



THE CONNECTION

October 2019

**ON
ROSH
HASHANAH
IT IS
WRITTEN...**

**ON
YOM
KIPPUR
IT IS
SEALED.**

Congregation Kol Ami
1923-2019 96 Years
252 Soundview Avenue White Plains, NY 10606

The Connection Magazine is moving...

...to a quarterly magazine instead of monthly!!

The same great place to get all your Congregation Kol Ami information, now condensed into four seasonal editions.

We are skipping the November issue to get ready!! Check your email for this new edition of The Connection Magazine starting December 1st.





CONGREGATION KOL AMI

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

A REFORM SYNAGOGUE

252 Soundview Avenue ☆ White Plains, New York

914.949.4717 ☆ www.nykolami.org

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

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Rabbi Shira Milgrom & Rabbi Tom Weiner

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Executive Director ☆ Jess Lorden

Assistant Executive Director ☆ Emily Campbell

ECP Director ☆ Nan Blank

Religious School Director ☆ Pam Pass

Director of Youth Engagement ☆ Barak Stockler

Co-Presidents ☆ Scott Musoff & Susan Kohn Arovas

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Maurice Davis ∞

Mark L. Winer

CANTOR EMERITUS

Raymond Smolover ∞

∞ of blessed memory

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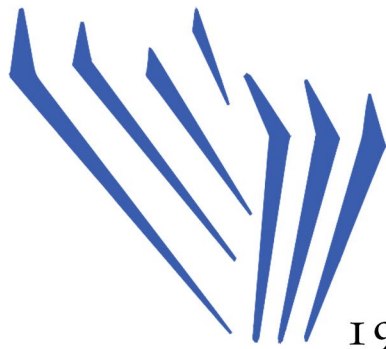
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1923-2019 • 96 YEARS

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

Celebrating our past, living our present, imagining our future

**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.**

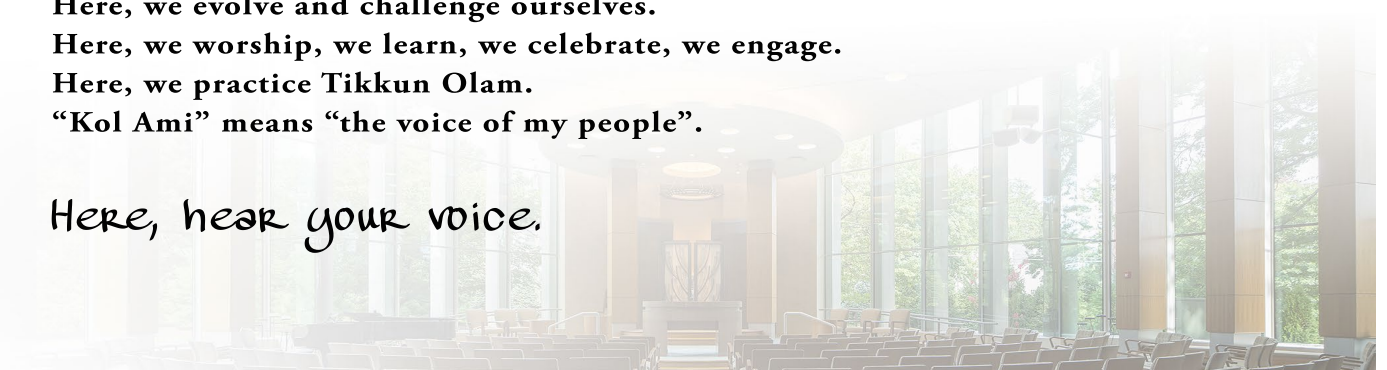
Here, we evolve and challenge ourselves.

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.



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!



Shabbat Sheli

Fridays at 5:30pm
for 5-9 year olds

featuring Family Yoga
with Jen Benalt
(parents are welcome too!)

6:00pm Crafts, Light Supper
and Babysitting

Worship Opportunities

Shabbat

“The Original Un-plug”

Before family vacations, and get-away weekends,
there was Shabbat.

Before therapy, crisis intervention, and stress management,
there was Shabbat.

Before television, cell phones, the gym, and the internet
there was Shabbat.

Before late night hockey games, play dates, and date nights,
there was Shabbat.

Time set aside for rest
and quiet, for joy, and
for family and friends.
A deep breathe at the
end of a hectic week.

**Shabbat offers each of
us the gift of a fresh
perspective with which
to view our lives,
our world,
and ourselves.**

Join us for our many Friday Shabbat
opportunities at Congregation Kol Ami

5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods

5:30pm Shabbat Sheli

6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services

6:15-7:15pm Childcare and Crafts

11:00am Saturday Morning Lift

Monthly Special Synaplex Shabbats
including Guest Speakers, Catered Dinner,
and Children &
Teen Programming



Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains NY 10606
www.nykolami.org 914-949-4717

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

October

Week ending October 5, 2019

(Shabbat Shuvah) Parashat Vayeilech Deuteronomy 31:1-30
Since God has prohibited Moses from entering the land God has promised to the Israelites, Moses prepares the people for his death and tells them that Joshua will succeed him as their leader. This parasha continues by assuring the Israelites that they will be successful in re-conquering the Land of Israel and that God “will not fail you or forsake you.”

Week ending October 12, 2019

Parashat Ha'azinu Deuteronomy 32:1-52

Ha'azinu is known as a shir - a song or poem. This parasha reiterates the agreements made between the Children of Israel and God. It reminds the people of the things God gave them in the wilderness, of the things that happened to them when they disobeyed God, and that God wants to protect them even though they do transgress. The message warns and instructs, while at the same time it gives hope as the people are about to enter into “The Land” under the new leadership of Joshua.

Week ending October 19, 2019

(Shabbat Hol Hamoed Sukkot)

Parashat Ki Tisa Exodus 33:12-34:26

On the Shabbat during Sukkot, we are reminded of the age-old desire to know God. Moses implores God to let him see God. While God will not allow Moses to see God's face, God tells Moses, “I will make My goodness pass before you...” The Torah then sets forth the thirteen attributes of God, among them that God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in kindness.

Week ending October 26, 2019

Parashat B'reishit Genesis 1:1-6:8

B'reishit, our first parashah in the Torah cycle, begins with the creation of the world. God creates the world in seven days, concluding with the first Shabbat. In a second version of the creation story, Adam is created from the dust of the earth rather than as a result of a divine breath. Adam and Eve are expelled from the Garden of Eden for eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Their son Cain kills his brother Abel. Adam and Eve have another son named Seth, from whom Noah descends.

