age. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of our congregants! We collected over 150 gifts for children and over 55 gift cards for teens. Thank you to everyone who participated!







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 Next meeting: January 15th

Sundays 11:00am-1:00pm
To sign on or ask questions, please contact:
Nancy Marcus at larrymarcus@aol.com
Next meeting: January 13th

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 fcilities. 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 January 30th at 2:30 PM

The Grove Rehab at Valhalla

(formerly the Hebrew Home)
61 Grasslands Road, Valhalla NY

AFYA and Kol Ami

Our work down at the warehouse continues when volunteers from Kol Ami work at the foundation to sort medical supplies on a monthly basis. We meet at 9:30 am in front of the religious school entrance on:

January 9th, February 13th,

March 13th, April 10th, and May 8th

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



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.



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!

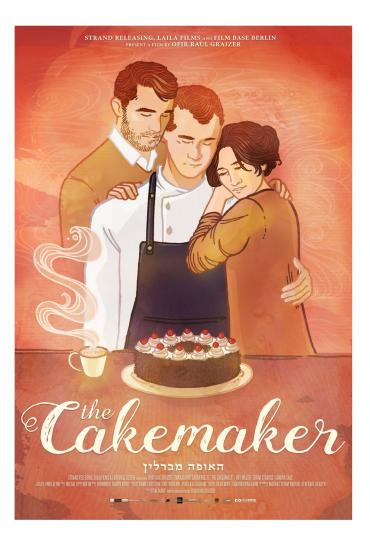
Early Childhood	Religious School		Synaplex	
■ Book Fair: Nov 9-16th ■ Yom Ha'atzmaut: May 9th ■ Purim Carnival: March 21st ■ Library Day: Reading to children on Monday or Wednesdays mornings	Su 3:	outh Dinner: Wed. 6-6:30pm raffic Duty: Sun. 8:30-9:15am un. 10:30-11:15am, and Wed. 45pm, 6:15pm, and 8:45pm with free coffee and a bagel n Sundays!)	Set-Up: On Fridays once a month to help set tables for Shabbat Dinner:12-2pm	
Food Pantry Pantry Helper: Sunday mornings clients who want to come pick up Pantry Stocker: One Thursday a to help sort/shelve delivered items	food month	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 8:45-12:0 Involves sales and general care of the space. Additional times during hole	he	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:	Phon	e: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!				





Kol Ami's Film Festival

Monday, January 7th at 7:30pm



The film will be: "The Cakemaker"

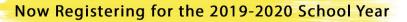
Thomas, a young German baker, is having an affair with Oren, an Israeli married man who has frequent business visits in Berlin. When Oren dies in a car crash in Israel, Thomas travels to Jerusalem seeking answers regarding his death. Under a fabricated identity, Thomas infiltrates into the life of Anat, his lover's newly widowed wife, who owns a small café in downtown Jerusalem. Thomas starts to work for her and creates German cakes and cookies that bring life into her café.

FREE ADMISSION AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Congregation

Kol Ami Early Childhood Program

Celebrating Over 50 Years of Experience!

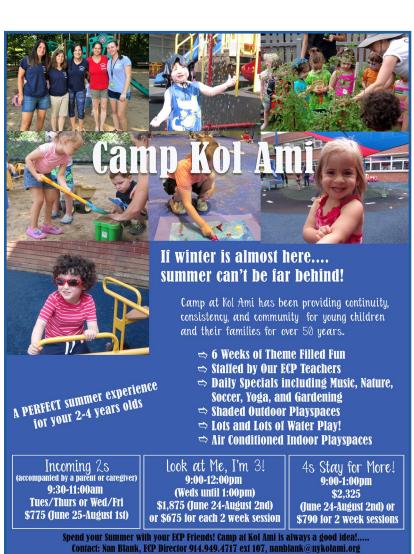


First Friends: A Toddler Program
2, 3, 4 & 5 Day 2's ● 3, 4 & 5 Day 3's ● Full and Half Day 4's
Extended Day Program for 2's, 3's, 4's, and Pre-K's
A Step-Ahead Program for children turning 5 in the Fall
Summer Camp for 2's, 3's, and 4's

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.





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

STEM Learning

Child Initiated Individual and

Small Group Learning

Extensive Outdoor Classroom and Garden Program

Teacher Guided Learning, with a 3 Teacher Team who combine Masters in Special Education N-6, Early Childhood Certification, and Social Work

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

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...

WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME

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 - Session I: Tuesday, October 9, 2018	\$60 (Individual	sessions \$18) 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			



NEW PARENTING WORKSHOP

Parenting High School Teens
Facilitated by Susan Davis, LCSW

Beginning Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 7:00-8:30pm Congregation Kol Ami, Room 20

Join us for monthly discussions on a wide range of parenting issues related to teenagers in high school. Our first meeting is Wednesday, January 9, 2019. Future dates to be determined at the first meeting.

These discussions are open to mothers and fathers of teens in grades 9-12.

Members and non-members are welcome.

Adult Education

Gather and Study

Mussar Classes

This workshop will introduce Mussar practice through tikkun middot (repairing ourselves from the inside out), so that we can act with greater compassion, kindness, and love in our homes, friendships, and work. Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS. Please contact Rabbi Wax at pwax@wjcs.com or 914-761-0600 x. 149 to register. Mondays 12:30-2:00pm, next meeting on January 7th Fee for Kol Ami Members: \$72 Fee for Non-Members \$100

Women in Transition

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

Please join us in an interactive discussion group.

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

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

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month 11:30am-1:00pm, next meeting on January 8th

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 February 11th 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 January 3rd

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 January 10th

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

Women's Roundtable Breakfast

Join Kol Ami's remarkable, multigenerational women for learning and friendship with Rabbi Shira Milgrom. Next meeting on February 6th 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 occassionally guest speakers, both from within and outside Kol Ami, will be invited.

Meets every other Tuesday from 7:30-8:45pm,
next meeting on January 8th

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 January 7th

Kol Ami Book Club

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

Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9:15am in Room 20

next meeting on January 2nd

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,
next meeting on January 14th

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.

Meets the 1st Thursday of the Month at Noon,

next meeting on January 3rd

**NEW ADDITIONAL GROUP Meeting on

Wednesday, January 9th 7:00pm**

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 January 7th

Fun and Games!

Mah Jongg Mondays

Every other Monday at 7:00pm in the Kol Ami Gallery. Please email Lisa Borowitz at lisa.borowitz@cowen.com for more information. Next meeting Jan. 7th.

Mah Jongg Wednesdays

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



THE LEGACY FUND

DID YOU KNOW...

... that you can help sustain our vibrant congregation for future generations while potentially reducing your annual taxable income with a Charitable IRA Rollover?

To qualify:

- You must be age 70 ½ or older at the time you make your gift
- Transfers must be made directly from a traditional or Roth IRA account to Congregation Kol Ami
- Gifts must be outright with no material benefit received

Qualified charitable distributions:

- Can total up to \$100,000 a year
- Can be used to satisfy your required withdrawal
- May be excluded from your gross income for federal tax purposes

Consult with a financial advisor for further information.

For information on other ways of making Kol Ami a beneficiary of your estate contact congregants Judi Brown at 646-206-4547, gojustjudi@gmail.com or Evelyne Klein at 914-761-7659, aspencup@aol.com.

Life Cycles

Congratulations

- *To Ginny Herron-Lanoil on the birth of her granddaughter, June Elora Edelman
- *To Donna Joseph on the marriage of her son, Jonathan to Daniella Scopino
- *To the Kava family, Beth and Gene, on the birth and baby naming of their grandson, Wiley Vaughn Kava

Condolences

- *To Dorothy Klausner and family on the death of her aunt, Sally Gurski
- *To Cori Shifrin and family on the death of her father, Boyd Adelman
- *To Robin Davies-Small and family on the death of her aunt, Rose Erdman
- *To George and Lin Shapiro on the death of their nephew, Michael Shapiro
- *To Mia Shapiro on the death of her cousin, Michael Shapiro
- *To Jo Landau on the death of her brother, Leon D. Seaman
- *To Elana Araj on the death of her grandfather, Judge Walter R. Wertheim
- *To Paul Mauro and family on the death of his godmother, Louise Castro
- *To Nathan Barotz and family on the death of his mother, Martha Barotz
- *To Bonnie Wach and family on the death of her husband, Richard Wach
- *To Cindee Howard and family on the death of her father, Arthur Howard

