

THE CONNECTION

March 2019

Volume No. 7

Don't Miss Purim 2019!
Wed. March 20th

Last Synaplex Shabbat
of the '18-'19 Season: April 5

Kol Ami Celebrates 95 Years
Raffle Tickets and Gala Save the Date

Shabbat International Potluck
Dinner Sponsored by
The Membership Committee





CONGREGATION KOL AMI

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

A REFORM SYNAGOGUE

252 Soundview Avenue ☆ White Plains, New York

914.949.4717 ☆ www.nykolami.org

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

RABBIS

Rabbi Shira Milgrom & Rabbi Tom Weiner

Cantor ☆ David Rosen

Executive Director ☆ Jess Lorden

Assistant Executive Director ☆ Emily Campbell

ECP Director ☆ Nan Blank

Interim Religious School Director ☆ Pam Pass

Director of Youth Engagement ☆ Idan Santhaus

Co-Presidents ☆ Scott Musoff & Susan Kohn Arovas

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, GreenTeam@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, ReligiousSchoolParents@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

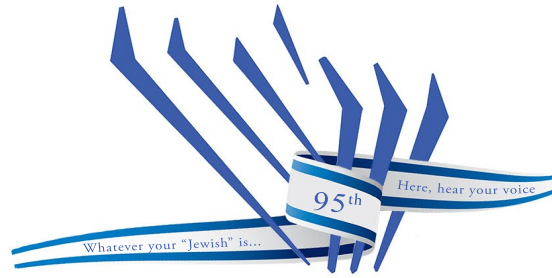
Worship, Sheryl Brady, Worship@nykolami.org

WRJ Sisterhood, Sheryl Brady, Rachel Eckhaus,

Stacey Matusow, Sisterhood@nykolami.org

Youth Groups, Elizabeth Mayeri, YouthGroup@nykolami.org





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.**

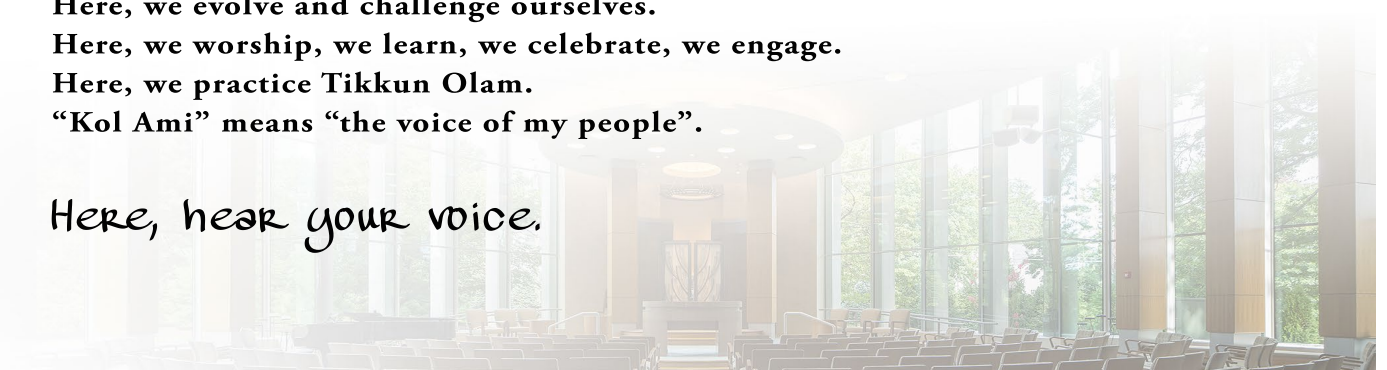
Here, we evolve and challenge ourselves.

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.



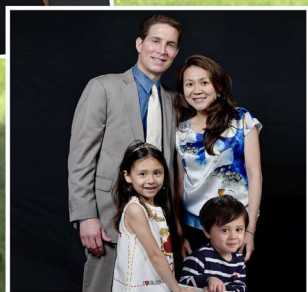


1923-2018 • 95 YEARS
CONGREGATION KOL AMI
Celebrating our past, living our present, imagining our future

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 Shapera
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 March

Week ending March 2, 2019

Parashat Vayak'heil Exodus 35:1-38:20

In this parashah, Moses reminds the people that God commanded them to keep Shabbat, not to do work on the seventh day and to make the day holy. The parashah continues with Moses asking the Israelites to donate materials for the building of the Mishkan (sanctuary).

Week ending March 9, 2019

Parashat P'kudei Exodus 38:21-40:38

P'kudei is the last parashah in the book of Exodus. Moses describes the specifications for the building of the Mishkan (sanctuary) for God. Every article needed, every attribute of the structure, every manner of work, and every detail for the altar is specified. As the building of the sanctuary and its holy objects are completed, Moses blesses all of the people who took part in its creation.

Week ending March 16, 2019

Parashat Vayikra Leviticus 1:1-5:26

We begin the third book of the Torah (Vayikra – Leviticus) with a description of five types of sacrifices offered in the Temple. They are: burnt offering, meal offering, sacrifice of well-being, sin offering, and guilt offering. While the burnt offering, meal offering, and sacrifice of well-being are voluntary, the sin offering and guilt offering are mandatory for guilty individuals. One remnant of these practices is the importance of our intentions when we enter into prayer.

Week ending March 23, 2019

Parashat Tzav Leviticus 6:1-8:36

Tzav, the second parashah in the book of Leviticus, continues with the regulations for sacrifices, and then outlines the ritual of priestly ordination for Aaron and his sons. Limitations on the consumption of meat are given, and the preparation of the Tabernacle as a holy place are given.

Week ending March 30, 2019

Parashat Sh'mini Leviticus 9:1-10:20

Shemini refers to the eighth (shemini) day of the ordination ritual. The priestly ordination of Aaron and his sons is described. Two of Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, offer "alien fire" to God on their own initiative and are immediately consumed by fire. Moses, Aaron, and his surviving sons are forbidden to mourn their deaths. The parasha also stipulates the dietary laws concerning which animals are fit and which are unfit for consumption; and concludes with a rationale for being holy and distinguishing between the impure and the pure.

March Calendar



Synaplex Scholar-in-Residence Weekend
March 1-2nd



Saturday, March 2nd
Texas Hold 'Em Tournament



Wednesday, March 6th
Women's Roundtable Breakfast

Friday	1	RAC Trip leaves for Washington, DC Synaplex Shabbat!: Scholar in Residence Weekend 5:00pm Musical Explorations with Cantor David 5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods 5:30pm Shabbat Sheli 5:45pm Hors d'voures in the Atrium 6:15pm Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary 7:15pm Shabbat Dinner (Reservations Required) 7:45pm Children and Teen Activities 8:15pm Guest Speaker: Dr. Wendy Zierler
Saturday	2	<i>Lift your Saturday Morning Shabbat in the Chapel</i> 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Guest Speaker: Dr. Wendy Zierler "Moondancing with Hava Shapiro" 11:00am Shabbat Services 10:00am 5th Grade Shabbat Service and Brunch 6:00pm Texas Hold 'Em Tournament 7:30pm Havdallah with Rabbi Shira Milgrom and Dr. Wendy Zierler
Sunday	3	9:00-11:00am Religious School 11:00-11:30am Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen
Monday	4	9:15-10:45am Grandparenting Group 6:00-7:00pm 12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel 7:00-9:00pm Kol Ami at the Movies: The Zookeeper's Wife 7:00-9:00pm Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery
Tuesday	5	5:45pm AA in the Chapel 7:00-9:00pm Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal in the Chapel 7:30-8:45pm Israel in the News
Wednesday	6	7:45-9:00am Women's Roundtable Breakfast with Rabbi Shira Milgrom 9-10:30am KA Reads Book Club 10:00-2:00pm Mah Jongg 4:00-6:00pm Religious School 4-6th Grades 6:00-6:30pm Youth Dinner 6:30-8:30pm Religious School 7-12th Grades
Thursday	7	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 7:00-9:00pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary 7:30pm Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

March Calendar



Friday, March 8th
3rd Grade Family Shabbat and Dinner



Sunday, March 10th
Religious School Pancakes
and Pajamas Morning



Wednesday, March 13th
Study and Lunch in the City (Scarsdale)