November

Week ending November 2, 2019

Parashat Noach Genesis 6:9-11:32 *In this parashah God expresses disappointment with human corruption and decides to destroy all life on earth in a flood. God finds favor in Noah's character and spares his family. God commands Noah to build an ark for himself, his family, and the pairs of animals who will join Noah and his family on the ark. A rainbow symbolizes the first covenant between God and the people.*

Week ending November 9, 2019

Parashat Lech L'cha Genesis 12:1-17:27 *The story of our ancestors begins in earnest in Lech L'cha. Abram is promised he will be the father of a great multitude if he follows God's call. Abram and Sarai leave their home in Haran for Canaan, along with Abram's nephew Lot. As a sign of God's covenant, Abram and Sarai receive new names, Abraham and Sarah. When it seems Sarah is unable to conceive a child, Sarah gives her handmaid, Hagar, to Abraham to bear a son for him. Then, sensing Hagar's arrogance at becoming pregnant, Sarah asks Abraham to send Hagar away. Abraham is ninety-nine years of age when God promises him (and Sarah) a son of their own. It is through this son, Isaac, that the covenant will be fulfilled.*

Week ending November 16, 2019

Parashat Vayera Genesis 18:1-22:24 *Parashat Vayera opens with Abraham receiving a visit from messengers who bring predictions of Isaac's birth. When God threatens to destroy the settlements of Sodom and Gomorrah because of the wicked behaviors occurring there, Abraham stands up to God to protest that annihilation. This parashah also includes the long-awaited birth of Sarah's and Abraham's son, Isaac. The final scene in this parashah tells the story of the “Binding of Isaac” where God tests Abraham, instructing him to sacrifice his son Isaac.*

Week ending November 23, 2019

Parashat Chayei Sarah Genesis 23:1-25:18

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

Week ending November 30, 2019

Parashat Toldot Genesis 25:19-28:9

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

October Calendar

Weekly Events (unless otherwise noted)

Mondays:	12 Step Recovery Group in the Chapel (6:00pm)	Fridays:	Shabbat in the Woods and Shabbat Sheli (5:30pm) Kabbalat Shabbat Services in the Main Sanctuary (6:15pm)
Tuesdays:	AA Meeting in the Chapel (5:45pm)	Saturdays:	Lift Your Shabbat Morning in the Chapel (9:00-12:00pm)
Wednesdays:	Mah Jongg (10:00-2:00pm) Religious School and Youth Dinner (4:00-8:30pm)	Sundays:	Religious School (9:00-11:00am)
Thursdays:	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel (9:30am) AA Meeting (5:45pm) Al-Anon Meeting (7:30pm)		

Tuesday, October 1

Second Day of Rosh Hashanah

Offices and ECP Closed

10:00-12:00pm	Second Day Rosh Hashanah Service
12:00-1:00pm	Rosh Hashanah Luncheon

Wednesday, October 2

9:00-10:30am	KA Reads Cook Club
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Thursday, October 3

9:30-11:00am	Jewish Meditation in the Chapel
12:00-2:00pm	Parenting Teens Workshop
5:00-8:00pm	ECP Open House/Parent-Teacher Evening

Sunday, October 6

8:00-2:00pm	6th Grade Lower East Side Tenement Museum Trip
9:00-4:00pm	Family Photo Day (<i>reservations req.</i>)

Monday, October 7

9:15-10:45am	Grandparenting Group
7:00-10:00pm	Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery

Tuesday, October 8

Erev Yom Kippur: (see page 11 for additional details)

Wednesday, October 9

Yom Kippur: Offices, ECP, and Religious School Closed

(see page 11 for additional details)

Saturday, October 12

10:30am	B'nai Mitzvah for Brooke Goldstein and Jess Arrick
12:30-2:30pm	Sisterhood Sukkah Decorating & Potluck Lunch
5:30pm	B'nai Mitzvah for Nathan and Zoe Moskowitz

Sunday, October 13

Erev Sukkot

9:00-1:00pm	Sukkot Festival
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Monday, October 14

Columbus Day: Building and Offices Closed

10:00-11:30am	Sukkot Services in the Chapel
11:30-12:30pm	Sukkot Oneg in the Sukkah
6:00-7:30pm	ECP Sukkot Dinner and Crafts in Sukkah

Tuesday, October 14

8:00-9:30pm	Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira
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Thursday, October 17

6:00-10:00pm	ECP S'mores in the Sukkah Parent Evening
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Saturday, October 19

10:30am	B'nai Mitzvah for Samantha Kofman and Talia Tirschwell
5:30pm	B'nai Mitzvah for Ethan and Zachary Ivler

Sunday, October 20

Erev Simchat Torah

11:00-11:30am	Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen
11:00-1:00pm	Cooking for the Homeless
6:15-9:15pm	Erev Simchat Torah Service and Community Celebration

Monday, October 21

Simchat Torah: Building and Offices Closed

10:00-12:00pm	Simchat Torah and Yizkor Service
12:00-1:00pm	Congregational Oneg

Thursday, October 24

11:00-2:00pm	Wise Aging
11:00-12:00pm	Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
7:30-8:45pm	Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, October 26

10:30am	Bat Mitzvah for Charlotte Raff
5:30pm	Bar Mitzvah Ryan Siglag

Sunday, October 27

9:00-11:00am	Religious School Open House
11:00-11:30am	Or Chadash Choir with Cantor David Rosen
12:00-7:00pm	Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament

Monday, October 28

12:30-2:00pm	Mussar Class
7:00-9:00pm	Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery
7:30-9:30pm	Reality: Science, Religion, or Both? with Paul Davis

Tuesday, October 29

7:30-9:30pm	Israel in the News
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Thursday, October 31

11:00-2:00pm	Wise Aging
11:00-12:00pm	Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner



Yom Kippur Eve (Kol Nidre)

Tuesday, October 8th

Early Service 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Late Service 9:00pm - 11:00pm

Please Note: For the Kol Nidre Services, the sanctuary doors will be closed promptly at 6:00pm and at 9:00pm and will not re-open until the cello solo is completed.

Yom Kippur Day

Wednesday, October 9th

Early Service	8:45am - 11:30am
Grades K-6: Early Service	8:45am - 11:30am
Late Service	12:15pm - 3:00pm
Grades K-6: Late Service	12:15pm - 3:00pm
Afternoon Service (Chapel)	3:15pm - 4:30pm
Family Service	3:30pm - 4:15pm
Memorial & Neilah Service	5:00pm - 7:00pm
Community Break Fast	7:00pm

Click [here](#) for prayers for the evening of Yom Kippur

A Message from Rabbi Weiner



When Less Can Be Even Better

A number of years ago I was sitting with Scott and Adrienne Pollak in their back yard. I found myself huddled in a corner with an old friend of theirs who was a very successful architect. He told me a story that made quite an impression and has stayed with me.

“You know,” he said, “a couple of years ago I was asked to visit a client in New Jersey. They had a large beautiful home and were interested in adding an additional 2000 square feet. They had two young sons and thought they would enjoy extra space for their growing lives.”

“So I interviewed the family about the way they used their already generous square footage. And they told me how their family loves to sit around the kitchen table in the evening at homework time. Then they either go to the small den off the kitchen to watch TV or they all huddle together in the master bedroom for nighttime TV and conversation.”

“At the end of a very full interview I said to them, ‘you know my personal and professional recommendation is that you don’t add the additional 2000 square feet. As a matter of fact I’d recommend that you remove 2000 square feet from what you already have.’” Very wise words. (And clearly he was successful enough to talk himself out of a new client!)

What great ancient wisdom he touched upon. So many of us, to one degree or another, are finding that we have to make such adjustments in our lives. And though we may end up with fewer of some things than we have been accustomed to; less of others; smaller versions of the things we drive and even the places we live, we might do well to take the advice of that architect and to look at the opportunities for enriching our lives when some things may become smaller, fewer or less frequent. All of these changes can create opportunity for more family time, a refreshing simplicity to daily life, and perhaps even an increase in the warmth, connections and emotional intimacies with our families and our friends.

None of this is meant to sugarcoat the challenges that we may each face in the months or years to come. But, God willing, the things that are most precious to us cannot be taken away in a difficult economy – our health, and the people we love most in this world. May we all find more time to cherish what truly deserves to be cherished and if need be, to gracefully let go of those things that we can do without.

Rabbi Tom Weiner

A Message from our Co-President at Rosh Hashanah Services



It is an absolute privilege to stand here today, to welcome and worship with you, and to have the opportunity to share my thoughts. My Co-President Scott Musoff and I both are grateful beyond words to be offered this privilege and to have been entrusted by you with the responsibilities of the Kol Ami presidency for a third year.