In Memorium

* In memory of Richard Wach

* In memory of Arthur Howard

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- *In gratitude for the unveiling ceremony for her dad Stanley Katz from Cima Katz
- *In loving memory of Warren Levine on the 25th anniversary of his death from Stephanie Levine
- *In appreciation of leading mom's shiva service and for educational programs from Georgia and Bill Pollak
- #In loving memory of her mother Marion Sheff from Barbara Block
- *In honor of Natan and a thank you for kindness in Israel from Nancy Merahn
- *In memory of Roland Kalb and Claire Weil from Lore Kalb
- #In honor of Matthew's Bar Mitzvah from Michael and Susan Welling
- *In appreciation from Mattie Goldenberg-Abler
- *In honor of their wedding from Harry Drasin and Alan Rosenberg
- *In deep gratitude to the Kol Ami staff and congregants who supported us during the funeral and reburial of our Uncle Albert Blumlein's remains at Ferncliff Cemetery from Ellen Marcus

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- *In memory of my special friends Gladys Goldmann and Lillian Greenberger from Stephanie Levine
- *In support of the Kol Ami students' trip to Israel from Vadim Serebro
- *In appreciation from Mattie Goldenberg-Abler

The Connnection ▶ January 2019 ▶ Page 42

Generous Contributions

*Cantor David Rosen's Discretionary Fund

- *In honor of Noa's Bat Mitzvah from Ruth Berkowitz and Doron Shiloach
- *In memory of Dr. Alva Weiss from Stephanie Levine
- *For officiating at the funeral of his mother Florence Herman from Lauren and Paul Herman In appreciation of your beautiful music from Patricia Grossman

*High School Israel Trip

- *In support from Evelyne and David Klein
- *In support from Paul and Susan Davis
- *In support from The Ruder Family Foundation In support from Jeffrey Rothschild

*Synaplex Circle

In support of Synaplex from Judy and Bob Asher

*Petschek Music Fund

- *In support of music at Kol Ami events from Stephen and Judith Ross
- *In support of music at Kol Ami events from Barbara Wexler
 In support of music at Kol Ami events from Linda and Milt Persily

*Adult Education Fund

*In loving memory of my son Arthur Maslow from Mattie Abler
In appreciation of Beth Kava and her inspirational current event class from Mattie Abler

***Biennial Fund**

In honor of Lisa Borowitz's birthday from Patricia Grossman

In appreciation from Ellen Marcus

*Fund for the Needy

- *In appreciation from Linda Kligman
- *In appreciation from Susan and Paul Davis
- *In appreciation from Barbara Shore
- *In honor of Patty Wohl's birthday from Jess and Dave Lorden
- *In appreciation of the Kol Ami Staff from Mattie Abler

In appreciation of Ron Carran's friendship from Nina and Philip Blumenfeld

★Kol Ami Fund

- *In appreciation from Kristi Knecht
- *In appreciation from The Bristal
- *In loving memory of Vladimir Serebro, father of Boris Serebro from Kate Mcdonough
- *In appreciation from the A.C. Israel Foundation

In loving memory of Sophia Stern from Janet and Mark Ackerman

*Retreat Fund

In Celebration of Giving Tuesday from Genna and Matt Fleming



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 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

☐ Early Childhood Program Fund (supports

teacher education and student scholarships)

☐ Fund for the Needy (provides assistance

☐ Flowers and Landscaping Fund

to those in need)

□ Adult Education Fund

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** ☐ Kol Ami Cares Fund ☐ Refugee Resettlement Fund ☐ Kol Ami Fund (our general fund) (supports activities of the Caring □ Social Action Fund Community Program) ☐ Men's Council Fund ☐ Audrey Greenberg Scholarship 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 ☐ Rick Kraver College Youth Fund ☐ Religious School Fund (supports ☐ Yahrzeit Plagues \$750 (supports special programs for our special projects as determined by the college students) Religious School Committee)

□ Retreat Fund

☐ Scholarship Fund for the Confirmands (10th graders)

☐ Petschek Music Fund

□ Synaplex Circle Fund

☐ Sponsor a Friday Night Shabbat Oneg

☐ Sponsor a Religious School Sunday

☐ Tree of Life Leaf \$180

Morning Bagel Breakfast

(Available in Gold, Silver and Copper)

☐ Sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or

Giving Opportunities

CONGREGATION

KOL AMI





A Curated Wine & Spirits Shop Focused on Smaller Producers & Organic Selections

WWW.BOTTLEGROVE.COM 914-468-6777 · 46 GEDNEY WAY









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 everything. I understand the importance of treating your family with respect and compassion during your hour of need. 29

-Matthew J. Rocillo, Owner & Record Director







www.BallandDurand.com Matheu J. Florib, CFW • Owner/Favoral Director

White Plains | 2 Maple Avenue | (914) 949-0366

Elmsford | 72 East Main Street | (914) 592-6300