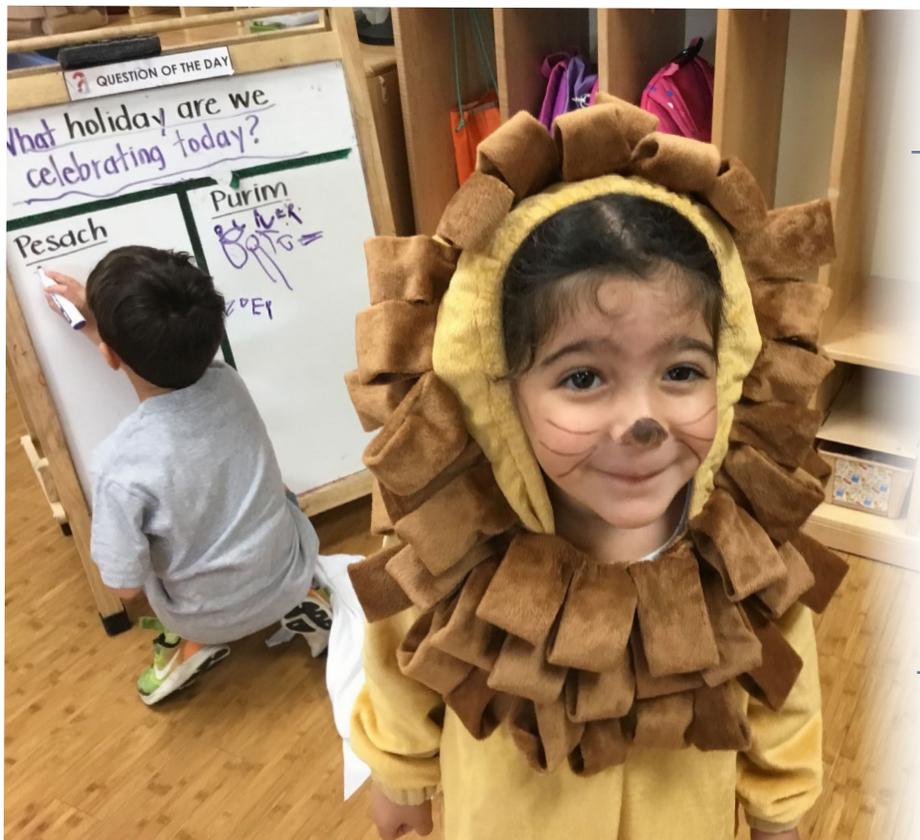


THE
CONNECTION

Spring 2020



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CONGREGATION KOL AMI

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

A REFORM SYNAGOGUE

252 Soundview Avenue ☆ White Plains, New York

914.949.4717 ☆ www.nykolami.org

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

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Assistant Executive Director ☆ Emily Campbell

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Director of Youth Engagement ☆ Barak Stockler

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CANTOR EMERITUS

Raymond Smolover ∞

∞ of blessed memory

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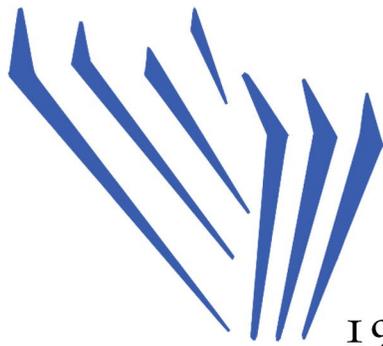
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1923-2019 • 96 YEARS

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.**

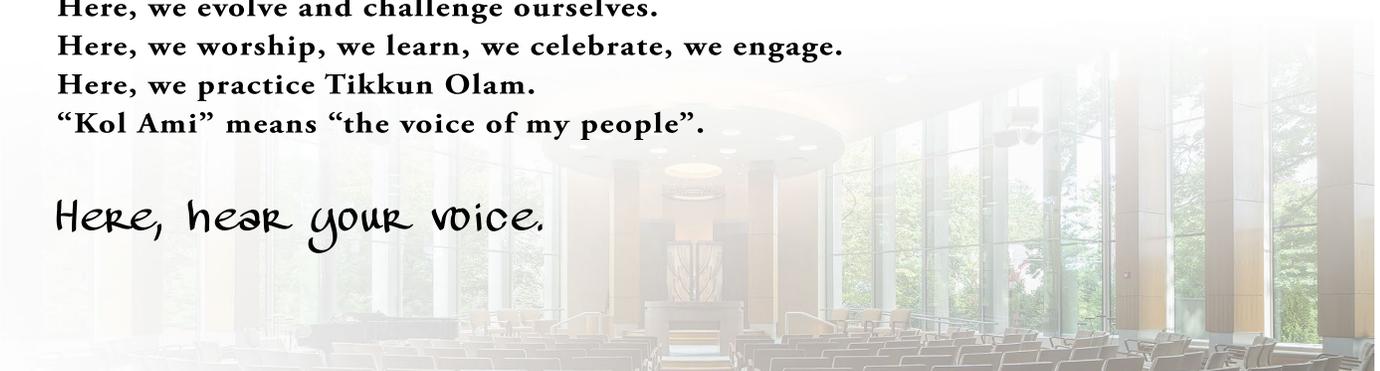
Here, we evolve and challenge ourselves.