Friday	8	5:30pm 6:00-7:00pm 6:15pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Young Families Babysitting, Crafts, and Light Supper for Children Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary with 3rd Grade Religious School Families Shabbat and Dinner
Saturday	9	<i>Lift your Saturday Morning Shabbat in the Chapel</i> 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 5:30pm	Coffee and Conversation Torah Study Shabbat Services Bar Mitzvah of Maxwell Meizlik
Sunday	10	**Daylight Savings** 8:30am 9:00-11:00am 9:30-11:00am 9:30-11:00am 10:00-1:00pm 11:00-11:30am 11:15-1:30pm	Religious School Pancakes and Pajamas Morning! Religious School 1st Grade Book Club 2nd Grade Book Club Cooking for the Homeless Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal in the Chapel
Monday	11	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:30pm 12:30-2:00pm 6:00-7:00pm 7:30-9:00pm	Blessings of a Skinned Knee Group Current Events Mussar Class 12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel Judaism, Real and Imagined
Tuesday	12	11:30-1:00pm 5:45pm 7:30-9:00pm	Women in Transition AA in the Chapel Poetry Salon at Rabbi Shira Milgrom's
Wednesday	13	9:30-12:00pm 10:00-2:00pm 12:30-2:30pm 4:00-6:00pm 6:00-6:30pm 6:30-8:30pm 7:00-8:30pm	Kol Ami Volunteers at AFYA Mah Jongg Study and Lunch in the City w/ Rabbi Shira in Scarsdale Religious School 4-6th Grades Youth Dinner Religious School 7-12th Grades Parenting Adolescents Group
Thursday	14	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:00pm 5:45pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:30pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner AA Meeting in the Chapel Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel

March Calendar



Friday, March 13th
Membership International Dinner



Wednesday, March 20th
Purim Carnival and Spiel

Friday	15	5:30pm 6:00-7:00pm 6:15pm 7:30pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Young Families Babysitting, Crafts, and Light Supper for Children Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary Membership International Potluck Dinner
Saturday	16	<i>Lift your Saturday Morning Shabbat in the Chapel</i> 9:00am 9:30am 11:00am 10:30am 5:30pm	Coffee and Conversation Torah Study Shabbat Services Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Karl B'nai Mitzvah of Eli and Reid Sandler
Sunday	17	St. Patrick's Day 9:00-11:00am 9:00-11:15am 11:00-11:30am 11:15-1:30pm	Religious School 6th Grade 4th B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal in the Chapel
Monday	18	6:00-7:00pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:30-9:00pm	12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery Judaism, Real and Imagined
Tuesday	19	11:30-12:45pm 5:45pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:00-9:00pm 7:30-8:45pm	Cooking for the Homeless AA in the Chapel Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal in the Chapel Purim Spiel Rehearsal in the Main Sanctuary Israel in the News
Wednesday	20	PURIM! 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:30-8:00pm 8:00-9:00pm	Religious School Grades 4-6th Purim Carnival and Dinner-NO RSVP NEEDED! Purim Service, Megillah Reading and Spiel Purim Dancing and Hamantashen
Thursday	21	9:30-11:00am 11:00-12:00pm 5:45pm 7:00-8:30pm 7:30pm	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner AA Meeting in the Chapel Greenlight Initiative w/ Speaker Assemblyman David Buchwald Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel
Friday	22	5:30pm 6:00-7:00pm 6:15pm	Shabbat in the Woods for Young Families Babysitting, Crafts, and Light Supper for Children Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary

March Calendar



Thursday, March 28th
ECP Mom's Night Out in the Gallery



Friday, March 29th
ECP Family Shabbat and Dinner

Saturday	23	<i>Lift your Saturday Morning Shabbat in the Chapel</i>
	9:00am	Coffee and Conversation
	9:30am	Torah Study
	11:00am	Shabbat Services
	5:30am	Bar Mitzvah of Cole Sperling
Sunday	24	9:00-11:00am Religious School
	11:00-11:30am	Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen
	11:15-1:30pm	Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal in the Chapel
	4:00-6:00pm	Sisterhood Ladies Night Out
Monday	25	11:00-12:30pm Current Events
	6:00-7:00pm	12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel
	7:30-9:00pm	Judaism, Real and Imagined
Tuesday	26	5:45pm AA in the Chapel
Wednesday	27	10:00-2:00pm Mah Jongg
	4:00-6:00pm	Religious School Grades 4-6th
	6:00-6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	6:30-8:30pm	Religious School Grades 7-12th
Thursday	28	9:30-11:00am Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
	11:00-2:00pm	Wise Aging
	11:00-12:00pm	Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
	5:45pm	AA Meeting in the Chapel
	7:30-8:45pm	Choir Rehearsals in the Main Sanctuary
	7:00-10:00pm	ECP Mom's Night Out in the Gallery
	7:30pm	Al-Anon Meeting in the Chapel
Friday	29	5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods for Young Families
	6:00-7:00pm	Babysitting, Crafts, and Light Supper for Children
	6:15pm	Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary with the ECP Family Shabbat and Dinner
Saturday	30	<i>Lift your Saturday Morning Shabbat in the Chapel</i>
	9:00am	Coffee and Conversation
	9:30am	Torah Study
	11:00am	Shabbat Services
	5:30pm	Bar Mitzvah of Max Florin
	7:00-9:00pm	Youth Group Midnight Run Prep in Kitchen
	9:00-Midnight	Midnight Run
Sunday	31	8:00am-2:30pm 6th Grade Tenement Museum Trip
	9:00-11:00am	Religious School
	11:00-11:30am	Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen
	11:15-1:30pm	Kol Ami Orchestra Rehearsal in the Chapel

March B'nai Mitzvah



Max Meizlik, son of Corey and Alan Meizlik and brother of Phoebe, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 9, 2019. Max is in seventh grade at Scarsdale Middle School. During the year he enjoys wrestling and baseball as well as comic books, movies and video games. In the summer he attends Camp Walt Whitman in New Hampshire, where he loves exploring the outdoors and hiking in the White Mountains. For his mitzvah project, Max volunteered at The Coachman Center in White Plains, where he enjoyed meeting new kids and helping them with their homework, knowing that through his efforts, he was making a difficult situation a little bit easier. Max would like to thank the Kol Ami community for making his Jewish education so rewarding and Rabbi Tom, Cantor David and his tutor Idan Santhaus for preparing him for this day. He can't wait to celebrate with his family and friends!



Cole Sperling, son of Lee & Kelly Sperling and brother of Henry Sperling, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 23, 2019. He is in seventh grade at Scarsdale Middle School. Cole enjoys baseball, basketball, skiing, fishing, ping pong, playing video games, and hanging out with his friends. For his Mitzvah project, Cole is building a bench for a local animal shelter in need & volunteering time at another animal shelter. He is looking forward to sharing his Bar Mitzvah day with his friends & family.

Gabriel Karl, son of Michele and Matt Karl and brother to Max and Nate Karl, will be called to the Torah on March 16, 2019, the day after his 13th birthday. Gabe is in 7th Grade at Highlands Middle School in White Plains and attends Camp Lenox during the summers. Gabe likes playing soccer and video games and loves all of his pets. For his mitzvah project Gabe has been volunteering his time in the Cat House at New York Pet Rescue in Larchmont and hopes to raise money and materials for them. Gabe is very excited to spend his special day with friends and family.



Maxwell Hayden Florin, son of Aimee and Mike Florin, and brother to Abigail, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 30, 2019. He is in 7th grade at Scarsdale Middle School. During the school year, Max plays baseball (catcher and third base) and basketball. He volunteers with Lion's Heart, a community service organization for teenagers, through which he serves at soup kitchens, makes lunches for those in need and participates in a variety of charitable activities. Max also enjoys watching sports (Jets, Yankees, Michigan, Brooklyn Nets, Islanders) and spending time with his two dogs, Belle and Apple. For his Mitzvah project, Max has been volunteering at the Humane Society of Westchester in New Rochelle, helping to train dogs, socialize cats and assisting as needed. Max is very excited to share his special day with his family and friends.



