


# Engaging With Torah

 THE BIBLE IS THE BEST BOOK IN THE WORLD AND THE WORST BOOK IN THE WORLD. IT IS THE WORST WHEN IT IS USED FOR BULLYING AND SELF-JUSTIFICATION. IT IS THE BEST WHEN IT IS USED FOR THE HEALING OF THE WORLD AND FOR TRANSFORMATION OF THE SELF.

RICHARD ROHR



## WELCOME

In the coming year, Congregation Kol Ami will undertake a shared focus on Torah. Our hope is that each of us will have an opportunity to consider the ways in which Torah enriches, brings meaning to, and sometimes even complicates our lives. An important and very special feature of the year will be the opportunity provided to all congregants to participate in the scribing of a new Torah. This chance to participate in the 613th mitzvah (or commandment) which commands every Jew to write a Torah, is made especially meaningful by the fact that it will be accomplished with the help of Torah scribe Julie Seltzer, one of just very few women who write Torah. (For more information on our upcoming *Torat Chayim*, or *Living Torah* program, see pages 10-11.) Also, a Synaplex event will ask us to consider the impact of modern religion on political movement, a Scholars-in-Residence weekend takes on early religious intersections, and a course with Dr. Ellen Umansky explores the roles of Biblical women in the Jewish and Christian Bibles.

We look forward to a year during which the presence of Torah in our lives is made more apparent and meaningful as we engage deeply and carefully with its implications for our past and our future.

*The Adult Education Committee*

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### Key

\* = Administrative charges may be applied for selected programs and non-members.

## COMMITTEE, TEACHERS AND FACILITATORS

Jennifer Lemberg, *Chair*

Sheryl Brady

Ron Carran

Paul Davis

Susan Davis

Emily Fields

Leni Glauber

David Gravit

Beth Kava

Alice Seidman

Roger Seti

Ellen Umansky

### Clergy

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Rabbi Tom Weiner

Cantor David Rosen

### Co-Presidents

Susan Kohn Arovas

Scott Musoff

For additional information please  
call the Temple office at 914-949-4717 • [www.nykolami.org](http://www.nykolami.org)

Design by Ron Carran

# Shabbat

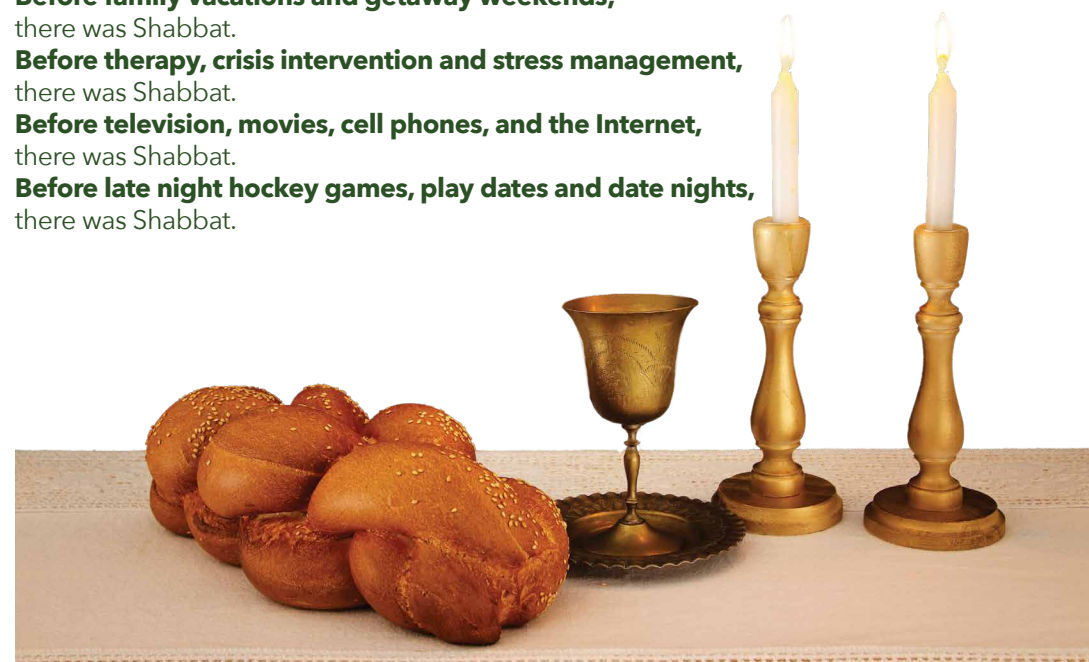
"The Original Un-plug"

**Before family vacations and getaway weekends,**  
there was Shabbat.

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

**Before television, movies, cell phones, and the Internet,**  
there was Shabbat.

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



## FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES

### *Shabbat in the Woods for Young Children and Their Families*

5:30-6:00 pm (*Atrium*)

A service in story and song for families with young children.

6:15-7:15 pm (*Petschek Gallery*)

Shabbat crafts, a light supper and supervised child care.