There are great benefits to having experience in a position. Experience can result in greater understanding of one's responsibilities and community, leading to more effective leadership. On the flip side, experience and familiarity can lead to complacency and general acceptance of the way things are, instead of the way things should or can be.

Scott and I do not plan on flipping the autopilot switch and sitting back to enjoy the ride. You, our Kol Ami community, have inspired and awed us, and we intend to pursue an ambitious agenda to see that Kol Ami continues to think and act creatively, meaningfully, and boldly in our pursuit of serving you our congregants, the Jewish community, and the world around us.

I have given great thought to what that means in practice and what principles should guide us. In some ways, engaging in this level of reflection is a gift. As I am sure you can understand, addressing everyday needs alone can take up all waking hours, so I am particularly grateful when inspiration strikes unexpectedly.

Like late in the summer when I received a call from Rabbi Weiner. Our Trustee Installation service was approaching, and he reached out to propose something new: Would I be willing to read Torah? Would I be willing to read Torah? To me there is no greater honor, and I said yes before Rabbi Weiner had the chance to provide any details.

You see, I did not grow up with a conscious connection to Torah. Girls were not permitted to read Torah at my synagogue at the time I was a student, and though I learned the stories of our foremothers and fathers, Torah study was not a core component of my religious education.

My connection to Torah really started when I joined Kol Ami. I will never forget when our daughter Talia was named. Rabbi Milgrom called our family to the Bimah, and I watched in awe as she drew 6-year-old Alex and 3-year-old Gabriella to the Torah, inviting them to see the beautiful handwritten words, and pointing out that the root of Talia's name, "Tal" appeared in the day's parsha.

Kol Ami meaningfully connected me again to Torah a few years later as I prepared for Passover. My family was traveling to the Bahamas for the wedding of one of my husband's closest friends from college. As much as we looked forward to the trip, our family's first out of the country, as I stood in the Religious School office to offer holiday greetings, I lamented that my family would not have the chance to have a proper Passover Seder. The response I received surprised me: Susan — You are lucky, you get to celebrate by the sea, like Miriam. So, along with swimsuits and sunscreen, packed in our bags were a Seder plate, haggadot, and tambourines. Our hotel set up a table at the water's edge, and at the point in the Passover story of Miriam's Song of the Sea, memorialized in Exodus, our own 5-year-old Miriam led us in song, tambourines in hand, as our bare feet splashed in blue water.

It wasn't long before Kol Ami connected me most directly to Torah. As Alex prepared to become a Bar Mitzvah, he and I decided we would learn to chant Torah, together. We learned trope, the symbols and notes that connect us to our ancestors. And on a beautiful day four years ago, both he and I chanted Torah for the very first time, right here on this Bimah.

So with this backdrop, it should come as no surprise that when I received Rabbi Weiner's invitation to chant Torah at our Installation, I said yes, no questions asked. When I got the details - when I received a copy of the parsha and the lines I would be chanting - I quickly saw that they included these three words: *Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof*. Three words that may be familiar to you, three words I knew held incredible power: *Justice, Justice You Shall Pursue*.

Countless pages of commentary have been dedicated to these three words. They form a cornerstone of our belief system — that justice, that doing what is right and just, is paramount.

So, as I prepared to chant Torah the following Shabbat, I felt the immense weight of these three short words. It was a weight that almost crushed me.

As I entered this sanctuary the evening of the Installation, I had what I can only describe as jitters. Ridiculously crazy jitters. Somehow on my way into the building, I forgot the trope; I forgot the vowels; I forgot my yad in the car. It's true — there were witnesses. Somehow, as I was called to the Torah, as I walked down the aisle from my seat to this Bimah thinking, I'm not really sure how this is going to turn out — I managed to pull it together. It was not the most beautifully chanted Torah by any means, but I assure you it was meaningfully chanted. With great pride and with great humility I exclaimed, *Tzedek Tzedek Tirdof*.

It was through that experience that I recognized the guiding principle for our work at Kol Ami. *Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof*. What is just? What is righteous? As a synagogue community, I believe we are obligated to engage in more than prudent decision-making. Our actions must be fair; they must be just; they must be righteous; and they must be compassionate.

And just as our decisions are guided by Torah, so, too, are our practices. Through our acts of righteousness and compassion, we live Torah. We are living Torah:

When we welcome and support our fellow members through times of joy and of hardship;
When we worship together each Shabbat and holiday;
When we teach our children our history, our customs, our values;
When we set priorities and make business decisions in the best interest of our congregation;
When we pursue justice for ourselves and others, as our Be the Light social justice task-force has done so passionately and effectively;
And when we protect our environment and conserve our resources, actions our Green Team has taken and will continue to take in earnest.

So I stand here today and invite you to be part of our connection to Torah: Join us at services. Join us in our efforts to support each other. Join us in teaching our children. Join us in study. Join us in celebration through music and song. Join us as decision-makers in the Board Room. Join us in our efforts to protect and improve our world.

And join us in creating our new Torah. Julie Seltzer, our Torah Scribe, is with us today, and I invite and encourage you all to meet her after services. You soon will receive detailed information about how you can participate in our Torah project, *Torat Chayim*, Living Torah — through adult and youth learning sessions with Julie, at evenings of cocktails and learning at congregants' homes, and through donation and dedication opportunities ranging from letters to parshas to stories to books. There is a role for each and every one of us in the Torah project, and I hope you find a meaningful way to participate and contribute to its creation and its funding.

We are blessed to be able to live Torah each day. As you leave the sanctuary today, consider the ways in which you will live Torah this new year. Each of us can make an impact — on each other, on our communities, and on our world.

What will yours be? What will ours be?

L'Shalom, Susan Arovass

A Message from our Executive Director



Social justice is an essential component of Reform Judaism. Our passion for social justice is reflected in the words of Jewish leaders throughout our history. The ancient command “Tzedek, tzedek tirdof!” or “Justice, justice shall you pursue!” (Deuteronomy 16:20) has led the charge in a long tradition of political activism by Reform Judaism.

Just a few months ago, I joined more than 1,200 Reform Jews gathered in Washington, D.C., at the Religious Action Center’s Consultation on Conscience. The conference culminated in a moment of re-covenant with the Brit Olam. The Brit Olam was first launched by the Union for Reform Judaism in 2017 with the hope that congregations and communities across the Reform Movement would mobilize into action on key social justice issues all while building the capacity to engage in impactful social justice work. Congregation Kol Ami proudly signed the Brit Olam, launched programming, and provided opportunities to engage in activism regarding, immigration reform, criminal justice reform, and gun violence prevention. In addition, we actively participated in RAC New York projects requiring advocacy locally and in Albany.

In renewing our commitment to the Brit Olam this past summer, we have taken on the additional responsibility to engage in issue-based activities regarding climate change and reproductive justice.

I am so proud to update you on our efforts. Under the leadership of Bonnie Hagen, our Green Team has accepted the challenge of implementing additional environment-friendly initiatives. We have entered into a Con Ed Rebate program under which we will replace the lights in our parking lots with more energy efficient ones. In addition, we are investigating the installation of water bottle filling stations like those seen on college campuses to replace water fountains and plastic cups. Further, upon the urging of our Saturday Lift worshippers, we have eliminated juice-filled plastic cups for all Kiddush observances and plastic coffee cups and plastic utensils from our onegs. Further, we are investigating a group purchasing agreement with other Westchester-based temples for recycled and compostable products. More needs to be done, in particular in the area of recycling, but we are making progress. If you have suggestions for “green” initiatives and programs regarding climate change, please email Greenteam@nykolami.org.

I am thrilled to share that Gerri Sommers and Bonnie Eilen have agreed to co-chair our task force on reproductive justice. Planning is underway for a kick-off program on Friday, November 22nd.