A Message from Rabbi Milgrom

Can We Save This Marriage? Therapy session: March 30th

God said to Moses: "Bring forward your brother, Aaron, with his sons, from among the Israelites, to serve Me as priests. Next you shall instruct all who are skillful, whom I have endowed with the gift of skill, to make Aaron's vestments for consecrating him to serve Me as priest. These are the vestments they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a fringed tunic (fringed with bells and pomegranates), a headdress and a sash." The ephod? "They shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, purple and crimson yarns, and of fine twisted linen, worked into designs. It shall have two shoulder-pieces attached. Then take two lazuli (or onyx) stones and engrave on them the names of the tribes of Israel: six of their names on the one stone, and the names of the remaining six on the other stone. Attach the two stones to the shoulder pieces of the ephod – so that Aaron shall carry these names upon his two shoulder-pieces for remembrance before the Eternal. [excerpted Exodus 28: 1-12]

Two thousand years ago saw the destruction of the Second Temple – the Temple in Jerusalem. And with its destruction came the end of the priesthood. Our homes became the mikdash – the sanctuary in miniature. And the priesthood? That's us. In our homes, we are the ones who recite blessings and "officiate" at our meals and holidays. And in the synagogue – there is no one person who wears the sacred garments. Each of us (each adult) can wear a tallit and kippah. Each educated adult can lead a service, or read from the Torah.

And the breastplate and the crowns and the bells and pomegranates? They found their way to the Torah. The Torah that belongs to each of us now carries the beautiful jewelry that once adorned the High Priest, and the High Priest alone.

But what about those names? Once, it was the High Priest who literally shouldered the responsibility of carrying the names of the tribes of Israel. Who carries that responsibility today? Clearly, that is also us. We are the ones who must remember the tribes of Israel, the communities of our people, wherever they are scattered around the globe.

And now, more than ever, we also carry responsibility for our brothers and sisters

in the land of Israel. No, we don't own responsibility for the decisions of the government of Israel. We don't vote in Israel's elections and we don't pay taxes and we don't serve in the army. So what is the responsibility which is ours?

Two weeks after we returned from the Kol Ami trip to Israel, this article appeared in Haaretz: "To save their troubled marriage, Israel and American Jews should consider a trial separation." And by January, a related article in the NY Times: "American Jews and Israeli Jews are headed for a Messy Breakup." Both articles frame the "Israel issue" as one of relationship. Both articles confirm what some of us fear and worry about: our relationship is troubled. And when a relationship is troubled, whatever that relationship, we can walk away, we can pretend all is okay, we can shout and blame – or we can take responsibility. We can begin to talk openly, honestly, lovingly.

These past months have also seen unnerving evidence of the rise of anti-Semitism, and anti-Zionism on the left as well as on the right. Perhaps the stakes for saving this marriage have taken on additional urgency.

It's been several months since our Israel trip, and it's taken us this long to be ready to talk about our experiences and to consider the many implications of what and how we feel. We have put together six articles (including the two that I mentioned). All of them focus on the relationship between Israel and American Jews – less on the policies, and mostly on the relationship. The articles are available on line at the Kol Ami Virtual Library; you can get a hard copy of them from the clergy office. We invite – we encourage – you to read the articles, mark them up, think about them – and then join us on Shabbat morning, March 30th. Click below to find the articles.

Our Israel travelers will moderate a conversation about them – and reflect on their experiences.

There is no High Priest to carry the names of the tribes of Israel; there is no one – but us – to shoulder that responsibility.

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

<https://nykolami.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/26/2019/02/People-or-Religion-Six-Degrees-of-Jewish-Separation.22.pdf>

A Message from Rabbi Weiner



The Oy and the Joy!

This past Monday night at the 92nd St. Y, I had the pleasure of listening to Professor Deborah Lipstadt in conversation with columnist Bari Weiss. She was presenting her new book, *Antisemitism Here and Now*, a wonderful book to help all of us get a handle on this old scourge in its newest forms.

Professor Lipstadt has played a strong role in my understanding of antisemitism and Holocaust studies over the years, as she was my youth advisor in high school, lecturer in college, visiting professor in rabbinic school and guest speaker at my last synagogue. We are hoping she will soon come to Kol Ami. Look her up! She's a brilliant teacher!

I just want to share one beautiful and important thought she shared. It was a kind of warning to all of us that, though we need to be vigilant these days; let's not let our enemies define our Judaism. That is, let's never let the be all and end all of our Jewish lives be a reaction to hatred from the outside.

As she put it, let's remember that being Jewish does indeed have it's elements of "OY" to it, but Judaism in it's full living and celebration is more than equally filled with "JOY".

Please remember that in the months and years to come, no matter the news and the work we need to do to keep ourselves safe and educate our neighbors; that we let our lives be full of both the Oy and the Joy.

Rabbi Tom Weiner



A Message from Cantor Rosen

THE GREATEST HAMAN? "A PURIM FARCE"...

This year's Purim Spiel will prove once again to be a blockbuster of a show! Auditions took place in November and the cast came together to begin rehearsals in early December. The show will have all your favorite characters telling the story of Purim through the songs and spirit of the "The Greatest Showman."

As we know when we see any show, we usually only enjoy it in it's polished stage. We often forget the countless amount of hours and time put in to the production that make it such a wonderful show. I am extremely grateful for our talented cast and all of those that have worked behind the scenes. From choreography to transposing keys, to costumes, to blocking, to communications, etc... the Purim Spiel only happens because of each of you and your coordinated efforts!!

Here is a list of this year's cast so you can have the opportunity to say "thank you" when you see them around the synagogue.

Please don't forget to join us on March 20th for the Spiel and Carnival!!!

With Love and Appreciation,
Chag Purim Sameach!!

-Cantor David Rosen

2019 CAST MEMBERS

Alex Hopkins - Music Director
Ellen Flaks - Director/Clown-Ensemble
Jill Staffin - Choreographer/Esther
David Seicol - Facilities Coordinator/Bigtan
Leni Glauber - Costumer Coordinator/Henchman
Sheryl Brady - Mordercai
Steve Brady - King
Scott Pollak - Haman
Debbie Rothschild - Vashti
Jeff Kurnit - Teresh
Eliot Adler - Servant 1
Jeremy Adler - Servant 2
Julia Staffin - Ringmaster
Abby Kurnit - Ensemble
Jonathan Rothschild - Minister
Talía Rothschild - Ensemble
Jules Klausner - Ensemble
Stefanie Rosenzweig - Ensemble
Laurie Eilen - Ensemble
Lynne Dolle - Ensemble
Dafna Arenstein - Ensemble
Naomi Jeske - Ensemble

A Message from our Co-President



I hope it is common knowledge by now that Kol Ami is celebrating its 95th Anniversary! We are blessed to have nearly a century of rich history upon which to build our future. Yes, our future is directly connected to our past. It is because of our commitment over the years to Jewish education, to inspiring music, to meaningful prayer, to community, to justice, and to tikkun olam that we are the strong, engaged congregation of today, poised for even greater things to come. Our history and our future are inextricably intertwined.

I am filled with gratitude for those who built our congregation — with the stability of brick and mortar and the strength of values and spirit — for establishing a sacred community from which our members benefit enormously. What better time than now to celebrate our shared history? Together, let's honor our compelling past. Let's celebrate the exciting present in which we are living, and let's imagine our future. How?

By joining me for our annual fundraising gala the evening of Monday, May 6th.

Yes, a Monday. Broadway will be dark, but we will be hosting the **Broadway Lights Up Kol Ami Cabaret Gala and Dinner**. It will be an evening of cocktails, dinner and cabaret. The cabaret will feature stars from Tony Award winning productions and special guest Ted Sperling at the piano. The musical portion of the evening will be hosted by Mairi Dorman-Phaneuf and will feature a six piece band!

This event will bring us together for an unforgettable evening. We will be celebrating our history by honoring our Past Presidents, each of whom has left an indelible imprint on Kol Ami, and has given much of themselves to ensure that our congregation continues to thrive. We will be living our present, the here and now, by joining together for an incredible night of music and community. We will be securing our future by helping to fund many important programs and initiatives that make Kol Ami exceptional.