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.



Weekly Worship Opportunities



Shabbat in the Woods



The Spirit



of



Shabbat

5:30pm Friday Shabbat in the Woods

A weekly Shabbat Service in story and song for families with young children. The first Friday of every month is also our Book Share Shabbat. Sponsored by temple families, each family who attends will go home with a book as our gift. Preschoolers are also invited to stay and enjoy crafts, games, and a light supper while parents attend the 6:15pm Shabbat Service in the Main Sanctuary.



6:15pm Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Our weekly Kabbalat Shabbat Service in our Main Sanctuary. A time to unwind, pray, sing, see friends, light Shabbat candles, and be together. Followed by our weekly festive oneg.



9:00am Saturday Shabbat Lift

Join Rabbi Shira Milgrom and fellow congregants in our beautiful Chapel in the Woods for a morning of coffee, community, Torah study, guest speakers, and Shabbat services. Come for all or part of the morning. Bring your curiosity!

Weekly Torah Portions

March

Week ending March 7, 2020

Parashat T'tzaveh Exodus 27:20-30:10

The rituals surrounding the priests and sacrifices are described, and the obligations of Aaron and his sons are enumerated in Parashat T'tzaveh. This parashah has the distinction of being the only parashah in the last four books of the Torah in which the name of Moses does not appear.

Week ending March 14, 2020

Parashat Ki Tisa Exodus 30:11-34:35

Moses lingers on Mount Sinai for forty days. The people become agitated during Moses' long absence and persuade Aaron to fashion a golden calf. Upon returning with the 10 Commandments, Moses sees the Israelites cavorting around the calf and he smashes the tablets of God's law. Joined by the Levites, Moses executes a campaign to root out the offenders. Moses then pleads with God to secure divine mercy for the people. The parashah ends with a restoration of mutual faith and Moses carving a second set of tablets inscribed with Ten Commandments.

Week ending March 21, 2020

Parashat Vayak'heil-P'kudei Exodus 35:1-40:38

In the first part of this double parashah, Moses reminds the people that God commanded them to keep Shabbat, not to do work on the seventh day and to make the day holy. Parashat Vayak'heil continues with Moses asking the Israelites to donate materials for the building of the Mishkan (sanctuary). P'kudei is the last parashah in the book of Exodus. Moses describes the specifications for the building of the Mishkan (sanctuary) for God. Every article needed, every attribute of the structure, every manner of work, and every detail for the altar is specified. As the building of the sanctuary and its holy objects are completed, Moses blesses all of the people who took part in its creation.

Week ending March 28, 2020

Parashat Vayikra Leviticus 1:1-5:26

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

April

Week ending April 4, 2020

Parashat Tzav Leviticus 6:1-8:36

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

Week ending April 11, 2020

(Shabbat Chol Hamo-eid Pesach) Parashat Ki Tisa Exodus 33:12-34:26

On the Shabbat during Passover, 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 April 18, 2020

Parashat Sh'mini Leviticus 9:1-11:47

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

Week ending April 25, 2020

Parashat Tazria-Metzora Leviticus 12:1-15:33

In this double portion, we begin with a discussion of defilement and purification following childbirth in parashat Tazria, and continue with an examination of tzara-at, which denotes a variety of skin rashes and blemishes. Methods for diagnosing and treating a variety of skin diseases, as well as those for purifying clothing are also described. Parashat Metzora continues the discussion of the laws pertaining to "uncleanness" particularly those which are thought to refer to various molds or mildews that could discolor surfaces of fabric or stone. Priestly rituals to cure these various conditions are described.

Weekly Torah Portions

May

Week ending May 2, 2020

Parashat Acherei Mot – Kedoshim

Leviticus 16:1–20:27

We return to the book of Leviticus this week. In this double parasha, God speaks to Moses after the death of Aaron's two sons, who were killed for coming too close to the presence of God. This parasha also delineates the duties that the head kohein (priest) must perform on Yom Kippur, as well as the laws for fasting and atonement. The taboos for certain sexual practices are outlined in detail in this chapter. Parashat K'doshim (holiness) continues with the practical and interpersonal applications of holiness. God explains to Moses what it means to be a "holy" people and describes the many ethical and ritual laws aimed to help people live lives of holiness. The laws described include some of those recorded in the Ten Commandments, such as respecting one's parents, keeping the Sabbath, and not stealing.

Week ending May 9, 2020

Parashat Emor Leviticus 21:1-24:23

Emor provides details about the lives of the priests and their families. The Israelites are commanded to bring clear olive oil for lighting the sanctuary menorah, and the ingredients and placement of the displayed loaves of sanctuary bread are explained to them. This parasha also includes the most comprehensive holiday calendar in the Torah.

Week ending May 16, 2020

Parashat Behar- Behukotai

Leviticus 25:1-27:34

This double parasha presents a vision of a society guided by God-given principles of human freedom, human dignity and concern for the most vulnerable in society, as well as the warnings of what will befall the people if they do not observe God's commandments. In Behar we are given the laws regulating the sabbatical year (every seventh year), giving the earth a complete rest; and the jubilee year (every 50 years), in which land and vineyards must not be worked and the granting of liberty to all Israelites enslaved during the previous forty-nine years. The book of Leviticus is completed with Behukotai, also known as Parashat HaToch'chah — the portion of reproach. This parashah contains a list of curses that will occur if we do not follow God's commandments, and blessings if we do follow God's ways. The parasha also includes a brief discussion of the payment of vows and gifts made to the sanctuary.