As Reform Jews, we must continue to make a collective effort to bring our progressive values to bear in the community at large. We engage on issues of local, national and global concern. We participate in interfaith coalitions and activities. We speak out on behalf of the vulnerable. And we seek justice for all.

This is who we are! L'shana Tova! -Jess Lorden



A Message from our ECP Director

We're off and running in the ECP. Our classrooms are bustling, the children are laughing and our incredible and dedicated staff of 31 strong are smiling. This month we're cooking, painting, playing, dancing, praying and just having an all around great time.

Our Open School Night is slated for Thursday, October 3rd from 7:30-9:00. Parents will have the opportunity to spend an evening with their child's teachers touring the classrooms and learning about our curriculum and philosophy.

Our Family Photo Day is coming this month also! We still have one or two spaces left. We'll be here October 6th rain or shine with Picture So Perfect Studios. See our flyer in this month's Connection and sign up by calling the ECP office at 949-4717 x 107.

All families with young children are welcome to join our Sukkot in the Woods service on Monday, October 14th. We will be starting with a holiday service at 5:30 followed by holiday crafts and dinner in the Sukkah. We will be here rain or shine and hope you will be too!

On Thursday evening, October 17th ECP parents are invited to our Annual Fall get-together. This year we will be hosting a S'mores and Spirits evening in the Sukkah.

Please stop by the next time you are in our building and see what's happening here in the nursery school – there is much to be proud of!

Nan Blank

Building a Community of Friends, One Family at a Time

October ECP Dates:

- 10/1 School Closed for Rosh Hashanah
- 10/3 Parent Teacher Evening 7:30pm
- 10/6 Family Photo Day 9:00-4:00pm
- 10/9 School Closed for Yom Kippur
- 10/14 School closed for Sukkot/Columbus Day
- 10/14 Shabbat in the Woods Sukkot service and Crafts and dinner 5:30-7:00pm
- 10/17 S'mores and Spirits in the Sukkah for ECP Parents 7:45-9:30pm
- 10/21 School Closed for Simchat Torah

CONGREGATION KOL AMI ECP PARENT TEACHER EVENING



Enjoy an Informative Evening with Us!

- Meet with your new teachers and tour your child's classroom
- Learn about a day in the life of your preschooler
- Meet the parents of your child's friends
- Enjoy coffee and cake with friends

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, AT 7:30PM



CONGREGATION KOL AMI
early childhood program

building a community of friends one family at a time

A Message from our Religious School



Which is more important, study or action?

This may seem obvious but is it? What does Judaism say about this?

The Talmud teaches that the study of Torah is greater than all other commandments yet rabbinic tradition is obsessed with minute details of ritual and ethical behavior. A passage in Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Fathers) teaches “It is not the study that is essential, but rather the action.”

So which is it? How do we balance the two?

Rabbi Akiva answered that study is greater than action because study leads to action. Thus, we should prioritize the one that facilitates the other. This may lead to the question: If action is the ultimate goal, why not bypass study altogether?

When we study, it does more than lead us to action, it leads us through action. We study to find guidelines for what kind of action to take, in great detail while allowing room for much interpretation. For example, Torah commands us to “Never keep a worker’s wages overnight.” This defines our obligation to pay workers fairly and promptly as much as teaching us not to unfairly withhold forgiveness one extra day or keep something essential you borrowed one moment longer than you need to. The first understanding is simple; the latter two (and so many more!) only come through study.

If we only study and do not act, what is the point of studying? If we study too much, does it overwhelm and paralyze us? If we act without knowing what we should do, is it for naught?

Jewish tradition values study and action and sanctifies the connection between the two. Studying our traditional texts gives us a framework for understanding our obligations in the world. Studying our world makes those obligations urgent and immediate.

To paraphrase Rabbi Akiva: Study is greater because it leads to action – but only IF it leads to action.

May we all be inspired, especially in this new year, to study more, and to act more.

Pam Pass

~with gratitude to Aaron Dorfman, whose “My Jewish Learning” article directly informed this one

B'nai Mitzvah



Brooke Goldstein, daughter of Jonathan and Amy Goldstein, sister of Brett and Samantha Goldstein, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 12, 2019. She is a seventh grader at Scarsdale Middle School. Brooke traveled to Israel this summer with her family on a trip to celebrate this important milestone. For her Mitzvah project, Brooke has been working with Yes She Can Inc., a nonprofit organization that teaches and develops job skills for young women with autism. She has been collecting used American Girl dolls and accessories for resale at their Girl Again boutique in White Plains. Please contact her at abgold1@yahoo.com if you have any products to donate!

Jessica Arrick, daughter of Lisa and Gary Arrick and sister to Justin Arrick, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 12th, 2019. She is in 8th grade at Ardsley Middle School. Jessica attended sleep-away camp for her 3rd year at Chestnut Lake Camp and loves it. During the school year, she attends ballet classes three times a week and karate as well. Jess has been training in the martial arts since the age of four and is a black belt in goju karate. She also likes skiing and loves animals. For her Mitzvah project, which she started over a year ago, she has been making friendship bracelets and will be donating the money raised to the SPCA of Westchester. Jess is very excited to share her special day with her family and friends.



Nathan Moskowitz, son of Susie and Gary Moskowitz, and brother to Zoe and Lily, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 12, 2019. Nathan is in 7th grade at Ardsley Middle School. Nathan is an avid baseball player and Yankees fan. He also plays soccer and basketball, and loves to participate in fantasy sports leagues with his friends. For their mitzvah project, Nathan and his sister Zoe organized a school supply drive to benefit the Coachman Center. In addition, Nathan is a volunteer buddy in the Ardsley Challengers league - a sports program for kids with special needs. Nathan is excited to share his special day with family and friends.



Zoe Moskowitz, daughter of Susie and Gary Moskowitz, and sister to Lily and Nathan, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 12, 2019. Zoe is in 7th grade at Ardsley Middle School. Zoe is currently playing on the school soccer team and town softball team. She also loves basketball, gymnastics, and baking with her friends. For their mitzvah project, Zoe and her brother Nathan organized a school supply drive to benefit the Coachman Center. In addition, Zoe will be volunteering at Gigi's Playhouse, a center that provides programs for kids with Down's syndrome. She cannot wait to celebrate her special day with family and friends.

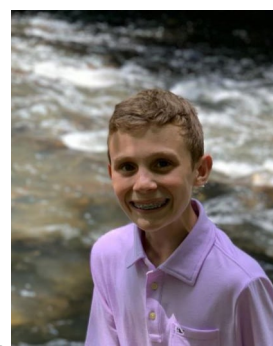
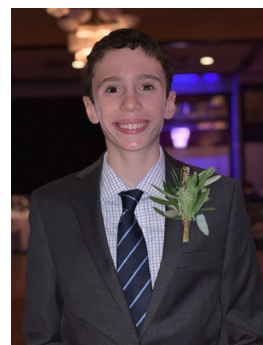
Sam Kofman, daughter of Kathleen and Jason, sister of Zoe and Nate, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 19th, 2019. Sam is an 8th grader at Scarsdale Middle School. Sam enjoys playing the clarinet in several ensembles and plays catcher in softball. She enjoys summers in Vermont at Camp Aloha. For her Mitzvah project, Sam is partnering with her grandfather to raise money and awareness for the Leukemia and Lymphoma society. Her grandfather was diagnosed with leukemia a few years ago, so this is a special cause for Sam. Sam is looking forward to sharing her Bat Mitzvah with family and friends.