Our spring gala is our annual fundraiser. As I mentioned in the Fall, we rely on voluntary contributions — as opposed to a set higher dues commitment — to ensure our financial needs are met. As a community, we have a shared responsibility for one another. Our strength is in our commitment to each other. It is this strength, this commitment, that gives Scott and I great pride as Co-Presidents. Join us in supporting our community in the following ways:

- **Celebrate with us on May 6th. Mark your calendars!**
- **Buy your Raffle Tickets, on sale as of February 28th.**
Be in it to win it. Letters and tickets went home in the mail to every family. Additional tickets can be purchased online at www.nykolami.org/95thGala
We are offering three separate and significant raffles:
 - (1) \$3000 off ECP Tuition
 - (2) Up to \$3000 off Religious School Tuition; and
 - (3) up to \$3000 off Membership Dues
 - (4) \$2000 Cash
- **Make a donation. Give proudly, in a way that is meaningful to you.**

I can't wait to share this important milestone with you!

L'Shalom, *Susan Arovas*

A Message from our Executive Director



Seventh grade students in our Religious School are able to choose from a variety of electives. It's been three years since I was asked to choose a topic of interest to me to offer as one of these 7th grade electives. I asked my husband, Dave, who is the "real" teacher in our family, to join me in this endeavor. (See our class photo on Page 22).

One of our shared passions is cinema, so Dave and I decided to offer an elective focusing on Jewish movies. In this, our third year, we watched: *Keeping the Faith*, *Remember the Titans*, *Hidden Figures*, *Wonder Woman*, and *Black Panther*. While their story lines and characters may not be Jewish, these movies allowed us to examine Jewish practices, holidays, customs, ancient Jewish history, and more modern history. They also provided a wonderful starting point for us to discuss our involvement in the civil rights movement, social justice, social action, and Tikkun Olam – all decidedly foundations of Reform Judaism.

Keeping the Faith, features three childhood friends. One becomes a Rabbi, one a Priest, and the third, a non-Jewish woman, pursues a career in finance. Both the Priest and the Rabbi fall in love with the woman, creating unique challenges based on their respective religions. Through this movie we examined Jewish practices and holidays, discussed the differences between Jewish and Christian beliefs, considered the concepts of "faith" and "forgiveness" from a Jewish perspective, and explored interfaith relationships.

On the Sunday of the interfaith concert in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. we watched the movie *Remember the Titans*. This movie, set in Virginia in the early 1960s, follows a football team forced to integrate. This movie contains powerful messages about acism, prejudice, leadership, and the core Jewish values of respect, social justice, and Tikkun Olam.

After watching *Hidden Figures*, we explored whether the movie offered a realistic look at racial tensions and sexism during the civil rights era. We also considered the character Dorothy's thought-provoking line which she uttered upon learning of her colleague Katherine's promotion, "**Any upward movement is movement for us all. It's not just movement for me.**" Dorothy verbalized that one pillar of discrimination was being knocked down but that countless more remained. As a group, we read and discussed "*Why We Went: A Joint Letter*

from the Rabbis arrested in St. Augustine" which they wrote in June 1964. Using the letter as a launching point, we pondered the experiences of these Rabbis, how Jewish values influenced their participation in the civil rights movement, and the broader involvement of Jews in the civil rights movement, then and now.

Wonder Woman offered us the opportunity to discuss issues surrounding women in society and the workplace, feminism, equality for women, the "#Me Too" movement, and the Jewish perspective on all of these issues. *Wonder Woman* wasn't able to ignore the injustices she saw, so she found ways to overcome a variety of obstacles and do what was "right" when others gave up. *Wonder Woman* is also a great tool to discuss Tikkun Olam. Consider these quotes from the movie: • **Early in the movie Captain Steve, the male lead, said: "If you see something wrong in the world, you can do nothing or something." Steve chose to do something.** • **Shortly thereafter, Wonder Woman says it is her responsibility to "fight for those who cannot fight for themselves."** • **Later on, Wonder Woman says: "Only love can truly save the world."** • **Wonder Woman also says: "I fight for the world I know can be" at the end of the movie.**

Dave and I chose *Black Panther* for our last class, and explored tenets of both African and Jewish cultures, including: all humans have God within them and

are a reflection of God; prayer is one conduit to spiritual growth; women play an important role in our families and our culture; and the power of families and unity. These statements from the movie reflect our Jewish obligation to repair the world: • **"We are strong enough to help others and protect ourselves at the same time."** • **"We cannot turn our back on the world...we must right the wrongs we created as it is our obligation to repair the world."** The women in this movie are powerful and smart, continuing the theme of exploring strong women. They lead the military as well as conducting the research behind scientific and technological advancements. Towards the end of the movie, the black panther who served as King for only a short period of time, said "I would rather die a free man than live in bondage" when he was faced with the choice of life in prison or death. That quote is reminiscent of our own history at Masada and the Jewish stronghold against Roman invasion.

Our students impressed Dave and me with their willingness to engage in meaningful discussions and their insights. Together we all enjoyed popcorn and candy; and learned important lessons viewing these movies through a Jewish lens.

You don't have to be a student in our Religious School to have these conversations. The next time you go to the movies with family or friends think about the Jewish themes that might be reflected in the screenplay.

Fondly, Jess



A Message from our ECP Director

March ECP Dates:

3/19th 3s and 4s Evening Conferences 5-9pm

3/29th Shabbat Dinner for Families with Young Children

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

And laugh we will – and sing, and eat Hamentaschen, and listen while Rabbi Shira reads the Megillah and leads our costume parade. We'll enjoy our very own ECP Purim Carnival on Thursday morning, March 21st.

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

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

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

As you can see our month is packed with wonderful opportunities for learning and fun. Our registration for next year is filling up and we are delighted! Remember you are always welcome to visit us – you'll surely leave with a smile!

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at a Time

A Message from our Religious School



It is a busy life! So many activity choices for our kids, and most of our children want to do a lot. So how do we choose? What do we choose? How do we BALANCE everything AND keep stress (theirs and ours) at a reasonable level? How do we give our children what they need and satisfy what they want?

In food terms, while they may want meals of Breyer's Salted Caramel ice cream (trust me—try it) and chocolates, we know it may not be the best thing for them. And so, we nourish them...with healthy choices. Choices we hope will inform their habits as they grow and begin to make choices of their own. While we teach them and speak with them about many things out there, it's our job to steer them in the right direction.

What is the right direction?

To answer this, we must, in typical Jewish fashion, answer a question with a question.

What do we want for our children?

To be responsible. Be creative. Learn meaningfully. Act ethically. Acquire leadership skills. Inspire others. Develop sound values. Cultivate new relationships. Form logical thought processes. Achieve a good sense of self. Gain as much satisfaction from doing good as from doing well. Build a solid foundation upon which they can build a good life. Discover who they are...and can be.

Kol Ami's Religious School is one choice, one place that offers all of this and more. It is evidenced by our stated vision, which is even more relevant in today's busy life:

In the world of our children, Judaism can offer what is available to them in almost no other place in their lives—a sense of rootedness in an eternal tradition, a way to celebrate life's monumental and simple moments and the knowledge that they are needed, precious and irreplaceable in bringing the world to greater goodness.

The curriculum of the Kol Ami Religious School integrates the child's world with Jewish learning. Jewish wisdom and values, its music, dance and art, its lessons of history and courage are the building blocks of learning. A knowledge of Hebrew reading and comfort and joy in prayer are important elements of our school. Jewish history, from the Torah to the present, becomes a vehicle not only to hear the stories of our people, but also to learn that being Jewish gives us a framework of ethics and values to help us to live a better life. Our curriculum teaches Jewish blessings (brachot) and prayer (tefillah) as ways to appreciate the wonder of this world and to give thanks for God's gift of life.

We are delighted and grateful that you have chosen our Religious School for your children. As we navigate together, we couldn't be more certain your children will glean so many of the wonderful qualities we wish for them. To all our current families, we thank you for sharing and believing in our vision. To our new families who we will welcome with the new school year, we thank you for choosing to share our vision.