### *Shabbat Sheli for Elementary Aged Children*

5:30-6:00 pm (*Petschek Gallery*)

Designed for elementary aged children. Join us for yoga and mindfulness every week with Jen Benalt. Parents can stay with their children in our Shabbat in the Woods service or yoga.

### *Kabbalat Shabbat Services*

6:15 pm (*Main Sanctuary*)

## SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES

### *Lift Your Shabbat–Saturday Morning Torah Study*

With Rabbi Shira Milgrom (*Chapel in the Woods*)

Join Rabbi Shira Milgrom and fellow congregants in our beautiful Schulman 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.

9:00 am

9:30 am

11:00 am

Coffee and Community

Torah Study

Shabbat Services



GRADE-LEVEL FAMILY SHABBAT DATES

Fri, Jan 10 at 6:00 pm	Kindergarten, First Grade, First Taste, ECP Shabbat Service & Dinner
Sat, Feb 8 at 10:00 am	Sixth Grade Family Shabbat, B’nai Mitzvah Workshop & Brunch
Sat, Feb 29 at 10:00 am	Third Grade Family Shabbat Service & Brunch
Fri, Mar 13 at 6:00 pm	Fifth Grade Family Shabbat Service & Dinner
Fri, May 1 at 6:00 pm	Fourth Grade Family Shabbat Service, Dinner & Hasidic Wedding
Fri, May 15 at 6:00 pm	Second Grade Family Shabbat Service, Torah Procession & Dinner

NEW MEMBER EVENTS

Saturday, Sep 7 at 7:00 pm  
*Back to School Concert and Dinner featuring 3 bands led by our talented Kol Ami congregants. Join us for a fun-filled evening of music, food and friends.*

Sukkot Celebration in the Kol Ami Sukkah  
Friday, Oct 18 at 5:00 pm  
*Welcome in the new year with a glass of wine and some snacks in our Sukkah before services.*

Shabbat Across Kol Ami’s International Potluck Dinner  
Date TBD  
*Celebrate the diversity of our synagogue community with a dish or dessert representative of your heritage.*

Torat Chayim תורת חיים  
Every Day You Are Living Torah

This year, we will have the joy of participating in the scribing of our new Torah so that each of us can fulfill the 613th mitzvah. Throughout the year, congregants will have the opportunity to discover how Torah touches our every day lives through Kol Ami celebrations, events, learning in the ECP, Religious School, at home gatherings, on Shabbat and during one-on-one time with the Torah Scribe, Julie Seltzer.



For more information, see pages 10 and 11

Pre-Simchat Torah program  
Oct 20, 4:00-6:00 pm

Assist Soferet to “fill-in Hebrew letters” in new Torah  
Nov 24, 10:00 am-3:00 pm  
Jan 26, 10:00 am-3:00 pm  
Feb 27, 10:00 am-3:00 pm  
Mar 18, 3:00-8:00 pm  
Mar 22, 10:00 am-3:00 pm  
Apr 3–final letters scribed, 4:00-6:00 pm

Talk Torah at Home Gatherings  
Oct-Dec

Mezzuzah Motto Project  
Jan-Mar

Celebration and Dedication of New Torah  
May 28

FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

Selichot Night  
Saturday, Sep 21 at 9:30 pm

Erev Rosh Hashanah  
Sunday, Sep 29

Rosh Hashanah  
Monday & Tuesday, Sep 30 & Oct 1

Kol Nidre  
Tuesday, Oct 8

Yom Kippur  
Wednesday, Oct 9

Sukkot Harvest Festival  
Sunday, Oct 13  
*Join us for crafts, dance and other activities including a petting zoo, farmers market, food trucks, learning and LOTS OF FUN! Everyone of all ages is welcome!*

Sukkot Morning Service  
Monday, Oct 14 at 10:00 am (Main Sanctuary)  
Oneg in the Sukkah at 11:30 am

Sukkot Dinner  
Monday, Oct 14 at 5:30 pm  
*Dinner and crafts in the Sukkah. Everyone is invited!*

Erev Simchat Torah Service  
Sunday, Oct 20 at 6:15 pm  
*Services, celebration, hakafot, dancing and consecration of our new students.*

Simchat Torah and Yizkor Service  
Monday, Oct 21 at 10:00 am

Havdalah in PJs for Families With Young Children  
Saturday, Feb 8  
*Enjoy storytelling, crafts, music and Havdalah.*

It’s Purim!  
Monday, Mar 9  
*Carnival, games, crafts, dinner, reading of the Megillah, Purim Spiel, learning and celebration for the whole community.*

Yom HaShoah: Commemorating the Holocaust  
Wednesday, Apr 22, 7:30-8:30 pm (Main Sanctuary)  
*Community service of memory and hope, led by our eighth graders; all are welcome.*

Confirmation Blessings and Dinner  
Wednesday, May 27 at 7:00 pm

Shavuot, Confirmation and Yizkor Services  
Thursday, May 28 at 6:15 pm

Erev Tisha B’Av–the 9th of Av  
Wednesday, July 29  
*Evening study and candlelit service*





**Nov 15, Dec 6, Jan 24,  
Feb 7, Mar 20, Apr 24, May 8**  
Friday evenings (except where otherwise noted).  
Special monthly events including  
worship, music, speakers, food and socializing.