Week ending May 23, 2020

Parashat Bamidbar Numbers 1:1- 4:20

This Shabbat we begin reading the book of Bamidbar, (in the wilderness). The book is called "Numbers" in English because it begins with a census of all male Israelites in the camp who are eligible to bear arms, those over the age of 20, as well as those responsible for the duties in the Tabernacle. The parasha stipulates a census of first-born males and levies a special redemption tax on them (Pidya ha ben). Each tribe is assigned specific places in the camp surrounding the Tabernacle.

Week ending May 30, 2020

Parashat Naso Numbers 4:21-5:31

In the first part of the second parasha in the Book of Numbers the census is completed with a counting of members of the Levitical families between the ages of thirty and fifty. Their responsibilities in the portage of the Tabernacle and the Tent of Meeting are detailed. We conclude this week's portion with God's instructions to Moses concerning what to do with ritually unclean people, repentant individuals, and those who are suspected of adultery.

March 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)		

Sunday, March 1st

1:30-3:00pm UJA Youth Activity in the Gym

Monday, March 2nd

9:15-10:45am Grandparenting Class
7:00-10:30pm Kol Ami at the Movies in the Conference Room

Tuesday, March 3rd

7:00-9:00pm Men's Study Group in NYC
7:30-9:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Wednesday, March 4th

7:45-9:00am Women's Roundtable Breakfast
9:15-10:30am Kol Ami Reads Book Club
12:30-2:30pm Study in the City with Cantor Rosen in NYC

Thursday, March 5th

11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
12:00-2:00pm Parenting Young Adults
7:00-9:00pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal

Saturday, March 7th

5:00pm Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Ilberg
1:00-4:00pm LGBTQ Program in the Chapel and Gym

Sunday, March 8th

Daylight Savings Begins

8:30am Religious School Pancakes and Pajamas
11:00-1:00pm Cooking for the Homeless
3:00-5:00pm Kol Ami Goes to Broadway: West Side Story

Monday, March 9th

9:30-11:00am Blessings of a Skinned Knee Group
11:00-12:30pm Current Events with Beth Kava
12:30-2:00pm Mussar Class
4:30-9:00pm **Purim Carnival, Dinner, Megillah Reading, and Spiel**

Tuesday, March 10th

11:15am Women in Transition
7:30-9:00pm Israel in the News

Wednesday, March 11th

7:00-8:30pm Parenting Adolescents

Thursday, March 12th

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

Friday, March 13th

6:15pm 5th Grade Family Shabbat and Yad B'Yad Shabbat of Inclusion

Saturday, March 14th

10:00am B'nai Mitzvah of Jacqueline Kershner and Max Friedman

Sunday, March 15th

11:00-1:00pm Cooking for the Homeless

Monday, March 16th

9:00-8:00pm RAC-NY Albany Advocacy Day
7:30-9:30pm Oasis at Home in the Chapel
7:30-9:30pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Wednesday, March 18th

3:00-8:00pm Torah Letter Fill-In with Soferet Julie Seltzer

Thursday, March 19th

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

Friday, March 20th

5:00-10:00pm Synaplex Shabbat Evening

Saturday, March 21st

10:00am Bat Mitzvah of Daisy Gilmore

Sunday, March 22nd

9:00-11:00am 6th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Workshop #3
10:00-1:00pm Mindfulness Class at Pause Studios
10:00-3:00pm Torah Letter Fill-In with Soferet Julie Seltzer

Monday, March 23rd

11:00-12:30pm Current Events
12:30-2:00pm Mussar Class
7:00-10:00pm Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery
7:30-9:00pm Perspectives of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, March 24th

7:30-9:00pm Israel in the News in Room 7
7:30-9:30pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Thursday, March 26th

11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
11:00-2:00pm Wise Aging
5:30-7:00pm Bar Mitzvah of Henry Goldrich in the Chapel
7:30-8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, March 28th

5:00-7:00pm B'nai Mitzvah of Samantha and Harley Pfeffer

Monday, March 30th

7:30-9:00pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, March 31st

7:00-9:00pm Sisterhood Passover Tasting in the Gallery
7:30-9:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira Milgrom

April 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)		

Wednesday, April 1st

7:45-9:00am Women's Roundtable Breakfast
9:15-10:30am KA Reads Book Club

Thursday, April 2nd

11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
12:00-2:00pm Parenting Young Adults Group
7:30-8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 3rd

4:00-6:00pm Torah Letter Fill-In with Soferet Julie Seltzer
6:15pm Auf Ruf of Melissa Marcus and Justin Wass

Saturday, April 4th

10:00-12:00pm Bat Mitzvah of Diana Gaffner
5:00-7:00pm Bat Mitzvah of Claire Weinstein

Sunday, April 5th

Religious School Closed for Passover Break (returning on April 19th)