Pam Pass



A Message from our Director of Youth Engagement

Dear Friends,

I am writing this from beautiful Singapore. This is my third visit to this very special place and I am here with my family visiting my in-laws and my wife's extended family. Overcoming the weather is always a challenge (it's 90 F) but once I get used to it (usually it takes about a week) I get into the Singaporean groove; which means I get to enjoy the fabulous Singaporean cuisine: Malay, Indian and Chinese food and some special local dishes I like. Going to the neighborhood's market is how I start most of my days here. It's a busy round structure, full of food vendors and sitting areas where the locals (usually retirees) begin their day. Occasionally, I spot someone who sits by themselves being approached by a stranger who is asking to join the table. The friendly exchange is short and the two strangers sit and eat together. Sometimes we sit with others at a table. It's the norm here and I like it because it has something to do with this country's core value: tolerance and acceptance of the other. You see, it's a very small place (278.5 square miles). Its founding father Mr. Lee Kuan Yew instilled within its people that they have to live together, or it just won't work. It's a government policy really. As a result, for example, each public housing block has a quota of how many Chinese, Indian and Muslim families should dwell there according to their percentage in the population. By the way, public housing is good here. Specious, clean and well maintained with gardens and local community centers. Kids of all races and backgrounds go to the local kindergartens/schools and play together in the neighborhoods' playgrounds. It's the culture of tolerance. Yes, it is dictated by the state. But it works! And so I can't stop but thinking what can America learn from it. What can Israel learn from it?

Speaking of which; there is a connection here. Singapore gained independence in 1965. Because, just like Israel, it is surrounded by not so friendly countries that are much bigger, it needed immediate help in military training. Since Israel is facing ongoing similar security challenges, Singapore based its Army's structure on the IDF and got help in training from Israel. The two nations have a history of overcoming great challenges, building fantastic infrastructure quickly, being entrepreneurial and innovative and even share a common rule by the British Empire in their past.

Another strong experience I had here this time is celebrating the Chinese New Year. This was the first time my father-in-law's family gathered for the traditional meal without his mom, Nei Nei, who passed in November. The family gathering is warm and welcoming. The food is special; Hokkien dishes, Singaporean coffee (made in a sock). We all posed for a picture together. Similar pictures are hanging on the wall in the small apartment. This time the family is missing its matriarch, and has a new member, our daughter. An old picture with the great grandfather, my wife as a baby and many other family members is dominating the main wall in the living room, as well as individual pictures of the grandparents and great grandparents who are long gone. A New Year has come, a new picture will soon be added to the wall.

As part of welcoming the year we went to the columbarium to pay our respects. It's a different kind of cemetery. There are two stories with walls full of small holes for the urns of ashes to be placed. The ceremony is simple and does not require any priest or fixed prayer. Some of my wife's grandparent's favorite food is being offered together with fruits and incense. Three bows are performed by each of the 8 siblings and their families and then a quick visit to the adjacent temple to burn paper money.

I found some similarities between the Chinese mourning rituals and our tradition: there is a year of no celebration in both. The value of family at the time of mourning and thinking of loved ones who are no longer with us during major holidays are important in both cultures. I look at the family at this moment, knowing how each of the siblings has accepted a different faith, most are Christians of different denominations, the others like my father-in-law, have no particular religion at all. And yet, they all pay respect in a traditional way that is thousands of years old. Fascinating.

While here, I managed to complete a book by Adi Schwartz and Dr. Einat Wilf called *The War of Return*. I highly recommend this eye opening book which should be out in English soon. Dr. Wilf and Mr. Schwartz offer a new and important insight into the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, an insight that is new to me and makes me question my own understanding of the history of this ongoing challenging matter.

In other news, I hope to see many of you at our Purim Carnival; there will be food, kids activities and Rock music during our Carnival. Good times.

Important dates to remember:

3/20 Purim Carnival and Spiel

3/30 Midnight Run: Please donate clothes and toiletries for our second run of the year

4/5 The Kol Ami Orchestra Annual Concert during Synaplex Shabbat Musical Explorations

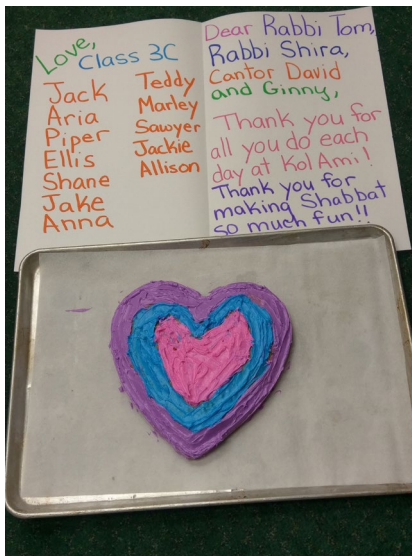
Idan Santhaus

Around Kol Ami....

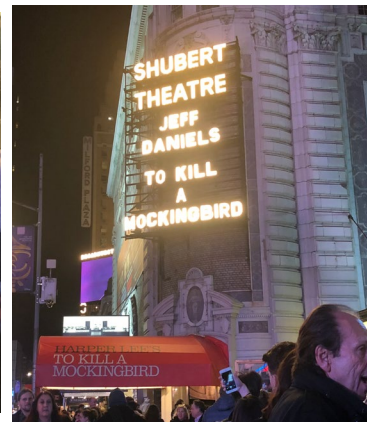
#nykolami



February Synaplex Panel on Changing the Landscape of Genocide and Mass Atrocities



"Kol Ami Goes to Broadway" to see To Kill a Mockingbird!



Cake and cards from the ECP for February Share the Love Month!



7th Grade Religious School Elective "Sunday at the Movies"



Friends of the IDF Concert was amazing!



"THIS IS THE GREATEST NIGHT"
JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL PURIM CELEBRATION
AND PURIM SPIEL THIS YEAR BASED ON "THE GREATEST SHOWMAN"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH
FUN STARTS AT 5:00PM

CIRCUS THEMED CARNIVAL | PIZZA
SANDWICHES | CIRCUS PERFORMERS
HOTDOGS | HAMENTASCHEN | GAMES
COTTON CANDY | COSTUME CONTEST
ROCK BANDS ON STAGE | POPCORN

PURIM SERVICE & MEGILLAH
READING STARTS AT 6:15PM

PURIM SPIEL IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING SERVICES. BASED
ON THE BOX OFFICE HIT
"THE GREATEST SHOWMAN!"

REMEMBER TO BRING CASH TO PLAY GAMES!
****ALL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE 10 FREE CARNIVAL TICKETS****