Talia Tirschwell, daughter of Carmel Lowenthal and Eric Tirschwell, and sister to Oren and Noah Tirschwell, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 19, 2019. Talia is in eighth grade at Hackley middle school. Talia loves music and plays the viola. She also plays on her school soccer team. She enjoys reading and writing and loves animals. Talia will be starting her mitzvah project after becoming bat mitzvah and would like to find a volunteer opportunity related to protecting the earth and fighting climate change. Talia is very excited to become a bat mitzvah, and can't wait to share the special day with her friends and family.

Zachary and Ethan Ivler, sons of Alison and Neil Ivler are becoming a B'nai-Mitzvah on October 19, 2019. Zachary and Ethan are in 8th grade at Hommocks Middle School. Since 2013, both boys have played on a travel soccer team for the Larchmont Mamaroneck Football Club. Zachary enjoys skiing, reading and spending time with his dogs, Charlie and Cooper. He has always been passionate about photography and spends hours taking pictures and editing videos. Ethan enjoys skateboarding, skiing and building. He also enjoys spending time playing Xbox with friends. Every year, their family sponsors a birthday party at the Coachman Family Center in White Plains. Ethan and Zachary recognize the importance of giving back to the community and helping others. For their mitzvah project, both boys volunteer at The Bristal, an assisted living home for seniors. Ethan shares his love of music by playing his cello to the residents. Zachary brings Charlie and Cooper to participate in pet therapy. Ethan and Zachary have been hard at work preparing for their B'nai Mitzvah. They are excited to share in this special day with family and friends.



Charlotte Raff, is an eighth-grader at Scarsdale Middle School. She is the daughter of Kerry Blinder and Joshua Raff and the younger sister of Ellie Raff. In her spare time, Charlotte enjoys playing tennis and spending time with friends and family. She is an animal lover but doesn't have a pet, so for her Mitzvah project, she has been fostering kittens from the Westchester Humane Society. She feeds, bathes, and plays with them, and also cleans up after them. She has fostered seven kittens so far and plans to continue doing so even after her Bat Mitzvah. Charlotte is looking forward to celebrating her special day with friends and family.

Madelyn Lewis, is a 7th grader at Lous M. Klein Middle School in Harrison, and will become a Bat Mitzvah on November 2nd. She lives with her parents, Adam and Jenn Lewis, her 10 year old brother, Jack, and her two dogs, Harry and Rocky. Maddy's mitzvah project involves charity work for National Jewish Health in Denver, CO, one of the top respiratory hospitals in the country. Maddy found an interest in supporting National Jewish through her grandfather, a board member, who fundraises for the hospital. Additionally, Maddy has asthma, so she knows first hand what it's like to struggle with respiratory illness. She wants to help create hope and offer support to other children with respiratory conditions. Maddy is an avid travel soccer player, tennis player and all around super athlete. She is a very positive, kind, creative & hard-working person with boundless energy, who loves spending time with friends.



Reid Harry Baumgarten, son of Rachel and Evan Baumgarten and little brother to Emma is incredibly excited to be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 2nd. Reid is in the 8th grade at Edgemont Junior High School. If you know Reid you know that he is an avid gamer, loves tennis, his dog and any activity near the ocean. He is passionate about the humane treatment of animals. For his Mitzvah project, Reid will continue to volunteer at Paws Crossed Animal Rescue where he supports staff in caring for abused and abandoned cats and dogs. Reid has been working hard in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah and excited to lead the community in prayer on his big day.

B'nai Mitzvah



Ethan Peeples and his parents, Alison Hoffman and Robert Peeples, are very excited for Ethan to be making his Bar Mitzvah at the same temple where his mother was confirmed over 30 years ago. Ethan attends Highlands Middle School in White Plains. He loves all things sports, plays football and lacrosse, and also enjoys cooking. He is a great big brother to his little sister, Rebecca, who is in fourth grade. Ethan is also the grandson of proud congregants Joyce Hoffman and Harold Selden as well as former temple trustee Barry Hoffman. For Ethan's mitzvah project he is looking forward to leading Sports and Games with the children from the Coachman Family Center.



Carina Weksel, daughter of Suzy and Michael Weksel, and sister to Ben Weksel, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 9, 2019. Carina is an 8th grader at Edgemont Jr/Sr High School. Carina is a member of the field hockey team, the gymnastics team and sings in a rock band. She also enjoys reading, art, theater, tennis, cooking, Netflix, dogs and teasing her little brother. After a great experience with the Helping Hunger elective at Kol Ami last year, Carina decided to tackle the issue of food instability for her Mitzvah project. She will be hosting a food drive as well as volunteering with the Kol Ami Pantry and Feeding Westchester (formerly the Westchester Food Bank). She will also be joining this year's helping hunger class as a madricha. Carina is so excited to share her special day with friends and family.



Lauren Schwartz, daughter of Paulina and David Schwartz, and sister to Rachel Schwartz, is excited to be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 9, 2019. Lauren is a 7th grader at the Scarsdale Middle School. She is an avid lacrosse and volleyball player, and she also enjoys basketball and skiing. A dedicated oboist, Lauren has played in the All County Band and the Scarsdale Middle School Chamber Band. This year, Lauren will be mentoring students with disabilities and will be a sports mentor for kids at the Coachman Family Center. Lauren has worked hard to prepare for her Bat Mitzvah and looks forward to sharing her special day with her family and friends.



Josh Litvak, son of Diane and Michael, brother of David, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 16, 2019. Josh is in the 7th grade at Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School and has just returned from his 3rd year at Crane Lake Camp. Josh enjoys soccer, baseball and playing the baritone horn. He's particularly interested in film and loves all elements of a good story. Josh also loves animals and has been spending time caring for dogs at Paws Crossed Animal Rescue for his Mitzvah project. Also, as part of his work on Student Council, Josh initiated and helped organize the collection and donation of extra Halloween candy to the Coachman Family Shelter for the past three years. Josh is excited to share his special day with family and friends.

2019-2020 Synaplex Shabbats

November 15th

“The Role of Religion
in the Rise of Anti-Semitism”

December 6th:

“Witness Theater” and
The Catskill Puppet Theater

January 24th:

“Where Religions Merge
and Diverge”

February 7th:

Shabbat Shira
“Pastrami on Rye: The
Overstuffed History of
the Jewish Deli”

March 20th:

“The Passengers Film”

April 24th:

“Immigration in Crisis:
A Report From The Border”

May 8th:

“The Trial:
People vs. Mordecai”

at Kol Ami

The Role of Religion in the Rise of Alt-Right Nationalism

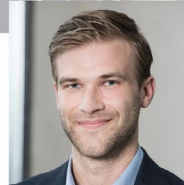
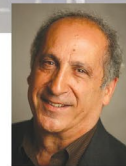
Friday, November 15th, 2019



◆ learn ◆ pray ◆ eat ◆ connect ◆ enjoy ◆

An exciting way to experience Shabbat!

Starting at 5:00pm with Musical Explorations,
followed by 5:30pm Shabbat in the Woods and
Shabbat Sheli, Hors' d'oeuvres, Shabbat Services,
Dinner, Guest Speakers, and Dessert!



Katharine Henderson
President of Auburn Seminary
Tobias Cremer

PhD candidate at the Dept. of Politics and
International Studies at Peterhouse, Cambridge

C. Colt Anderson

Full Professor of Christian Spirituality,
Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education
at Fordham University

Dr. David Elcott

Moderator, Taub Professor of Practice
in Public Service and Leadership at NYU

Dinner catered by the
award winning:



Email Barak Stockler at barakstockler@nykolami.org
to learn about our exciting Youth Programming during
Synaplex Shabbats!



◆ learn ◆ pray ◆ eat ◆ connect ◆ enjoy ◆

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Dinner, Guest Speakers, and Dessert!