Monday, April 6th

9:15-10:45am Grandparenting Workshop
11:00-12:30pm Current Events
7:00-10:30pm Kol Ami Goes to the Movies in the Conference Room
7:00-10:00pm Mah Jongg Mondays in the Gallery

Tuesday, April 7th

12:00pm ECP Closes at Noon for Passover Break

Wednesday, April 8th

Building and Offices Closed in Observance of Passover

Thursday, April 9th

Offices Closed in Observance of Passover

10:00-12:00pm Passover Service in the Chapel
12:00-1:00pm Passover Oneg in the Gallery

Monday, April 13th

9:30-11:00am Blessings of a Skinned Knee Group
7:30-9:30pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, April 14th

11:15am Women in Transition
7:30-9:00pm Israel in the News

Wednesday, April 15th

Building and Offices Closed for Passover Day 7

10:00-12:00pm Passover 7th Day Yizkor Service in the Chapel
12:00-1:00pm Community Oneg in the Gallery

Thursday, April 16th

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

Saturday, April 18th

10:00-12:00pm B'nai Mitzvah of Elliot Eisenberg and Zachary Cole

Sunday, April 19th

9:00-11:00am 4th Grade Parent Information Meeting
11:00-1:00pm Cooking for the Homeless

Monday, April 20th

11:00-12:30pm Current Events
12:30-2:00pm Mussar Class
7:00-10:00pm Mah Jongg Night in the Gallery
7:30-9:30pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, April 21st

7:30-9:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira Milgrom
6:30-8:30pm 8th Grade Community Yom Ha'shoah Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 22nd

7:30-8:30pm Community Yom Hashoah Service

Thursday, April 23rd

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

Friday, April 24th

5:00-10:00pm Synaplex Shabbat Evening

Saturday, April 25th

10:00-12:00pm Bat Mitzvah for Zoe Dichter
5:00-7:00pm Bar Mitzvah for Bode Vujnovich

Monday, April 27th

7:30-9:30pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, April 28th

7:30-9:00pm Israel in the News

Thursday, April 30th

11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
11:00-2:00pm Wise Aging
5:00-7:00pm ECP Parent Teacher Conferences
7:30-8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

May 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)		

Friday, May 1st
6:15pm 4th Grade Family Shabbat, Dinner, and Hassidic Wedding

Saturday, May 2nd
4:00-6:00pm Benefactors Event

Sunday, May 3rd
9:00-11:00am Religious School 1st Grade Synagogue Tour
9:00-11:00am Religious School 2nd Grade "Keeping Quilt" Project
11:00-1:00pm Cooking for the Homeless

Monday, May 4th
9:15-10:45am Grandparenting with Susan Davis
11:00-12:30pm Current Events
7:00-10:30pm Kol Ami Goes to the Movies in the Conference Room
7:00-10:00pm Mah Jongg Night in the Gallery

Tuesday, May 5th
5:00-8:30pm Family Math Night
7:30-9:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira Milgrom
7:30-9:00pm Israel in the News

Wednesday, May 6th
7:45-9:00am Women's Roundtable Breakfast
9:15-10:30am KA Reads Book Club

Thursday, May 7th
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
12:00-2:00pm Parenting Young Adults Group
7:00-11:00pm "Passport to Kol Ami" Gala

Friday, May 8th
6:15pm Auf Ruf of Matthew Linder and Casey June

Saturday, May 9th
5:00-7:00pm B'nai Mitzvah of Benjamin and Max Bliss

Sunday, May 10th **Mother's Day**
9:00-11:00am Religious School Day of Chesed

Monday, May 11th
9:30-11:00am Blessing of a Skinned Knee Group
7:30-9:30pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, May 12th
11:15am Women in Transition
8:00-10:00pm Kol Ami Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 13th
Last Wednesday of Religious School
7:00-8:30pm Parenting Adolescents Group

Thursday, May 14th
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 15th
ECP Closed for Students/Staff-In Service Day
6:15pm 2nd Grade Shabbat and Torah Processional
6:15pm Youth Shabbat and High School Graduation

Saturday, May 16th
5:00-7:00pm Bar Mitzvah of Lev Glazman

Sunday, May 17th
Last day of Religious School
9:00-11:00am Zimriyah and Picnic

Monday, May 18th
11:00-12:30pm Current Events
12:30-2:00pm Mussar Class
7:00-10:00pm Mah Jongg Nite in the Gallery
7:30-9:30pm Perceptions of Reality in Judaism and in Science

Tuesday, May 19th
7:00-9:00pm Sisterhood Membership Dinner
7:30-9:00pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class with Rabbi Shira Milgrom
7:30-9:00pm Israel in the News

Wednesday, May 20th
6:00-9:00pm 10th Grade Confirmation Rehearsal

Thursday, May 21st
8:30-10:00am ECP Art Show in the Gallery
11:00-12:00pm Wisdom of the Sages with Rabbi Tom Weiner
7:30-8:45pm Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 25th
Building and Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 27th
7:00-10:00pm Confirmation Dinner and Blessings

Thursday, May 28th **Erev Shavuot**
11:00-2:00pm Wise Aging
5:00-7:15pm Dedication of the New Torah
6:15-9:30pm Confirmation, Shavuot, and Yizkor Service

Friday, May 29th
Offices Closed in Observance of Shavuot
10:00-12:00pm Shavuot and Yizkor Service in the Chapel
12:00-1:00pm Community Oneg in the Gallery

Saturday, May 30th
10:00-12:00pm Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Newman
5:00-6:00pm Bat Mitzvah of Talia Rothschild

Sunday, May 31st
5:00-8:00pm Coachman Memorial Day BBQ

SAVE THE DATE!
June 19th-21st
Annual Kol Ami Retreat Weekend
at the Circle Lodge in Hopewell Junction, NY
More info to come.