95 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT KOL AMI

BEAUTIFUL SHABBAT SERVICES BOOK CLUB BROADWAY TICKETS THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM
FOOD PANTRY FOR THOSE IN NEED BUS TRIPS TO SOCIAL JUSTICE MARCHES THE DEDICATION TO INTER-FAITH FAMILIES
ONE-OF-A-KIND B'NAI MITZVAH EXPERIENCES WORLD RENOWNED SYNAPLEX SPEAKERS AND PERFORMERS
COFFEE... COFFEE... COFFEE... AND BAGELS! ALWAYS SOMEONE THERE WHEN YOU NEED THEM THE PURIM SPIEL
OVER 2,000 OTHER LOCAL CONGREGANTS DANCING TOGETHER ON SIMCHAT TORAH LOTS OF PARKING SPACES
THE CHAPEL IN THE WOODS WISDOM OF THE SAGES WITH RABBI TOM WEINER MITZVAH SINGERS
3 BRAND NEW PRESCHOOL OUTDOOR PLAY SPACES THE MONTHLY CONNECTION MAGAZINE
SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE FROM OUR RABBIS AND CANTOR CURRENT EVENTS CLASS CHALLAH! SHABBAT IN THE WOODS
BEAUTIFUL FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDENS TRIPS AROUND THE COUNTRY, AND AROUND THE WORLD
SHABBAT LIFT SATURDAY MORNINGS WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE BREAKFAST HIGH HOLY DAYS
THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SUKKAH IN THE CITY WITH THE CHEROKEE THE KOL AMI ORCHESTRA
SISTERHOOD WINE AND WISDOM DINNER ISRAEL IN THE NEWS
COACHMAN THANKSGIVING SHIRAZ NIGHTS MAKING NEW FRIENDS
MONDAY NIGHT CLASSES WITH DAVIS S. HO BUTIQUE LOOKING FOR THE HOMELESS
CONFIRMATION CO ONAL CHOIR NG SHABBAT SHELI FOR ELEMENTARY AGED KIDS
HAVDALAH IN PAJAMAS WITH D RABBI TOM TING ANDPARENTING CLASSES JEWISH MEDITATION
WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME OUR PART WITH TE PLAINS POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS
SISTERHOOD LATKES AND OUR IN TO EMENT SUPPORT OF FAMILIES
OR CHADASH CHILDREN'S QUINEL REGANTS AND PROGRAMMING
SAFETY AND SECURITY WEDNESDAY WINNER SUMMER END-OF-THE-YEAR ZIMRAYAH
SHABBAT CRAFTS AND BABYSITTING FOR CHILDREN DEDICATION TO D NATIONAL CHARITIES
COLLEGE OUTREACH PROGRAM THE SOL SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE H EVERYDAY SUPPORT OF ISRAEL
THE COMBINING OF JEWISH TRADITION AND VALUES WITH MODERN IDEAS CANTOR WHO COOKS!
CONGREGATIONAL HANUKKAH MENORAH OUR LARGE DELEGATION AT IALS AND ON THE URJ BOARD
FAMILY CONCERTS AND EVENTS CO MEMORIAL DAY O KOL AMI SUMMER CAMP AT THE ECP
THE LEGACY FUND THE JUDAICA CHOCOLATE COVER EVENTS WITH CANTOR DAVID
FRIENDS AND CONGREGANTS COUNT ON STANDS AGAINST HATE
SCHOOLS THAT TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO VALUE THE FIBER CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR
LIGHTING SHABBAT CANDLES DURING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY HAVING OUR OWN AA AND AL-ANON MEETINGS
WATCHING CHILDREN GROW FROM PRESCHOOL TO B'NAI MITZVAH TO COLLEGE
PURIM BASKETS DELIVERED TO CONGREGANTS' HOMES PEOPLE VOLUNTEERING THEIR TIME AND IDEAS
A CAMPUS FILLED WITH TREES, WILDLIFE, AND PRESERVED WETLANDS
3RD GRADE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SHABBATON SLEEPOVER SPECIAL PREMIUM DUES EVENTS
A PLACE WHERE THE SOUNDS OF CHILDREN DURING SERVICES IS SEEN AS A BLESSING
DEDICATED PRESIDENTS AND TRUSTEES OUR DIVERSITY IS OUR HEARTBEAT
WHATEVER YOUR JEWISH JOURNEY IS, YOU CAN FIND IT AT KOL AMI
CELEBRATING OUR PAST LIVING OUR PRESENT IMAGING OUR FUTURE!

SAVE THE DATE FOR MONDAY EVENING,
MAY 6TH, 2019
FOR THE 2019 GALA CELEBRATING OUR 95 YEARS
"BROADWAY LIGHTS UP KOL AMI!"
HONORING OUR PAST PRESIDENTS

ENJOY A CABARET EVENING WITH BROADWAY STARS FROM TONY
AWARD-WINNING SHOWS, SIT-DOWN DINNER, COCKTAILS, AND MORE!



Check your Mail for your Temple-Wide Raffle Tickets!

Purchase \$50 raffle tickets for the opportunity to win:
\$3,000 towards ECP Tuition
Up to \$3,000 towards Religious School
Up to \$3,000 towards Temple Membership
or \$2,000 Cash Prize

You don't need to be a congregant to buy a ticket! Buy yours and sell some to friends. Don't miss the chance for these once in 95 years prizes!

Click here to purchase now:

www.nykolami.org/95thGala



Friday, April 5, 2019

Criminal Justice Reform

with Sean Pica, Executive Director

Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison



Sean is one of Hudson Link's founding members and an alumni. Facing a 24-year sentence at the age of 16 when most young people his age were about to graduate high school, Sean entered the New York State correctional system. He decided to make the most of his time behind bars by becoming the first person in his family to earn a college degree.



Don't miss our last Synaplex Shabbat of this season!



Dinner catered by New China of Larchmont

Clip and return this dinner reservation form NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, March 27th
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 and Teens are FREE this year
thanks to a generous Synaplex donation!

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks out to: Congregation Kol Ami

****Please add \$5 additional per person after Wednesday, March 27th****

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

[Click here to reserve a spot at our last 2018-19 Synaplex Shabbat now!](#)



Clip and return to the Temple Office or RSVP online. No later than March 8th

Click here: https://congregationkolami.formstack.com/forms/pot_luck

ADULT NAME/S: _____

CHILDREN NAMES AND AGES: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

I will bring one of the following (fully prepared, ready to serve, in a disposable container, and nut free)

Main dish _____ enough to serve 8 or more

Side dish _____ enough to serve 8 or more

Dessert _____ enough to serve 8 or more

Wine (red or white) _____ 1 or 2 bottles

Too busy to cook? Enclosed is my check for \$18 per adult. Kids eat free.

TOTAL # OF ADULTS: _____ TOTAL # OF KIDS: _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Kol Ami Members Click Here!

CONGREGATION KOL AMI
December 22, 2019 - January 1, 2020

THE ISRAEL TRIP

DECEMBER 22, 2019 - JANUARY 1, 2020

FROM **\$3,349** LAND ONLY

HIGHLIGHTS

- A journey of inspiration, education and connection
- Experience Israel from ancient history to high-tech innovation
- Mazal tov! Pluralistic B'nai Mitzvah ceremony at the Western Wall
- Explore the diversity, challenges and triumphs of the nation
- From the holiness of Jerusalem to floating in the Dead Sea: authentic Israel
- Pre-trip encounters: feel the energy of Tel Aviv, see the beauty of the North
- Jeeps, camels, digging for roots: a family and community adventure
- Option for extra days enjoying Tel Aviv
- An Israeli Hanukkah to remember: superb tour educators, service & logistics



telling the story of Israel and the Jewish World.



TOLL FREE **888-811-2812** | Search on **arzaworld.com** for more details



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

March 13th: in Westchester with Rabbi Shira Milgrom
at the home of Elizabeth and Andrew Ward, 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.

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 7PM at CONGREGATION KOL AMI

Dear Friends,

We have very exciting news!

The planning team of the newly formed RAC-NY, (Religious Action Center-NY) based on conversations and stories from over 130 leaders from 35 Reform communities across the state, has suggested that as our first campaign we support the **GREEN LIGHT NY** initiative: drivers' licenses for ALL New Yorkers.

SO WHAT CAN WE DO NEXT?

It is important that we educate ourselves & our communities about RAC-NY and this issue.

We are fortunate to know several elected officials at the New York State level who represent our community and support this legislation. Together we can learn, strategize, and creatively think about how to make NEW YORK a more just place to live.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO LISTEN, LEARN & ACT!

NYS Assemblyman David Buchwald and a staff member from the office of NYS Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer will be coming to Congregation Kol Ami to speak to us regarding the GREEN LIGHT NY initiative; a bill that would provide driver's licenses to undocumented residents of New York State. Mr. Buchwald and Ms. Mayer are among the co-sponsors of this bill.



GREEN LIGHT NY: Driving Together

The mission of *Green Light NY: Driving Together* is to ensure equal access to driver's licenses for all residents of New York State, regardless of immigration status. Our coalition brings together immigrant communities, advocates, allies, and other stakeholders throughout the state to coordinate a unified driver's license campaign.

PROGRAM HOSTED BY
CONGREGATION KOL AMI **BE THE LIGHT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**



24th ANNUAL
JULIAN Y. BERNSTEIN
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARDS CEREMONY

Tuesday, March 19, 2019
13 Adar II 5779
7:30pm

Temple Israel Center of White Plains
280 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains, NY 10605

Westchester Jewish Council
proudly invites you
as we honor the
Jewish community's
outstanding volunteers

Including two Kol Ami Congregants Pam Millian and Rachel Freedman



FREE ADMISSION

ALL WELCOME

KOSHER DAIRY DESSERT

COACHMAN CORNER

On Sunday February 10th Kol Ami hosted 25 children from the Coachman Family Center for a fun-filled party. Our sponsors were Allison, Mitch, Cooper and Mason Danzig. We kicked off some Valentine's themed festivities with our children joining forces with the Coachman kids to decorate beautiful cards and picture frames. Everyone then had a choice of participating in sports and games with Dillon from Backyard Sports Cares or in yoga with Diana and Jessica from Topsy Turvi Yogi. The kids enjoyed a new spin on yoga as they partnered up with their Kol Ami friends in poses that represented themes of friendship and togetherness.