### Explorations in Jewish Music

5:00 pm (Main Sanctuary)

Cantor David Rosen and special guests

### Shabbat in the Woods for Young Children and Their Families

5:30 pm (Atrium)

A service in story and song for young families. Supervised childcare, light supper and Shabbat crafts.

### Shabbat Sheli for Elementary Aged Children

5:30 pm (Petschek Gallery)

Join us for yoga and mindfulness. Parents can stay with their children in our Shabbat in the Woods service or yoga.

### Unwind with Hors d'Oeuvres and Friends

6:00 pm

### Shabbat Begins

6:15 pm (Main Sanctuary)

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

### Shabbat Dinners\*

7:15 pm

To register for dinner, click on <https://NYKolAmi.org/Synaplexregistration>

### Children's Activities

7:30-9:15 pm

Activities for children and youth groups, movies, sports and games.

### Keynote Speakers

8:15 pm

Adult learning and keynote lectures.

### Oneg

9:15 pm

Relax at the end of a long day and week with ice cream, cake and coffee.



**When My Angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I annihilate them, you shall not bow down to their gods in worship or follow their practices, but shall tear them down and smash their pillars to bits.**

**Exodus 23:23-24**

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

Friday, Nov 15 (Panel Discussion)



### Katharine Henderson, President of Auburn Seminary

Rev. Dr. Henderson has led innovative educational programs that infuse mainstream media with compelling faith voices on issues such as a moral economy, sex trafficking, immigration, gun violence, LGBT equality, Islamophobia, and antisemitism. She is president of Auburn Seminary, a multifaith leadership development institute that equips leaders to build communities, bridge divides, pursue justice, and heal the world. She is writing her second book, *Fighting for the Heart of America: How the Prophets of our Time are Bringing Our Nation's Future to Birth*.



### Tobias Cremer, PhD candidate at the Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS) at Peterhouse, Cambridge

Tobias Cremer focuses on the relationship between religion and right-wing populism in Western Europe and North America. His work aims to understand the ways traditionally secularist right-wing populist parties are seeking to employ Christian symbols and language as cultural identity markers. He was a McCloy Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School and is a frequent analyst and commentator on right-wing populism and religion in British radio and newspapers.



### C. Colt Anderson, Full Professor of Christian Spirituality in the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education at Fordham University

C. Colt Anderson has a long-standing interest in the intersection between religion and politics, between spirituality and leadership, and between institutional organizational psychology and pastoral ethics. He has been engaged in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue and has been studying the roots of Catholic Nationalism in Europe and the United States. He served as Academic Dean in the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education at Fordham University from 2012 to 2017.



### Dr. David Elcott, Moderator

David Elcott is the Taub Professor of Practice in Public Service and Leadership at the Wagner School of Public Service at NYU, where he also co-directs the Dual Degree Program in Jewish Studies, and associate faculty at the Research Center for Leadership in Action. David's goal is to offer NYU students the opportunity to learn the skills, tools and theories of social justice transformation. He has written *A Sacred Journey: The Jewish Quest for a Perfect World* and numerous articles and monographs on power and war, minority civic engagement, and cross-cultural pluralism. Part of his current research addresses how religious leaders affect civil discourse and democracy. In 2013, Dr. Elcott received NYU's Martin Luther King Faculty Award.





## Scholars-in-Residence with Dr. Josh Garroway and Dr. Michael Peppard

### Judaism and Christianity in the 1st Century: Where Religions Merge and Diverge

Friday and Saturday, Jan 24 & 25



**Dr. Josh Garroway, Assistant Professor of Early Christianity and Second Commonwealth at HUC-JIR's Skirball Campus**

*Dr. Garroway has been named to the Rabbi Michael Matuson Professorship for an Emerging Scholar. The VP for Academic Affairs said of him that "his excellence has already positioned him as a significant scholar of early Christianity." Rabbi Garroway was ordained at HUC-JIR in 2003. He has published on Jewish identity in antiquity, the Historical Jesus, Paul's Epistle to the Romans and the Gospel of Mark. His current project investigates the representation of Jewish opposition in the book of Acts.*



**Dr. Michael Peppard, Associate Professor of Theology at Fordham University**

*Dr. Peppard followed his award-winning 2011 book, The Son of God in the Roman World: Divine Sonship in Its Social and Political Context, with the highly praised 2016 book, The World's Oldest Church: Bible, Art, and Ritual at Dura-Europos, Syria, which was featured in The New York Times Sunday Review and other major media. Many of his scholarly articles discuss the social, political, artistic, and ritual meaning of the Christian Bible.*



**Then Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her in dance and with timbrels. Miriam sang with them, "Sing unto God!"**