A Message from Rabbi Weiner



Falling In Love with The Real Israel

Our Israel Trip: Chanukah 2019

An interesting challenge: here we are, 30 good folks from Kol Ami ranging in age from 8 to those of us “well into” adulthood. On one hand, how can we possibly make sure that children and first timers have the sweet and wonderful experience of all the things in Israel that are so easy to appreciate and fall in love with? Yet, on the other hand, how do we provide for those who are not first timers a realistic picture of Israel, warts and all, challenges and glories?

Applause to our wonderfully brilliant and talented guide, Shlomo Lipschutz, who was pen to all questions, differing points of views and all levels of Israel experience. But most of all, applause and credit go to our amazing travelers who listened so carefully, asked such deep and thoughtful questions, who were so non-judgmental and patient with one another, and who were all open to grow, evolve, become more nuanced and more passionate in their love of Israel.

On the last night of the trip, we gathered in a circle in a meeting room in our hotel. We asked all of those who wanted to share something significant they had learned on our journey. The responses were fabulous; from young children sharing how they now understand that Israel is so beautiful and fun, but can also be really complicated; to adults sharing deeply emotional experiences that surprised them, as well a deeper connection to Israel than they had ever.

If you haven't yet had an amazing experience in Israel, please talk to me or Shira or David. The next trip is already on the horizon!

Tom Weiner



A Message from Rabbi Milgrom

CHOCOLATE, RASPBERRIES AND COURAGE

One of my favorite personal ads ever is the following one, that appeared in the back section of the Jewish Week many years ago: "Divorced Jewish man seeks partner to attend shul with, light Shabbos candles, celebrate holidays, build Sukkah together, attend brisses, bar mitzvahs. Religion not important."



I found this ad hysterical and profound at the same time, for through its apparent contradictions, it hints at one of the great truths of Jewish life. Jewish life is a phenomenal way to live richly – to live the rhythms of the year with color, texture, taste, song, story and ritual. For many of us, this practice is linked to faith; for others (like the writer of that ad), perhaps it is not. For Judaism, faith is not a requirement of Jewish life – though it hopefully becomes a by-product of living a Jewish life. For many of us, there are many, many years of adolescence and young adulthood – years of rebellion and growth - in which belief in God is a non-issue or even irrelevant. This was the case for me. [Over the years, life experience and learning have brought me to the realization that "God" was there all along, only I didn't know it.] But, like the writer of the ad, my non-belief had nothing to do with joy in Jewish life. My childhood is rich with memories of the dark scented evergreens of our sukkah, the chocolate and raspberries of Pesach, the snow and candles of Hanukkah, the guests and music around our Shabbat table. Living Jewishly brings us ways to remember our sorrows, deepen our compassion, become fired up again to correct injustice, and celebrate life's goodness. You can do this for yourself; you can do it for your family. But this is the key: commitment. Just as exercise does little good if done only occasionally, so the tremendous power of Jewish life goes largely unrealized without commitment. Pesach/Passover happens only once a year. But with each additional year, the celebration of the Seder reinforces the memories of past years. The blessings and songs of each Hanukkah build from year to year. Imagine – if we had the commitment to light candles each Friday, gather with friends or family each Shabbat – give tzedakah – drop a can of food at the temple each week – slow down enough to utter a blessing in amazement at the gift of life – imagine the power we would have to transform our lives.

Next month, we will gather around tables and retell the Passover story. "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt." This refrain of the Haggadah is accompanied by the power of senses. We taste the bitterness, dipping greens into salted water; the bitter sting of the maror, the horseradish, makes our eyes tear. Through the visceral experience of the senses, we relive the experience of our people – not only to remember, but also to act with courage and compassion in our own lives.

How is it possible that good people sit by when others are enslaved or persecuted? This question emerges from the retelling of the Pesach story as we remember enslavements even more cruel, that of the Nazi Holocaust. But, again, we remember not only to identify with our ancestors; we also remember in order to act with courage in our own lives. Today, through the power of media and communication, we are aware of the plight of immigrants and refugees – from Syria, to the Congo, to the horrors of separated families within our own borders. Will we, too, do what "normal" people have done, or will we be compelled by the power of our own memory to step up with courage and compassion?

It may be, for some of us, that our celebrations of Jewish life do not emerge from belief. But as we connect ourselves to memory, as we find ways to become human beings of courage and compassion, we will have connected our Jewish life to some of the things that matter most in the world. We will have lived in practice one of the most fundamental Jewish beliefs: the hope that we can bring this world, one action at a time, to greater justice, compassion and freedom.