December 6th

As the last generation of Holocaust survivors lives out their final years,
the number of individuals who are physically and mentally able
to “bear witness” dwindles and the question of what happens
to their stories and their experience remains.

Experience an evening you will long remember as high school students
re-enact critical moments from the lives of local Holocaust survivors.

This unique performance represents an intergenerational journey
—the culmination of months of collaboration between the students
and survivors, as mutual respect, friendship, and trust have evolved.



The Catskill Puppet Theater will also be presenting *The Town That Fought Hate*,
based upon Janice Cohn's award-winning children's book, *The Christmas Menorahs:
How a Town Fought Hate*. The show features almost life-size puppets and shadow
puppets, and more than a few theatrical surprises. The full sets, colorful scenery
and large, exquisitely crafted puppets present a play with a delightful blend of
humor, mystery, drama and special effects and is illustrated with a combination
of original and traditional music.

Dinner catered by Lombardos Restaurant



Click [here](#) to register online for our Synaplex shabbats or
stop by the Main Office to pay by check.

An exciting way to experience Shabbat!



Family Photo Day

Sunday, October 6th, 2019

9-4pm in 30 minute sessions
(Rain or shine. If needed due to rain, indoor
photos are done with lighting and backdrop)

\$200 sitting fee

with your donation you will receive a
30 minute photoshoot by talented experts
from Picture So Perfect Studios, and a link to
ten fully edited photos for you to keep.

It's easy to reserve your spot!
Sign up by calling 914-949-4717 ext. 107
or by emailing Nan at
nanblank@nykolami.org.

Payment must accompany
registration to
reserve your time slot.

THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY
IS WELCOME!



Sukkot in the Woods

A service in Story & Song for Young Families

Join us Monday evening,
October 14, 2019
at 5:30pm in the Atrium
for a
Sukkot in the Woods
Holiday Service

Followed by Crafts and
Dinner in our Sukkah at 6pm

Let us know if you will be coming!
By calling the ECP Office at 949-4717 x 107
or by emailing Nan at nanblank@nykolami.org

Everyone is welcome!

Kol Ami Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournament Fundraiser

Sunday, October 27, 2019

Noon to 7PM

1pm: Poker Begins
3pm: Whiskey Tasting

All Kol Ami adults and friends are welcome

The buy-in is \$125 per person
(additional buy-in opportunities will be available)

Food and Beverages Included

Food catered by
Longo's Park Deli

Beer, water, lemonade
provided by Kol Ami

Bourbon and Rye Whiskey Tasting by Taconic Distillery



Large Screen TVs will display the Giants and Jets football games

RSVP online at:
www.nykolami.org/texas

Or if you prefer to pay by
check, please contact
Ginny Herron-Lanoil
at ginnyherron-lanoil@nykolami.org

Hosted at Kol Ami
252 Soundview Ave.
White Plains, NY 10606

Cash Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and
3rd Place Poker Finishers

Football Box Pools





Adult Education

Gather and Study

Mussar Classes

This workshop will introduce Mussar practice through tikkun middot (repairing ourselves from the inside out). Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS. See flyer for details.
Mondays 12:30pm

Women in Transition

Are you experiencing/anticipating life changes? Join an interactive discussion group on retirement, aging, down sizing, relationships with adult children, and health/well being. Contact Sheila Sturmer at sturmersheila@gmail.com or 914-391-1227
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month 11:30am-1:00pm

Women's Roundtable Breakfast

Join Kol Ami's remarkable, multigenerational women for learning and friendship with Rabbi Shira Milgrom.
First Wednesday of the month, starting on Nov 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. Also, occasional guest speakers, both from within and outside Kol Ami, will be invited. *Meets every other Tuesday from 7:30-9:00pm*

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

Women's Oasis at Home

Examining cultural and developmental issues as women age with experts and educators. See flyer for full details.
See flyer for dates, times, and locations.

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

Jewish Mindful Meditation

Join us in learning mindful meditation. 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

Kol Ami Book Club

Come whether you've read the book or not; the discussion is always lively. For more information contact Doris Dingott 914-289-0869 or DLDDingott@gmail.com
Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9:15am

Reality: Science, Religion, or Both?

Meets on Monday evenings from 7:30-9:00pm. Explore another year of fascinating topics with Paul Davis.
Meets every Monday at 7:30pm in Room 20

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

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



2019-2020 Calendar of Events

Sukkot Decorating & Potluck Lunch	Sunday Afternoon	10/13/2019	12:30-3:00	Gallery
Boutique planning meeting	Tuesday	10/22/2019	7:00pm	TBD
Wine & Wisdom	Saturday (Havdallah)	11/16/2019	4:00-6:00pm	Offsite/TBD
Holiday Boutique	Sunday	12/8/2019	All Day	Everywhere
Latke & Lattes	Saturday (Havdallah)	12/21/2019	4:00-6:00pm	Gallery
Pickle Making	Sunday	1/5/2020	1-3pm	Auditorium
Purim Basket Sales	Late February	-	-	-
Ladies Night Out	Sunday	3/1/2020	5:00pm	Offsite/TBD
Passover Tasting	Tuesday	3/31/2020	7:00pm	Gallery
Membership Dinner	Tuesday	5/19/2020	7:00pm	Gallery
Women Vote Celebration Trip	Friday - Sunday	6/5-6/7/19		Seneca Falls

PICKLE MAKING

January 5th

Open to the entire congregation
\$36.00 per participant

Join Gefilteria founders Liz Alpern and Jeffrey Yoskowitz (also Chief Pickle maker) as we learn to art of fine pickling!

Kol Ami Sisterhood

Co-Presidents

Sheryl Brady

Rachel Eckhaus

Stacey Matusniw

Email: Sisterhood@nykolami.org

100 Years of Women's Right to Vote

Mark your calendars June 5 ~ June 7, 2020

We are going on a road trip to Seneca Falls, NY to celebrate!

Friday: Shabbat Services with Rabbi Shira and a 4 course wine pairing dinner at Belhurst Castle, Geneva, NY

Saturday: National Womens Hall of Fame, Learning Lunch with Shira, Women's Rights National Historical Park, Seneca Falls, NY
Dinner lakeside on Cayuga Lake.

Sunday: Cheese tasting at Muranda Cheese Company, Waterloo, NY

Weekend accomodations at Del Lago Resort, Geneva, NY. Transportation by carpool. Total trip cost \$500.00 payable to Sisterhood.

Online registration will open in November.



MEDICAL SUPPLIES SORTING DAY SPONSORED
BY
UJA FEDERATION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

11-1 PM
1:30 - 3:30 PM

ALL CHILDREN OVER THE AGE
OF FIVE ARE WELCOME

WE WILL BE PREPARING SUPPLIES TO BE SENT TO THE
BAHAMAS

AFYA FOUNDATION
140 SAW MILL RIVER ROAD - YONKERS, NY

Please contact: Barbara Wexler
wexlerartworks@optonline.net
if you would like to participate or have questions.
914-428-5127

WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME PRESENTS

A NEW
Jewish
Perspective
on our
evolving selves

Examining cultural and developmental issues women face as they age

Learn from experienced educators about how we can live our lives to the fullest, even as life changes in ways we expect and sometimes in ways that surprise us.

Supplemental viewpoints will come from the book *Women Rowing North*, by Mary Pipher, who writes, "We will experience a joyous time of our lives. If we have planned carefully and packed properly, if we have good maps and guides, the journey can be transcendent."