**Exodus 15:20-21**

## Shabbat Shira: The History and Music of the Jewish Deli



**Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli**

Friday, Feb 7

**Dr. Ted Merwin, Author**

*Ted Merwin, Ph.D. is a professor, writer, journalist, and noted public speaker. He is also the author of In Their Own Image: New York Jews in Jazz Age Popular Culture. Along with his many scholarly articles, he writes a weekly theater column for the New York Jewish Week.*



**Cantor David Rosen**

*Kol Ami's own David Rosen was ordained as a cantor in 2003. He has produced and performed in many concerts and has been a guest lecturer/soloist/conductor at home and abroad.*



**Cantor Jack Mendelson**

*Cantor Jacob Ben-Zion Mendelson has been featured in several film documentaries. He has taught at the HUC School of Sacred Music and the H.L. Miller Cantorial School at JTS. He retired from the Temple Israel Center pulpit in 2014.*



**Catskill Puppet Theater: The Town that Fought Hate**

Friday, Dec 6

*Based upon Janice Cohn's award-winning children's book, The Christmas Menorahs: How a Town Fought Hate, this play recounts the true story of how people of all faiths and races came together in Billings, Montana to successfully fight a group threatening the town's tiny Jewish population and other minorities during the Hanukkah/Christmas season of 1993.*



**Take utmost care and watch yourselves so that you do not forget the things you saw with your own eyes and so that they do not fade from your mind as long as you live. And make them known to your children and to your children's children.**

**Deuteronomy 4:9**

## Film: Witness Theater

Friday, Dec 6

**Moderators: Kol Ami Congregants Nell (Petronella) and Victor Wyler**

*This film is based upon Selfhelp's Witness Theater program, an intergenerational program which brings together Holocaust survivors and high school students weekly with a goal to elicit, expose and memorialize the stories of the Holocaust. Through this process, the students become witnesses to history and storytellers of the Holocaust.*



**To Me, O Israelites, you are just like the Ethiopians True, I brought Israel up from the land of Egypt, But also the Philistines from Caphtor and the Arameans from Kir.**

**Amos 9:7**



**Film: The Passengers**

Friday, Mar 20

**Ryan Porush, Documentary Filmmaker and Journalist**

*Ryan Porush's documentaries and short films emphasize dynamic, character driven stories. His award winning first film, TWO HUNDRED PERCENT, screened at film festivals in 2016. The Passengers is a documentary film about Ethiopian Jews and the struggle for a final community to immigrate to Israel.*



**When a stranger resides among you in the land, you shall not wrong them. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Eternal your God.**

**Leviticus 19:33-34**

**Immigration in Crisis: A Report from the Border**

Friday, Apr 24

**William Silverman, Lawyer and Kol Ami Congregant**

*William C. Silverman, partner at Proskauer Rose LLP, is responsible for leading Proskauer's global pro bono efforts. He is currently vice chairman of the Fund for Modern Courts, a non-partisan citizen organization devoted to improving New York State courts, and chairman of Legal Information For Families Today (LIFT) helping some 30,000 unrepresented litigants per year in Family Court. Bill served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York. He graduated from Brown University and NYU Law School where he was editor of the Law Review.*



**The People v. Mordecai—On Trial for Sex Trafficking and Procurement**

Friday, May 8

*Join Kol Ami as we put Mordecai on trial. Prosecution: Scott Musoff, Defense: Michael Zweig.*



# שמיך ישראל יהיה אלהינו יהיה אחד

## Torat Chayim תורת חיים Every Day You Are Living Torah

For generations, the Torah has been the center of Jewish life. Not only are we commanded by Jewish law to study Torah, but in fact, the 613th mitzvah or commandment requires every Jew to write a Torah. If we do not possess the knowledge and skill to write one ourselves, in the words of Maimonides, the great Jewish scholar, “we should engage one who is able to write a Sefer Torah for us.”



This year, we will have the joy of participating in the scribing of our new Torah so that each of us can fulfill the 613th mitzvah. Throughout the year, congregants will have the opportunity to discover how Torah touches our every day lives through Kol Ami celebrations, events, learning in the ECP, Religious School, at home gatherings, on Shabbat and during one-on-one time with the Torah Scribe, Julie Seltzer.

“Every living soul is a letter of the Torah, wherefore all souls taken together make up the Torah.”—Nathan of Nemirov

Torat Chayim—The Living Torah

For thousands of years, the 613th commandment has kept Torah—and Judaism—alive.

### LEGEND HAS IT THAT EACH PERSON OF THE COMMUNITY OF ISRAEL IS A LETTER IN THE TORAH.

The Torah is made up of each of us. Our lives, our stories, our memories and our dreams are part of the unfolding of Torah, even as the Torah itself helps shape our sense of who we are and who we are destined to become. The Torah burst into Jewish consciousness thousands of years ago, changing forever the ways that people might view themselves and the expectation to be God’s partners in making this world a more just and compassionate place.