Shirley Milgrom

A Message from Cantor Rosen



Dear Members of Congregation Kol Ami,

It is with mixed emotions that I share with you my decision to leave Congregation Kol Ami in June 2020. On July 1, 2020 I will become the Senior Cantor of Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto's first synagogue and Canada's largest Reform Congregation. I can assure you that this was an extremely difficult decision for our family as we have created so many wonderful friendships and relationships here at Kol Ami. Nonetheless, the opportunity for us to be close to our family with aging parents and during Joel's formative years is truly a gift. All of you have been such a blessing and I know that Ilyse, Joel and I will always have a second home here.

We have shared six wonderful years full of spirituality, study, mitzvot and celebration. In that time, I have learned how to be a better cantor and a better person from all of you. I hope I have helped you on your own paths towards holiness, a greater love of Judaism, and connection to our sacred congregation. I have enjoyed my work with students of all ages, from the Early Childhood program to our seniors. We have come together for so many memorable and powerful moments as a connected community and I will cherish this forever. I have been fortunate to share in the joy of baby namings and weddings and in the tender moments of reflection and memory at funerals and other life transitions. From hundreds of outstanding b'nai mitzvah students to private times sharing the powerful moments in your lives, we have been on an amazing journey together. Thank you for helping make our congregation a holy community filled with blessing and connection.

Over the next several months, please know that I will continue to serve Kol Ami with my whole heart and attention. There are still wonderful musical programs to look forward to and I know these musical traditions will continue on with whomever succeeds me. I also know that our Music Director, Alex Hopkins will work your new cantor to ensure that the rich musical traditions of Kol Ami will continue well into the future.

In a few short weeks you will experience, "I Guess That's Why They Call it the Spiel," a Purim Spiel celebrating the music of Elton John. There is a great cast that has been put together and I know it is going to be a fabulous evening!

We still have two Explorations in Jewish Music at Synaplex Shabbats coming this year, including our next on March 20 when we will welcome tenor, Ross Schwaber to present another wonderful recital of opera, musical theatre and art song.

I always look forward to our year end "Zimriyah" with our Religious School students. It is on Sunday, May 17th. It is an opportunity for our children to showcase some of the many prayers, songs and dances they have been learning in Religious School throughout the year.

Kol Arts, our new and innovative music and arts education program opened its doors last month. There are various music lessons already taking place in our building and so much to come in the next few months leading into a jammed pack fall. Naomi Graf, our Director, is there to answer any questions and is happy to explore a variety of options with you.

We will have opportunities to spend time together over the next few months at communal celebrations and significant congregational events. We will have ample time to say our goodbyes. For now, I simply want to thank you for the special opportunity you have given me to be your cantor for the past six years. I am honored by your kindnesses and for letting me be a part of your lives.

With many blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Rosen', written in a cursive style.

A Message from our Co-President



Disruption

I had intended to write about disruption. It is a concept that was emphasized throughout the recent Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Biennial, as I was told by members of our incredible delegation. Regardless of the underlying subject matter — congregational engagement, social justice, education, to name just a few — the URJ implored us to think outside the box, to come up with novel, bold ideas that fundamentally shift the status quo. Be a disruptor.

I had intended to tell you that I was never much of a disruptor. That to this day, my sister refers to me as the “Golden Child” for seemingly never doing wrong as a kid. (If only that were true!) My own children called me “Goody Two Shoes” the other day. It was not meant as a compliment.

I had intended to go on to explain that I have learned that goodness and disruption are not mutually exclusive. That, in fact, some of the most significant and enduring good in the world has happened through and because of disruption. That it was time for me, indeed for us, to think outside the box to find ways to benefit our congregation. It was time for us to look for bold, innovative steps to better support our members and the Jewish community — locally and globally. It was time for us to ask ourselves how we can improve the lives of our neighbors, both near and far, how can we help to repair our fractured world and protect our planet and the beautiful, wondrous, varied life it sustains. I had intended to make a commitment — and ask you to make a similar commitment in a way that is meaningful to you — to be more of a disruptor as I serve this incomparable congregation.

And then, as I was about to submit my article for publication, a disruption occurred. Our beloved Cantor David Rosen informed us that he had been offered the opportunity to become the Senior Cantor of an historic congregation in his home city. It was an opportunity to be reunited with family and to lead and serve the largest Reform synagogue community in Canada.

Though I carry my own heavy heart along with all the heavy hearts in our congregation, I cannot help but feel true joy for David. I expect that we will have multiple opportunities to express our gratitude to David for enriching us, uplifting us, and blessing us with his beautiful voice, but I do not want him to have to wait to hear publicly from me and Scott.

David . . . As I said to leadership of your new spiritual home, they have gained not only an exceptional Cantor, but a beautiful soul. Thank you for all you have given to us.

And to our beloved congregants . . . Even though disruption can bring uncertainty, it also offers great opportunity. Music — beautiful, uplifting, moving, solemn, compelling, comforting, joyful music — is inextricably entwined in our history and in our Jewish lives. I believe in the strength and determination of our community, and I have no doubt that together we will ensure that our rich musical legacy not only continues, but thrives.

Although Cantor Rosen’s resignation is qualitatively different from the type of disruption described by the URJ, it gives us a unique opportunity to evaluate our present and think creatively about our future. I look forward to embarking on this journey with you.