After burning off all that energy, the kids feasted on pizza and make your own sundaes. Each child left with a soft, cozy blanket donated by guests of Mason Danzig's Bar Mitzvah.



What Is Our Responsibility to Future Generations?

A Story from the Talmud.....

One day, Choni the Circle Maker was walking along his path, when he saw a man planting a carob tree. Curious, Choni asked the man, "This tree, how long will it take for it to bear fruit?"

The man responded dutifully and honestly, "Seventy years." Choni was appalled. Seventy years? That's a really long time for a tree to grow. Why would anyone plant a tree that wasn't even going to bear fruit in his lifetime? When Choni asked the planter this question, the man responded, "My grandparents planted a carob tree so that I would be able to reap its fruit. Now I shall do the same for my grandchildren."

Choni, perplexed by the man's perspective on the future, did what anyone would do after such a confusing conversation: He sat down for a nice meal and then settled in for a quick nap. His "quick nap," however, morphed into a 70-year deep sleep. When he woke up, he saw a young man plucking fruit from a fully grown carob tree. Rubbing his eyes, he sauntered over to the man. "Hey," he said. "did you plant this tree?"

The man shook his head. "My grandfather planted it for me, knowing that 70 years later, it would be something I could cherish and use."

Choni's story not only teaches us that we have a responsibility to make the world as good a place as we can while we are alive, but also that it is our responsibility to plant carob trees: to grow them and take care of them for the generations to come. The story instills in the Jewish people the importance of having respect and compassion for the people who will be the future.

Please consider making a provision for Kol Ami in your estate plans so that in 70 years our grandchildren will know that we were caring for them.

For more information please contact
Judi Brown gojustjudi@gmail.com
Evelyne Kline aspencup@aol.com

Religious School Fundraiser

Pancakes & Pajamas



Kol Ami Religious School Families
Sunday, March 10, 2019
8:30am

Pancakes.....

Come to Religious School early for a PANCAKE BREAKFAST! \$10 per family
Includes all the pancakes you can eat with assorted toppings and drinks.

Pajamas.....

Its Pajama Day at Religious School! Wear YOUR pajamas and bring a NEW pair of children's pajamas (size newborn to teen) to donate to Kids Kloset

Proceeds from the
breakfast go to support
our Religious School





Congregation Kol Ami
Invites All Families with Young Children To
Our Spring Shabbat Family Dinner
On Friday Evening, March 29th

Dance With
Shmulik

Shmulik created more than 400 folk dances, including some of your favorites:
Mishamayim, Bakapayim, Na'ale, Lakum Vela'amod, and more!



Shabbat in the Woods
Service at 5:30pm

Family Friendly Dairy
Dinner at
6:00pm

Enjoy Dancing
with Shmulik
6:30pm

Help Us Welcome Shabbat As One Community

Family Name _____

Number of Adults____ Number of Children ____

Please RSVP by March 22nd and let us know if you'll be coming
Nanblank@nykolami.org or 914-949-4717 x 107

WE POINT WITH PRIDE TO...



Rachel Levine, Lindsay Kaufman, and Eliana Zitrin took First Place in the February Survival Klondike Challenge! They prepared for about 6 months and beat out 10 other teams from 9th-12th grade!




Kol Ami Congregant and Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer, is being honored by the YWCA of Yonkers at their annual "Spirit of a Woman" Awards Dinner. Shelley is receiving the Leadership Award that evening.



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
yonkers

**YWCA IS ON
A MISSION**



Spirit of a Woman

*YWCA Yonkers cordially invites you to the
Spirit of a Woman Awards Dinner*

Thursday, March 21, 2019
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
The Riverview
One Warburton Avenue, Yonkers, NY

Contact: Juan Rogers or Meghan Martin at 914.963.0640 x141
to reserve tickets at \$75 per seat

Mary Calvi
"Keynote Speaker"

2019 Spirit of a Woman Honorees

Dr. Belinda Miles Trailblazer Award	Joan King Entrepreneur Empowerment Award	Kate Washiton Pacesetter Award
Senator Shelley Mayer Leadership Award	Pastor Hazel A. Perry Inspiration Award	Hazel Alexander-Campbell Champion Award

THE SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP AT KOL AMI

Passover begins Friday night, April 19th

Visit the Judaica Shop for a large selection of Passover items and hostess gifts.

As it gets closer to Passover we will be open almost everyday. We have Matzoh and Seder Plates, acrylic matzoh keepers, finger plague puppets, flipping frogs, kids games, matzoh covers, servers, platters and Afikomen bags. Gift bags for the kids too.



Support the Kol Ami Religious School Annual Passover Candy Sale

Order form deadline is Sunday, March 3rd

Online order deadline is Thursday, March 7th

This packet contains everything your child will need to participate in this year's Passover Candy Sale. This sale is a very important fundraiser for the Religious School and helps fund projects and programs for all of our children throughout the year.

To use the order form:

- Fill it out the order form, following the instructions on the right side of the form
- Tear off the top two copies of the form and keep the bottom third copy for your records
- Make **checks payable to Congregation Kol Ami** (Please do not hand in cash)
- Return the top two forms along with the check(s) to the Religious School Office no later than **Sunday, March 3, 2019**
(You can also place completed forms and checks in the Parent Network mailbox in the Main Office.)

To order online:

- First, you must create a student ID to provide to any friends or family members that want to place orders online
- To receive a student ID (you cannot use one from a previous year),
 1. Go to www.misschocolate.com
 2. Click tab for online store
 3. Then click tab for student sign-up (red tab on left)
 4. Enter school code **701121**
 5. You will be given a student ID. You can follow the instructions on the website to share this ID with friends and family, or you can send this number to them personally.
- Once shoppers have your student ID,
 1. Go to www.misschocolate.com
 2. Click tab for online store
 3. Then click link for customer-guest sign in
 4. Follow instructions
 5. At the "checkout page" you will be asked to enter the student ID
- Online orders must be placed by **Thursday, March 7, 2019**

Questions? Please contact Sara Elkin at religiousschoolparents@nykolami.org

No order is too small! Every individual order helps!

Thank you in advance for your help and support,
Sara Elkin
Religious School Parent Network



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: March 19th

Sundays 11:00am-1:00pm

To sign on or ask questions, please contact:
Nancy Marcus at larrymarcus@aol.com

Next meeting: March 10th

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, Mar 27th at 2:30 PM

The Bristol

305 North Street

White Plains, NY

AFYA and Kol Ami

Our work down at the warehouse continues on December 12th, 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:

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

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.



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!

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 • 914-949-4717x107

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

Please
note the
date
change!

Monday, February 11, 2019

7:30-9:30pm Chapel in the Woods

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: Monday, February 11, 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



Kol Ami's Night at the Movies

Monday, March 4th at 7:00pm



The film will be:
"The Zookeeper's Wife"

The time is 1939 and the place is Poland, homeland of Antonina Zabinski and her husband, Dr. Jan Zabinski. The Warsaw Zoo flourishes under Jan's stewardship and Antonina's care. When their country is invaded by the Nazis, Jan and Antonina are forced to report to the Reich's newly appointed chief zoologist, Lutz Heck. The Zabinskis covertly begin working with the Resistance and put into action plans to save the lives of hundreds from what has become the Warsaw Ghetto.

FREE ADMISSION AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Adult Education

Gather and Study

Mussar Classes

This workshop will introduce Mussar practice through tikkun middot (repairing ourselves from the inside out), so that we can act with greater compassion, kindness, and love in our homes, friendships, and work.

Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS. Please contact Rabbi Wax at pwax@wjcs.com or 914-761-0600 x. 149 to register.

Mondays 12:30-2:00pm, next meeting on March 11th
Fee for Kol Ami Members: \$72 Fee for Non-Members \$100

Women in Transition

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

Please join us in an interactive discussion group.