Torah unfolds in us as we connect to holiness: the endless ways we see wonder, express gratitude and bless the life around us. And, we can fold ourselves into the Torah.

This year is filled with experiences of Torah—from the writing of a complete scroll of Torah (yes, you can participate!) to study and conversation about the complex legacy of sacred scripture. “*With all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might.*” These Torah words are part of the Sh’ma that we recite daily. We will bring all of it—our hearts, our talents, our hands; our minds, our music and our arts, as we venture together in the creation and celebration of the unfolding of Torah in our lives.



Mezuzahs by Gary Rosenthal



### Julie Seltzer

Julie Seltzer is one of a small group of women Torah scribes, and became enamored with the Hebrew language when she took her first trip to Israel at the age of 18. She began to further explore the meaning of Hebrew letters and the scribal arts while working at the Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center in northwest Connecticut.

Julie studied scribal arts with Jen Taylor Friedman, the first woman we know of to write a sefer Torah. During a subsequent trip to Israel, Julie studied with Shoshana Guggenheim, the lead scribe of the Women’s Torah Project (a women’s collective Torah scroll), and Shoshana’s teacher Dov Laimon, an Orthodox man who teaches women despite his own adherence to Orthodox Judaism’s prohibition to use a scroll written by a woman.

Upon returning to the United States, Julie apprenticed with Reform scribe Neil Yerman in Westchester. Her first scroll was a Shir Hashirim—a Song of Songs scroll. Julie’s first complete Torah was written while on display at the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco, where she worked as a Scribe-in-Residence.

Julie enjoys the discipline and meditative practice that being a Soferet STa”M, a scribe, provides. She says that, “Writing itself is what interested me most: how a finite number of letters can combine into an infinite number of unique sentences, and function as a means for communication between people across time and space.”



*Every living soul is a letter of the Torah*





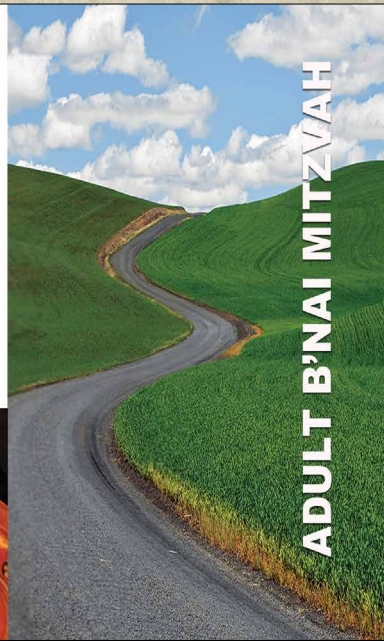
## GATHER AND STUDY

### The Road to Learning Never Ends- Announcing a New Adult Bar and Bat Mitzvah Class!

Two year program beginning in the Fall 2019  
Led by Rabbi Shira Milgrom

If interested or any questions,  
please contact Rabbi Shira at  
914-949-4717, ext. 114 or  
Shiramilgrom@nykolami.org

Tuesdays 8:00-9:30pm  
Congregation Kol Ami  
White Plains, NY



## STUDY IN THE CITY\*

Need a break from your usual work day?!



## STUDY IN THE CITY

Join our Clergy for a relaxing lunch  
and discussion topics!



**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

## GATHER AND STUDY



### Biblical Women From the Jewish and Christian Bibles

Led by Dr. Ellen Umansky, Carl and Dorothy Bennett Professor of Judaic Studies  
and Director, Dorothy Bennett Center for Judaic Studies, Fairfield University, CT.  
Four Saturdays, Feb 1, 8, 15, 29 at 9:30-10:45 am (*Schulman Chapel in the Woods*)

Focusing on specific biblical texts from the Hebrew Bible and Christian Bible in  
which women play an important role. In addition to reading these texts, we will discuss the literary  
and theological transformation of these stories and the women in them, in rabbinic and/or Christian  
interpretation and in more recent scholarly analyses, including feminist midrash/exegesis.



### Special Guest Speaker: Marc Leepson, author of "Saving Monticello: The Levy Family's Epic Quest to Rescue the House That Jefferson Built"

Saturday, Sept 21 (*Chapel*)

It's the story of Kol Ami congregant Harley Lewis's family—and the saving and  
restoration of Monticello.



### Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Mondays, beginning Oct 28 at 7:30 pm (*Room 20*)

Led by Paul Davis

Exploring the way people's world views of Judaism and of science change in  
relation to events and personalities.



### Wisdom of the Sages at Kol Ami

Thursdays, beginning Oct 24, 11:00 am-12:00 pm (*Room 20*)

Led by Rabbi Tom Weiner

Lively discussions of the world and our lives based on some of the most  
provocative and fascinating texts of Jewish learning. All are welcome.



### Kol Ami Book Club

Wednesdays, beginning Sep 5, 9:00-10:30 am (*Room 20*)

Come whether you've read the book or not; the discussion is always lively. For  
more information contact Doris Dingott at 289-0869 or [DLDingott@gmail.com](mailto:DLDingott@gmail.com).