With a full, grateful heart,

Susan Arovas

A Message from our Executive Director



The Importance of Community In Sorrow and Joy

One of the great blessings of Jewish law is that it mandates our interactions with a community. The Talmud teaches us about the concept of community in Jewish Life. “A Torah scholar is not allowed to live in a city that does not have 10 things: a law court; a tzedekah fund; a synagogue; a bath house; a bathroom; a doctor; a craftsperson; a blood-let-ter (butcher); a scribe; and a teacher of children.” (Sanhedrin 17b). The collective is part of the Jewish experience; the community is responsible for the physical and communal needs of its members.

This sense of community manifests itself in different ways. Many prayers require the presence of ten adults, a minyan. Even for the prayers that do not require a minyan, Jews often pray together in groups.

At no time is the Jewish community more strongly felt than during times of loss. I know this from my own experience losing my Father-in-law and from speaking with many friends from within and outside our Kol Ami community. Most recently, for one close friend, far from the ten adults necessary to recite the mourners’ kaddish, countless friends and family gathered for the funeral, showing what love and support they could, while we mourned together. During the shiva, visitors filled my friend’s home. In this time of greatest need, the community gathered together to comfort one another and be there for the family.

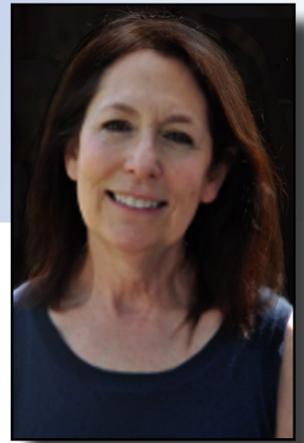
Too often, Jews only remember their communal responsibilities when it comes to times of mourning. Yet Judaism expects us to maintain community not only in times of need, but also in mundane times as well as in times of celebration. For a b’nai mitzvah to receipt the blessings over the Torah, there must be a minyan. The same is true for wedding blessings recited under a chupah. Over and over again, Judaism reminds us that we need to create community in times of happiness as much as in times of sadness.

Membership in a Jewish community has always demanded a sense of shared destiny, manifested in the obligation to care for other members of the community. If we succeed in maintaining the sense of community all of the time, then the community will naturally be there to share the joy in partaking in each other’s celebrations and in sadness, when we need it most.

At Kol Ami there are countless opportunities to participate in our amazing community. If you would like to learn more about our incredible, upcoming programs and events, and how you may participate, I welcome you to call me.

Fondly,
Jess Lorden

A Message from our ECP Director



Starting with Purim, March promises to be just plain fun! We'll enjoy costume fun, carnival games, and Hamantaschen!

March will also bring our One Book One Community project. We'll loan every 3's, 4's and 5's family a copy of a wonderful book called A Sick Day for Amos McGee to be read at home. Along with the book, each child will be sent home with age-appropriate questions, prompts and discussion points to enjoy with their families. Reading and talking about the story provides our families with a special time together at home. At school we'll discuss the story and couple that with projects and meaningful and fun follow-up experiences.

As April rolls in spring will be on everyone's face and in everyone's step. The children will have blossomed over the winter months, and in every part of our Early Childhood Program, from the artwork, to the games being played, to the activities the children will engage in and in the friendships they will form, growth will be present.

April also will find us deep into our Passover learning and preparations. The 2's will be busy planting Parsley, and making Matzah Covers. The 3's, 4's and 5's will be busy writing their classroom Haggadahs, making Kiddush cups, Seder plates, Matzah Covers, Charoset and Macaroons. Our Passover play on Friday morning April 3rd promises to be another incredible moment in the ECP. All of our 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's along with our incredible teaching staff and Rabbis Shira and Tom, and Cantor David will delight our families with our version of the Passover story – it will truly be a memorable morning!

Our Annual Trip to Israel on Yom Ha'atzmaut is always a highlight of our year. On April 29th the ECP will "travel to Israel." After a "rigorous security check" and a most enjoyable "plane ride" the children will have the opportunity to put messages into the wall at the Kotel, stomp on grapes in our vineyard, make orange juice, plant trees, milk a cow, take a picture with a camel, learn how things float in the Dead Sea, fish in Eilat, participate on an Archaeological dig, make a stained glass window, relax at our very own Dead Sea spa complete with mud baths, taste the delicious foods of Israel, learn about the animals who live in the desert, and make their own pita! Of course the morning will not be possible without the able hands of our ECP Staff, Rabbis Shira and Tom, Cantor David, Jess, Cindy Musoff our ECP Chair, and our many parent volunteers. So, a special thank you to all who will make this morning so special for our 3's, 4's and Pre-k's.

Our 4's and 5's will also have the opportunity to participate in our annual Israeli Dance Festival. This wonderful annual event involves 5 other Jewish Early Childhood Programs from the Westchester and New York City area. It's a wonderfully rich morning of Dance and celebration lead by our brilliant teacher Shmulik Gov-Ari.

Our ECP Annual Art Show and Artists Breakfast will take place on Thursday morning May 21st from 9:00-9:45. The children work all year on this event. We invite all of our families to join us for breakfast and a special "viewing" of the children's work. It goes without saying that this is always a special morning.