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

If you are interested in joining the group

please contact Sheila Sturmer at

sturmersheila@gmail.com or 914-391-1227

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month 11:30am-1:00pm,
next meeting on March 12th

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 Tuesday, April 2nd 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 March 7th

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 March 7th

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 March 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 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 March 5th*

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 March 11th*

Kol Ami Book Club

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

*Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9:15am in Room 20
next meeting on March 6th*

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 March 11th*

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 March 7th*

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 March 4th*

Rabbi Shira's Poetry Salon

Gather in the home of Rabbi Shira Milgrom for Modern Hebrew Poetry in Translation

Meets the next meeting on March 4th

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 March 4th

Mah Jongg Wednesdays

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

Life Cycles

Congratulations

- ✧ To Rhoda and Ted Adler on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Violet Lamprou

Condolences

- ✧ To Frances Harris and family on the death of her husband, Martin Harris
- ✧ To Nancy Stuzin and family on the death of her father, Robert Henken
- ✧ To Jean deBeer Pollak and family on the death of her husband, Henry Pollak
- ✧ To Bill Pollak and family on the death of his father, Henry Pollak
- ✧ To Jamie Banker and family on the death of her grandfather, Harvey Shulman
- ✧ To Judi Brown and family, on the death of her aunt, Corinne Coe
- ✧ To Eric and Bonnie Eilen on the death of their niece, Ava Reisman

In Memorium

- ✧ Martin Harris
- ✧ Henry Pollak

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In honor of the baby naming of Vera Klein, from Justin and Polly Klein
- ✧ In honor of their celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary, from Ellen and Paul Lemberg
- ✧ To help others attend the AIPAC Conference, from Susan and Ken Gordon
- ✧ To support students attend the AIPAC Conference, from Ron and Carole Ries
- ✧ In memory of her father, Martin Harris, from Charles and Susan Silberman
- ✧ In memory of her husband, Robert Henken, from Marion Henken
- ✧ In honor of Cameron's Bar Mitzvah, from Kevin Kopczynski and Amy Freedman

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ To support teen trips to Israel, from Jeff Rothschild
- ✧ In support of your programs and trip to Religious Action Center in DC, from Nancy Merahn
- ✧ In memory of his mother, Martha Barotz, from Nathan Barotz

Cantor David Rosen's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In honor of Cameron's Bar Mitzvah, from Kevin Kopczynski and Amy Freedman
- ✧ In appreciation for the wonderful high school trip to Israel, from Audrey Prashker and Alec Clarke

Generous Contributions

Petschek Music Fund

✧ In appreciation, from Philip and Nina Blumenfeld

Adult Education Fund

✧ In loving memory of her mother, Toby Klein, from Marjorie Bruckman

Barbara Gruber Scholarship Fund

✧ In recognition of Larry Rogowsky, son of Mimi and Stan Rogowsky, on producing the show “The Other Josh Cohen” at the Westside Theater, from Stephanie Levine

Synaplex Circle Fund

✧ In appreciation, from Philip and Nina Blumenfeld

Fund for the Needy

✧ In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of David Allen, grandson of Susan and Paul Davis, from Janet and Mark Hershey

The Kol Ami Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of her husband, John Hein and her teacher, Ruth Denison from Jane Hein
- ✧ In loving memory of Edward Winnick, from Stacey and Robert Pushkin
- ✧ In loving memory of Esther Pushkin, from Robert and Stacey Pushkin
- ✧ In loving memory of Martin Harris, husband of Frances Harris, from Mrs. Normen J. Merksamer
- ✧ In loving memory of Martin Harris, from all the employees of S. Parker Hardware Mfg. Corp.
- ✧ In honor of Roger Seti, and his “Night at the Movies” series, from Susan and Ken Gordon
- ✧ In appreciation of the support and comfort given to his family from the Kol Ami Community following the death of his mother, Martha Barotz, from Nathan Barotz and family
- ✧ In loving memory of Martha Barotz, mother of Nathan Barotz, from the, “Mah Jongg Ladies”

Refugee Resettlement Fund

✧ In loving memory of Professor Stephen Winter, father of Karen Reynolds from Bettina Winter

Youth Leadership Fund

✧ In honor of Idan Santhaus and a wonderful high school trip to Israel, from Audrey Prashker and Alec Clarke

Thank You

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.



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 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



**BOTTLE
GROVE**



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

WWW.BOTTLEGROVE.COM

914-468-6777 • 46 GEDNEY WAY

WWW.BRIGHTENERGYSERVICES.COM 347.470.7090 WWW.ATLANTICWESTCHESTER.COM 914.666.2268

the face of
ENERGY SOLUTIONS



ATLANTIC WESTCHESTER / BRIGHT ENERGY SERVICES

Don't leave money on the table. We'll give it back to you with our creative Energy Solutions. Whether you realize it or not, you're probably leaving money on the table every single day your business operates. We are one of the area's leading commercial energy efficiency solutions providers. Through evaluation of your energy utilization and infrastructure, we recommend and implement a strategic and comprehensive solution to immediately save money against your energy expenses. Whether it's HVAC, LED Lighting, Building Controls, Solar and other Renewables, Commissioning, Electric and Gas Procurement, Sub-Metering, Energy Bill Analysis, Energy Code and Local Law Compliance, LEED and Energy Star Certification, or securing the financial incentives available through the utilities and government, we can make your facility smarter, so you can make the most of your money.



Union for Reform Judaism Camps of the Northeast

EISNER • CRANE LAKE

6 POINTS SCI-TECH

camper-selected activities • eisnercamp.org



cabin-centered activities • cranelakecamp.org



hands-on science & tech • 6pointsscitech.org

**Visit our websites to learn more,
sign up for a tour, and register!**

201.722.0400

Three Great Camps

A Summer that Lasts a Lifetime

FAITH and FAMILY are our GUIDING VALUES



Top row, L to R: Ray Vardies, Matthew J. Florio, Joshua Latta,
Front row, L to R: Sierra Trano, Megan Davis, Vanessa Day, Luke

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

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

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

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

—Matthew J. Florio,
Owner & Funeral Director



www.BallardDurand.com
Matthew J. Florio, CFPP • Owner/General Director

Ask about our
Cremation
WITH
CONFIDENCE
GUARANTEE

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

Elmsford | 72 East Main Street | (914) 292-6300

©2018 Ball-Durand

Support your friends and family when they need it most.

Caring Organizer

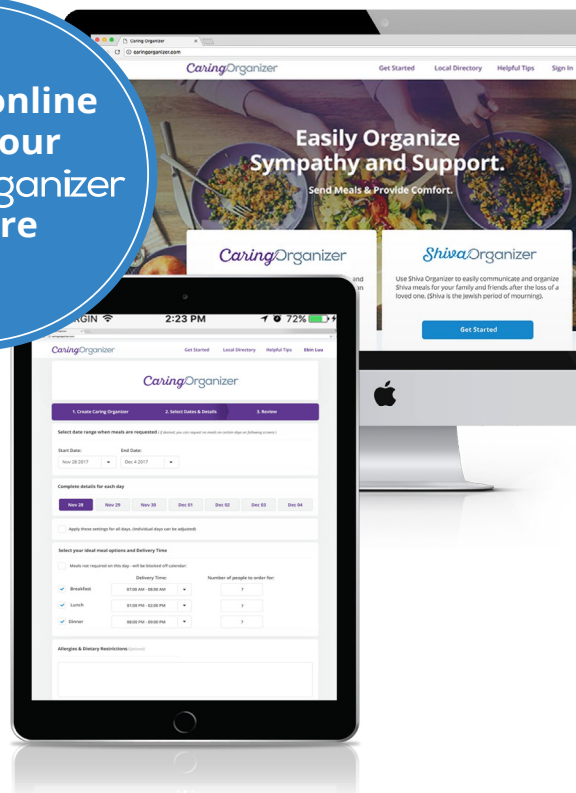


Caring Organizer is a new FREE online resource tool for organizing meals and providing support to families when someone is ill or has passed away.

Use Caring Organizer to:

- Easily organize a meal schedule after a death or illness with our Interactive Calendar
- Find catering, florists, and other services in Our Local Directory
- Communicate the details and the support needs of the family quickly & efficiently

Visit us online
to see our
Shiva Organizer
feature



Organize support at **caringorganizer.com**

Be kind. Be meaningful. Take care of your community.

Shiva Organizer