### Israel in the News

Tuesdays, beginning Oct 9, 7:30-8:45 pm (*Room 20*)

Led by 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 and occasionally guest speakers may  
be invited. A portion of each session will be devoted to discussing the book, CATCH-67, The  
Left, The Right, and the Legacy of the Six-Day War by Micah Goodman.





## GATHER AND STUDY (CONT'D)



### Current Events with Beth Kava

Every other Monday, 11:00 am-12:30 pm (Room 20)

Each session will provide participants with an opportunity for in-depth examination of a current issue of the day. Participants will examine issues through various perspectives via readings, videos, or guest speakers.

### Women's Roundtable Breakfast\*

First Wednesday of the month, 7:45-9:00 am

With Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Join Kol Ami's remarkable, multigenerational women for learning and friendship.

### Women in Transition

Second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 am-1:00 pm (Conference Room)

Are you attempting an adjustment to a major life change? Please join us in an interactive discussion group. Topics to be discussed include but are not limited to: retirement, widowhood, aging, changing relationships with adult children, and other life transitions. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Sheila Sturmer at 914-391-1227 or [sturmersheila@gmail.com](mailto:sturmersheila@gmail.com).

### Hebrew Classes for Adults

Sunday Mornings, beginning Sep 15



9:00 am Beginners Hebrew\*, 10:00 am Advanced Beginners Hebrew\* (with Emily Fields)

A continuing class for people who can read Hebrew. Increase your speed and proficiency. Practice prayers in Hebrew. Learn Hebrew vocabulary. Learn Jewish traditions and practices. Please contact Emily at [efgraph@optonline.net](mailto:efgraph@optonline.net) for information on location and cost.



10:30 am Intermediate/Advanced Hebrew (with Alice Seidman)

Conversational Hebrew, grammar, vocabulary, reading, and translating current Israeli publications. An informal learning environment. Please contact Alice Seidman at (914) 953-8455 for further information. Free of charge.

## KOL AMI WOMEN'S OASIS AT HOME\*

### A NEW Jewish Perspective on Our Evolving Selves—Exploring Issues Women Face as We 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 perspectives 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." (Chapel)

Monday, Sep 16, 7:30-9:30 pm

Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW

Monday, Nov 18, 7:30-9:30 pm

Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW

Thursday, Jan 30, 7:30-9:30 pm

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Monday, Mar 16, 7:30-9:30 pm

Rabbi Pamela Wax

## PARENTING WORKSHOPS



### First Friends, an ECP Program for Toddlers 13-22 Months

(Accompanied by a parent or caregiver) Tuesdays, 10:00-11:15 am

If you have a toddler and you're looking to make some new friends, what are you waiting for? Maybe the time is right to think about joining us! This program runs from October to January and January to May, and provides a wonderful segue to our Early Childhood Program and to our Kol Ami community. For more information and registration details please call Nan Blank, ECP Director at 949-4717x107.



### Parenting Older Teens and Young Adults

First Thursday of every month at 12:00 noon, starting Sep 5 (Conference Room)

With Susan Davis, LCSW

Discussion of a range of issues related to the separation and individuation of evolving older adolescents and young adults. Examples of topics: staying connected and encouraging while letting go of parental control and authority; appropriate boundaries.

### Grandparenting Workshops

First Monday of every month at 9:15 am, starting Oct 7 (Conference Room)

With Susan Davis, LCSW

Exploring intergenerational relationships and sharing the challenges and opportunities of being a grandparent as well as the pleasures.

### "The Blessing of a Skinned Knee" Parenting Group

Second Monday of every month at 9:30 am, starting Oct 14 (Conference Room)

With Susan Davis, LCSW

Wendy Mogel's book focuses on raising resilient, self-reliant, compassionate and competent children and will be used in discussions about helping children manage their emotions, teaching respect, avoiding overindulgence and overscheduling, and managing screen time.

## SPIRITUAL JOURNEYING GROUPS



### Jewish Mindfulness Meditation (now entering its 8th year—newcomers always welcome!)

Thursdays, 9:30-10:45 am

(Schulman Chapel in the Woods)

Led by Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, and certified meditation teacher

Join us in learning mindfulness 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.



### Mussar Classes\*

Mondays, 12:30-2:00 pm (Conference Room)

Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator, WJCS

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. Contact Rabbi Wax at [pwax@wjcs.com](mailto:pwax@wjcs.com) or 914-761-0600 x149 to register. (Fees: for Kol Ami members, \$72; for non-members, \$100).

INTERESTED AND CURIOUS READERS CAN GO TO THE  
KOL AMI VIRTUAL LIBRARY AT [www.nykolami.org](http://www.nykolami.org)  
FOR SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS RELATED TO  
SYNAPLEX AND OTHER EVENTS.