Monday, September 16, 2019

7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Chapel in the Woods with Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, Partners In Caring Certified Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Instructor and Wise Aging Facilitator

Monday, November 18, 2019

7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Chapel in the Woods with Ruth Rosenblum

Thursday, January 30, 2020

7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Chapel in the Woods with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Monday, March 16, 2020

7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Chapel in the Woods with Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS

Think with us, share with us, eat with us, be with us - here at 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). Book included with registration fee

☐ Session 1: Monday, September 16, 2019

☐ Session 3: Thursday, January 30, 2020

☐ Session 2: Monday, November 18, 2019

☐ Session 4: Monday, March 16, 2020

For further information contact

Jill Abraham 393-7282 or jill.sa2@verizon.net Lauri Carey 907-9120 or lauricarey@hotmail.com



STUDY IN THE CITY

**Join our Clergy for a relaxing lunch
and discussion topics! 12:30pm**



November 6th

Cantor David in Scarsdale at 29 Cooper Road

November 13th

Rabbi Tom in NYC at Loeb & Loeb, 345 Park Avenue

January 8th

Rabbi Tom in White Plains at Milber, Makris, Plousadis & Seiden
709 Westchester Avenue, Suite 300



March 4th

Cantor David in NYC at The Claims Conference
1359 Broadway, Suite 2000

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

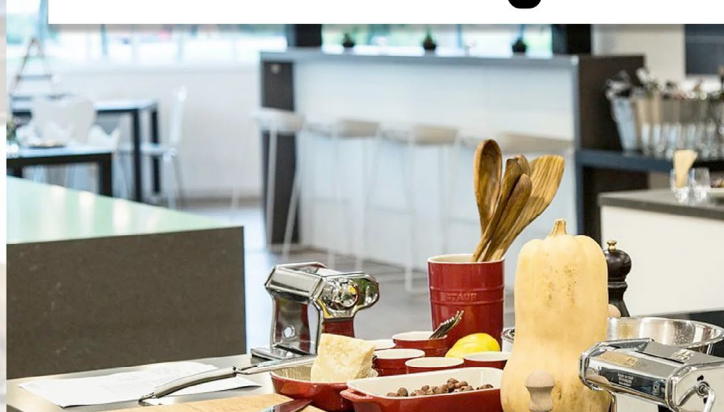
TO GINNY HERRON-LANOIL, AT GINNYHERRON-LANOIL@NYKOLAMI.ORG OR 914-949-4717 EXT. 114

PLEASE BRING PAYMENT WITH YOU TO THE SESSIONS.



ZWILLING
J.A.HENCKELS

ZWILLING Cooking Studio



Unique Cooking and Dining Experience with Kol Ami!

Part culinary classroom, part dinner party, the new ZWILLING Cooking Studio offers a fun way to test your cooking chops. Everyone is a top chef in the Zwilling professional kitchen. A hands-on cooking class will teach you valuable techniques that you can use at home for years to come.

Sunday, November 17, 2019

5pm to 8:30pm

Zwilling Cooking Studio, Pleasantville, NY
\$99 per person (Space is limited to 40 Chefs)

Guests will participate in a hands-on cooking class where the group will be divided into smaller teams. Under the guidance of the Zwilling's Cooking Studio team we will prepare and cook parts of the menu, which we will then enjoy together.

We will be enjoying a small plates menu consisting of: Hummus, pita chips and olives upon arrival, Root Vegetable Soup, Seared Branzino, Steak Bites, Tuna Tataki, Crema Catalana (a Spanish dessert), Coffee/Tea service and all soft drinks included. Please bring a bottle of wine to share. There will be no corkage fee for up to 20 bottles of wine.

Email Alison Adler at alisonadler@nykolami.org or stop by the Main Office to reserve a spot today! Payment must accompany registration.



Join us on
Saturday, November 23rd
 as we host our annual Thanksgiving Dinner
 for families residing at the Coachman Family Center

**But we need your help! We are
 looking for help in the following areas:**

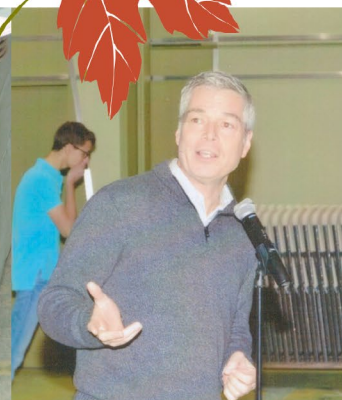
Set-Up/Staging
Dinner Service

Desserts(Baked or Store Bought)
Crafts & Games

Greeting Guests
Clean Up

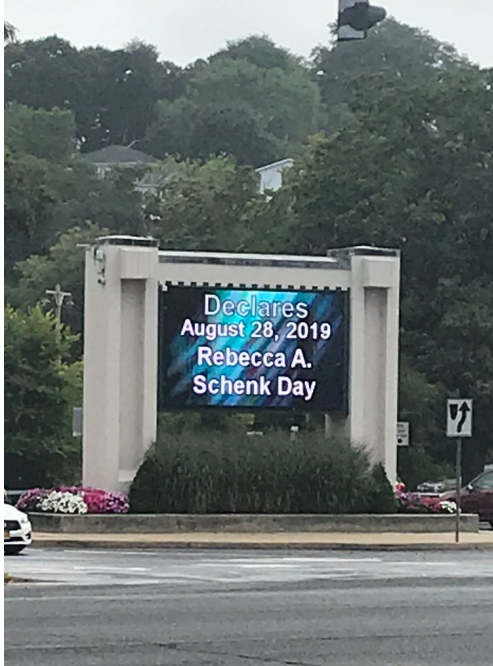
Together WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!
**Let's put our Kol Ami values into action and give our Coachman
 friends reason to feel thankful.**

If you are able to help, please contact:
Lisa Hochman at lisahochman@mac.com or 914-834-1555
Allison Danzig at allisondanzig@yahoo.com 914-980-5641
or Alison Adler in the Main Temple Office





WE POINT WITH PRIDE TO...

Rebecca Schenk



The County Executive named Wednesday, August 28th "Rebecca Schenk Day" in honor of Kol Ami Congregant Rebecca Schenk, who retired after 40+ years of serving the indigent as an attorney with the Legal Aid Society of Westchester County.



CLIMATE ACTION FORUM

Protecting Our Environment

Thursday, November 14, 2019 - 7 pm to 8:45 pm

at Memorial United Methodist Church
250 Bryant Ave, White Plains, NY 10605

Event organized by Kol Ami's Interfaith Outreach Committee in partnership with the Interfaith Connection.



Sunday December 8, 2019

9am-3pm



Kol Ami Holiday Boutique

to support our
Women of Reform Judaism
Kol Ami Sisterhood



**Jewelry, clothing, handbags, Judaica,
candles, skincare, kitchenware
and more! Over 40 vendors.**

**Sisterhood Basket Raffle and
Bake Sale (to benefit the Religious School)**

**New addition this year!
Our B'nai Mitzvah/Special Occasion
Vendor Showcase,
with local vendors.**

252 Soundview Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606

Friends of the Arts at Kol Ami

Supports:

Summer Concert Series

Concerts and Community Wide Events

Congregational Recording Projects

Explorations in Jewish Music for Synaplex Shabbatot

Shabbat Shira Musical Program

The Kol Ami Orchestra

Collaborative Concerts with the Kol Arts Program

Enhancing Stage Productions and Audio Support

Become a Friend of the Arts at Kol Ami

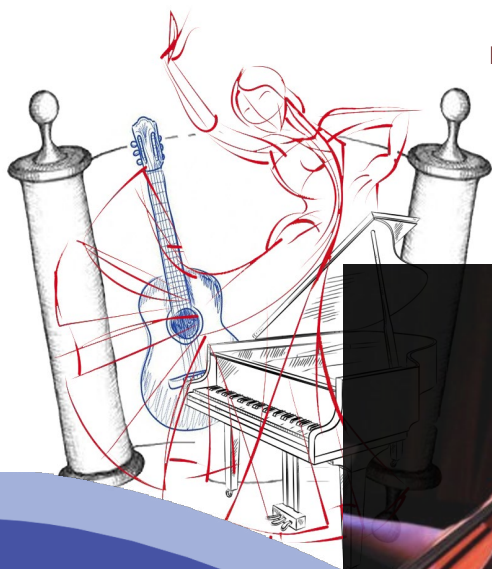
Suggested levels of giving

\$180, \$500, \$1,800, \$3,600

All donations of \$180 or higher will include:

- Name recognition in all print publications relating to the arts
- Invitations to private receptions throughout the year
- Priority seating for specific events when applicable

Flexible payment options are
available for congregants.
Please call Madiha Tubman
at 914.949.4717 ext. 102



By becoming a *Friend of the Arts at Kol Ami*
you will contribute to the
growth of musical
programming that
nourishes our
souls

*Friends
of the Arts
at Kol Ami*

Music nourishes our souls

HIGH SCHOOL TIKKUN OLAM TRIP



with Rabbi Tom Weiner and Barak Stockler

WINTER BREAK • FEBRUARY 16-23, 2020

WE WILL BE TRAVELING TO PUERTO RICO!

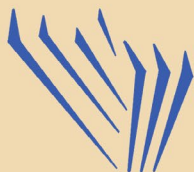
SPACE IS LIMITED. TO GUARANTEE A SPOT, PLEASE SEND A \$500 DEPOSIT TO
THE YOUTH OFFICE MADE OUT TO: CONGREGATION KOL AMI AND FILL OUT
THE PERMISSION SLIP AT WWW.NYKOLAMI.ORG/YGFORMS

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

RABBI TOM WEINER AT RABBITOM@NYKOLAMI.ORG

BARAK STOCKLER AT BARAKSTOCKLER@NYKOLAMI.ORG



CONGREGATION
KOL AMI



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
Evelyn Klein aspencup@aol.com

In the Community

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 : ls20@earthlink.net, 914-686-9516

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

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 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, October 23rd at 2:30pm
The Kensington (4th Floor)
Corner of Longview and Maple
White Plains, 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:

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.

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.

Mah Jongg Wednesdays

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

Kol Ami Cares



Providing support and opportunities for connection and caring in difficult times

KACares, through its bank of volunteers, assists our congregants in a myriad of ways:

- We call bereaved families and help, lead or participate in shiva setup and services.
- We visit sick and injured members in the hospital, in rehab, and at home.
- We connect with our homebound members through visits and phone calls.
- We offer transportation to members who no longer drive or have difficulty attending services and special events.
- We deliver meals to members recovering from illness or surgery who are unable to cook for themselves or their families.

If you or someone you know can benefit from our assistance or if you would like to be added to our list of volunteers, please contact us immediately.

Betsy McCormack at Betsyrmc@gmail.com 914-960-9390

Ginny Ruder at Ginnyruder@gmail.com 914-589-5283

Life Cycles

Congratulations

- ✧ To Rachel Freedman & Dan Rosen on the marriage of their son, Isaac Rosen to Emily Young

Condolences

- ✧ To Martin Kahn and family on the death of his cousin, Harvey Greenberg
- ✧ To Julia Probbler and family on the death of her uncle, A. Lee Sacks
- ✧ To Miriam Kraus and family on the death of her husband, Lawrence E. Kraus
- ✧ To Aimee Atkinson and family on the death of her father, Lawrence E. Kraus
- ✧ To Sara Elkin and family, on the death of her cousin, Kenneth M. Bijur
- ✧ To Jonathan Kamen and family, on the death of his mother, Cynthia Kamen
- ✧ To Amy Sapirstein and family, on the death of her mother, Karen Bourne
- ✧ To Marc Kalt, and family, on the death of his sister, Danielle Schiavone

In Memorium

- ✧ Lawrence E. Kraus

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In honor of their wedding from Amanda and Andrew Steinbach
- ✧ In appreciation from Madiha Tubman
- ✧ Happy Birthday wishes to Jo Landau on the occasion of this wonderful birthday from Barbara Block
- ✧ In honor of David Elcott's birthday from Roslyn Hahn
- ✧ In honor of Amelia and Ava's baby naming from Louis and Beth LaTorre
- ✧ In honor of Jo Landau's 100th birthday from Mathilda Abler
- ✧ In memory of David Marell from Stephanie Levine
- ✧ In memory of Cornelius Lorden from Dave and Jess Lorden
- ✧ Affectionately from Mathilda Adler

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In memory of his mom, Betty Lewis, from Gary and Margie Lewis
- ✧ In appreciation from Jonathan and Amy Goldstein
- ✧ In memory of Michael and Sydney Glazer, son and granddaughter of Florence Glazer from Barbara Block
- ✧ In memory of Irving Wagner from Steve and Susie Wagner
- ✧ In honor of Jo Landau's birthday from Jane Friedberg
- ✧ In memory of Cornelius Lorden from Dave and Jess Lorden
- ✧ In honor of Jo Landau's birthday from Ellen Bittner
- ✧ Affectionately from Mathilda Adler

Generous Contributions

Cantor David Rosen's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In memory of Cornelius Lorden from Dave and Jess Lorden
- ✧ In memory of David Reps and family from Helene Reps

Fund for the Needy

- ✧ In loving memory of Stephen Wiener, father of Allison Danzig from Nora & Bob Groban
- ✧ In honor of the Kol Ami staff from Mattie Abler

The Kol Ami Fund

- ✧ In appreciation of our visit to Kol Ami and a, "much enhanced Jewish life in the area" from Hillary & David Silver
- ✧ In honor of Jo Landau's, 100th birthday from Jess & David Lorden
- ✧ In loving memory of Cornelius Lorden, father of David Lorden, from Dan Schuchat & Lori Laubich
- ✧ In honor of Cantor David Rosen for the memorial service he provided my mother, Berthe Schuchat, from Dan Schuchat & Lori Laubich
- ✧ In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Sam Labovitz from David & Lori Okun

Synaplex Circle

- ✧ Judy and Bob Asher

Youth Leadership Fund

- ✧ In honor of our granddaughter, Rachel Casper, as she enters Harvard Law School from Anlee & Myron Marcus

Friends of the Arts

- ✧ Lisa Borowitz
- ✧ Scott and Adrienne Pollak
- ✧ In honor of Jeanne McIntosh from the Outpatient Department of NY Presbyterian Hospital
- ✧ Marilyn Rader
- ✧ Stephanie Levine
- ✧ Jeanne & Edward Nerenberg
- ✧ Patricia Grossman
- ✧ Gary Orentlicher and Pam Millian
- ✧ Robert and Barbara Sandler

Adult Education Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Sam Schulman from Anlee & Myron Marcus
- ✧ In honor of Beth Kava, current events and all she does from Mattie Abler

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.

Time and Dates: 12:30-2:00 PM

10 Mondays:

September 23, 2019
October 28
November 25
December 16
January 13, 2020
February 24
March 23
April 20
May 18
June 15

Fee: Kol Ami members, \$200; \$225 for non-members

Location:

Congregation Kol Ami
252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY

*Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual
Care Coordinator, Westchester Jewish Community
Services*

**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

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

To make the logistics easier and the gifting choices

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

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

Donors' Address: _____

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

Send donation acknowledgement to: _____

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

Amount Enclosed: _____

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

Funds

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



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

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—Matthew J. Florio,
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