## SOCIAL ACTION AT KOL AMI–TIKKUN OLAM MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR WORLD

### **Social Justice: Be the Light at Kol Ami**

Kol Ami has always engaged in significant social justice programming, and we are increasing our efforts through the "Be the Light" program, which offers resources and opportunities to participate in civic and social action. Our Task Force is committed to thinking about how best to engage the community in these efforts, and was inspired by our temple delegation's attendance at the 2017 Consultation on Conscience, a project of the Religious Action Center (RAC) of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). We hope that you will be in touch with questions and suggestions related to social justice issues by writing to Lori Abrams and Ronnie Cohn, Co-Chairs, at [socialjustice@nykolami.org](mailto:socialjustice@nykolami.org).

### **Cooking for the Homeless**

Sundays, 11:00-1:00 pm (Kol Ami Kitchen)

Tuesdays at 11:15 am (Kol Ami Kitchen)

### **The Cabin Group–Alcoholics Anonymous**

Weekly (closed) Tuesday meetings at 5:45 pm (Schulman Chapel in the Woods)

### **Al-Anon**

Weekly (closed) Tuesday and Thursday meetings at 7:30 pm (Schulman Chapel in the Woods)

### **12-Step Recovery Group**

Mondays at 6:00 pm (Schulman Chapel in the Woods)

### **Mitzvah Singers**

Dates and locations TBA

Join us at nursing homes and assisted living facilities as we sing songs, accompanied by Paul Schwarz. Bring a little sunshine to the residents and make a difference in their lives. Contact Murray Shapiro at (914) 946-7789 for more information.

### **Kol Ami Pantry**

Our Kol Ami Pantry, housed in the entry room of our gymnasium, is now open for our congregants, our staff, and guests of each. Our hours of operation are: Tuesday 9:30-11 am; Thursday 6:00-7:30 pm; and Sunday 11:30 am-1:00 pm. If receiving food from our Pantry would help you at this time, please visit our Pantry and permit us to assist you. If you are able to make a financial donation to help us purchase food for others, we welcome your assistance as well. Operating the Kol Ami Pantry enables us to feed the hungry within our own community and promotes healthy living and social responsibility among our congregants and staff.



A COMMUNITY UNITED AGAINST HUNGER

YOU OPEN YOUR HAND AND SUSTAIN ALL LIVING CREATURES

פִּתְחָה אֶת יָדְךָ וּמִשְׁבִּיעַ לְכֹל חַי רִצּוֹן  
Psalm 145:16

## WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM SISTERHOOD EVENTS\*

Please be sure to check our website for updates and/or date changes.  
[www.NYKolami.org/ssisterhood](http://www.NYKolami.org/ssisterhood)

### **Staplefest**

Tuesday, Sep 17, 7:00-9:30 pm (Petschek Gallery)

Help us prepare the High Holy Days donation bags. Bring a stapler and we will provide the refreshments.

### **Decorate the Sukkah and Potluck Lunch**

Saturday, Oct 12, 12:30-2:30 pm (Petschek Gallery)

Bring your helping hands and we will supply refreshments.

### **Wine and Wisdom**

Saturday, Nov 16, 4:00-6:00 pm (Offsite)

A gathering of women, in a congregant's home, concluding with Havdalah.

### **Holiday Boutique**

Sunday, Dec 8, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Come shop for all of your holiday gifts.

### **Latkes & Lattes**

Saturday, Dec 21, 4:00-6:00 pm (Jaffin/Gym)

### **Pickle Making**

Sunday, Jan 5, 1:00-3:00 pm (Auditorium)

### **Ladies Night Out**

Sunday, Mar 1 at 6:00 pm (Offsite)

Details to follow

### **Passover Tasting**

Tuesday, Mar 31 at 7:00 pm (Petschek Gallery)

### **100th Anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote Celebration Trip to Seneca Falls, NY\***

Sunday, June 5-7 at 6:00 pm (Offsite)

See page 18



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## TRAVEL

### A Civil Rights Journey

Where Black and Jewish journeys intersect

October 24th (evening) - October 27th (noon)  
with Rabbi Shira Milgrom and Abbe Marcus

### The Civil Rights Journey Continues... From D.C. to Charlottesville to Monticello\*

Oct 24-27

With Rabbi Shira Milgrom and Abbe Marcus

On this trip, we will tour the National Museum of African American History and Culture; encounter the intersection of the Civil War and Civil Rights memorials and memories; visit important historical sites including Confederate Monuments in Charlottesville and Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson and the Hemings Family; hear stories of student activists from Moton High School – the first student walk-out and student birthplace of the Civil Rights Movement, laying the way for Brown vs. Board of Education; meet Jewish & Black Civil Rights activists who came together to protest at Glen Echo park, a segregated amusement park in the 1960's; and participate in meaningful interfaith programming with Civil Rights activists and musicians. The trip includes an option to stay in DC for the JStreet Conference: Pro-Israel, Pro-Palestinian, Pro-Peace!



### Kol Ami Israel Trip (SOLD OUT)

Dec 22-Jan 1, 2020

With Rabbi Tom Weiner

A journey of inspiration, education and connection for families over the winter break.



### High School Tikkun Olam Trip to Puerto Rico\*

Feb 16-23

With Rabbi Tom Weiner and Barak Stockler

We will be traveling to Puerto Rico!

### Kol Ami Retreat\*

May 24-26

The Kol Ami Retreat is held each year and embodies some of the best aspects of Kol Ami. It is a celebration of a multi-generational, diverse and dynamic community. In one day you can enjoy everything from lounging by the lake with a good book or good friends, religious study, crafts and drama to sports, dancing and swimming. The Retreat is about community and what guests participate in is all self selected. Whether you join us for the whole time or the day, with your family, a group of friends, or by yourself, we know you will have a wonderful time.

### 100th Anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote Celebration Trip to Seneca Falls, NY\*

Jun 5-7

Trip led by Rabbi Shira Milgrom and Women of Reform Judaism

Celebrate this historic occasion by visiting relevant sites such as the National Women's Hall of Fame and the Women's Rights National Historic Park. We'll begin our weekend with an outdoor Shabbat service.

## THE ARTS: DANCE, MUSIC AND DRAMA

### Congregational Choir

Thursdays, 7:45-9:30 pm, beginning Oct 24

With Cantor David Rosen & Alex Hopkins, accompanist

High school students and adults.

### Kol Ami at the Movies

First Monday of the month, 7:00-9:00 pm

Moderated by Roger Seti

Screening of Israeli films and films with Jewish content.

### Synaplex-Shabbat Shira

Friday, Feb 7

See Pastrami On Rye Synaplex event on page 8 for details.

### Musical Purimspiel

Monday, Mar 9

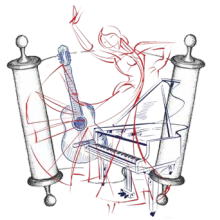
### Summer Concerts

Jul and Aug

Enjoy our outdoor summer concert series. Bring your blankets, chairs and dinner.

### Kol Ami Orchestra

Now in its second year, the Kol Ami Orchestra is comprised of players of all ages and abilities. All instrumentalists are welcome (other than guitar, bass and drums). The orchestra will perform at Kol Ami and at an outside location. If interested please contact the office.



## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Kol Ami Community Garden

Our Community Garden (operating between March and October) is where we raise vegetables to be donated to our Food Pantry. Members of all ages are welcome to help and share their passion for gardening.

### Mah Jongg: Experienced and Novice (Open to All)

Wednesdays, 10:00 am-2:00 pm (Kol Ami Atrium)

Email Betsy McCormack ([betsyrmc@aol.com](mailto:betsyrmc@aol.com)) to be added to the email distribution.

### Mah Jongg Night

Every other Monday at 7:00 pm (Petschek Gallery)

Email Lisa Borowitz at [lisa.borowitz@cowen.com](mailto:lisa.borowitz@cowen.com)







THE BIBLE IS THE BEST BOOK IN THE WORLD AND THE WORST BOOK IN THE WORLD. IT IS THE WORST WHEN IT IS USED FOR BULLYING AND SELF-JUSTIFICATION. IT IS THE BEST WHEN IT IS USED FOR THE HEALING OF THE WORLD AND FOR TRANSFORMATION OF THE SELF.

RICHARD ROHR

**Yehuda Amichai, *Hazman* ("Time")**

סיננתי מתוך מגילת אסתר את  
משקע  
השמחה הגסה, ומתוך ירמיהו  
את יללת הכאב במעיים. ומתוך  
שיר השירים את חיפוש האין סופי  
אחר האהבה ומספר בראשית את  
החלומות ואת קין ומתוך קוהלת את  
הייאוש ומתוך ספר איוב את איוב.  
והדבקתי לי מן השאריות ספר תנ"ך  
חדש.  
אני חי מצונזר ומודבק ומוגבל  
ובשלוה.

I've filtered out of the Book of Esther the residue  
of vulgar joy, and out of the Book of Jeremiah  
the howl of pain in the guts. And out of the  
Song of Songs the endless search for love,  
and out of the Book of Genesis, the dreams  
and Cain, and out of Ecclesiastes  
the despair, and out of the Book of Job—Job.  
And from what was left over I pasted for myself a  
new Bible.

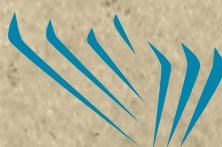
Now I live censored and pasted and limited and in  
peace.

אשה אחת שאלה אותי אמש ברחוב  
החשוך על שלום אשה אחרת  
שמתה לא בעתה ולא בעתו של אף  
אחד.  
מתוך עייפות גדולה עניתי לה:  
שלומה טוב, שלומה טוב.

A woman asked me last night in the darkened street  
about the well-being of another woman  
who had died before her time, and not in anyone's  
time.

Out of great tiredness I answered her:  
She's fine, she's fine.

LEARN DEEPLY • CONNECT WIDELY • WORSHIP WITH JOY



**Congregation Kol Ami**

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