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

Nan Blank

ECP Spring Dates:

March Dates:

- March 6th, Shabbat Dinner 5:30-7:00
- March 17th, Evening Conferences for 3's and 4's

April Dates:

- 3rd Passover Play 10:30
- 7th at noon – 17th Spring Break
- April 30th 2's and Pre-K Evening Conferences

May Dates:

- 4th 4's Bring your favorite Gal to school day
- 5th Family Math Night 6:00-7:30
- 13th 3's Bring your favorite person to school day 9:00-10:30
- 15th ECP closed for Staff In-Service
- 21st Artists Breakfast
- 25th Closed for Memorial Day
- 29th Closed for Shavuot

A Message from our Religious School Director



This being the first year that I am not teaching an assigned class in the lower school (First Taste-6th Grade), I am free to pop in and out of classrooms, which I do every session. I exit each classroom with tremendous energy, joy, and pride! The happy faces, thoughtful conversations, creative juices, and excitement to show me what they are learning are invigorating and deeply rewarding. I am impressed by our teachers who bring their own skills and passions (art, music, story-telling, cooking, games-making, yoga, etc.) into the classroom to enhance the learning in imaginative and effective ways. Our children are in good hands with our passionate and caring teachers and our devoted clergy (Rabbi Shira, Rabbi Tom and Cantor David lead Tefillah for all of our students)!

What more could there be? In a word...YOU!

When you see this, our Religious School Parent Network will have already officially launched. We hope we welcomed you, heard from you and inspired you at our meeting! If you couldn't attend, please join us now! You can reach our Chair, Amy Goldstein, at Religiousschoolparents@nykolami.org so we can update you on the exciting things going on in our school and community. In case you haven't see Amy's original email, it's well worth reprinting:

Dear Religious School Parents,

I am excited to let you know that the Religious School's Parent Network is about to be relaunched! I am equally excited to be serving as Chair and will be working hand in hand with our Religious School Director, Pam Pass. My husband Jonathan and I have been members of Kol Ami for over ten years. Our three children, Brett, Brooke and Samantha, are in grades 12, 7, and 6 in the Religious School and are students in the Scarsdale public schools. Our girls attended the ECP, and I am currently teaching a math enrichment class there weekly.

In these complicated times, our family cherishes having a vibrant, welcoming and engaging place to celebrate our Jewishness and practice Tikkum Olam. Our hope is that the Parent Network will be another touchpoint in our relationship with Kol Ami as well as yours.

We will meet monthly to discuss school goings-on, connect with other Religious School parents and hear from guest speakers from both within and outside of Kol Ami. Please join us on Sunday, Feb 2, from 9:15-10:45 am in the Chapel-in-the-Woods for the opportunity to meet one another and hear from Pam Pass, who will give an update on the school. We hope you'll come by for coffee, community and collaboration.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with your thoughts, questions, and suggestions. Parent involvement is important to the success of the school, and it enriches children's experience as well. Pam and I need your ideas and inspiration! We invite you to shape this Parent Network together with us.

Best,

Amy Goldstein

Join us in this rewarding endeavor. I look forward to enriching our community together! - Pam Pass

B'nai Mitzvah



Ethan Ilberg, son of Elizabeth and Todd, and brother to Joshua and Max, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 7th, 2020. He is in 7th grade and is looking forward to spending his 6th summer this year at Camp Walden. As an avid athlete, Ethan enjoys playing travel soccer as well as ice hockey for the White Plains Plainsmen. For fun Ethan loves biking, riding ATV, skiing, sailing, fishing and hanging out with friends and family. He loves to cook and is known for his amazing breakfasts! For Ethan's Mitzvah Project, he uses his leadership skills and love of hockey as a junior Coach at the New York Rangers Learn to Play hockey program. As a weekly volunteer, he helps coach new players along side the professional coaches. Ethan is an active community member and loves to participate when the opportunity arises. He has volunteered serving the Coachman Thanksgiving Dinner and at Burke Rehabilitation for the Wheelchair Games. Ethan is very excited to spend his special day with family and friends.



Max Friedman, son of David and Lesley and brother to Andi, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 14, 2020. He is in 7th grade at Highlands Middle School in White Plains. Max loves to play soccer, basketball and tennis. Max also enjoys playing video games, fantasy football, hanging out with his friends and playing with his dog, Otis. In the summer, he has spent the past 5 years at his favorite place on Earth, KenMont/KenWood Camp. For his mitzvah project, he has been collecting funds through recycling cans and bottles. He will be matching the funds collected and donating the money to SCOPE, a program that raises money for summer camp scholarships. Max is looking forward to sharing his special day with family and friends.



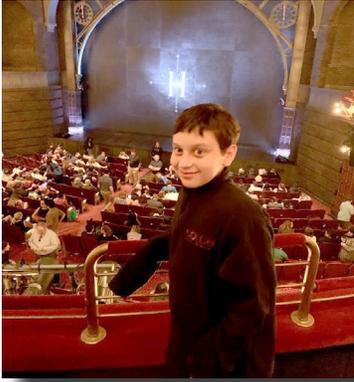
Jacqueline Kershner, daughter of Kelly and Michael Kershner and sister of Rachel, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 14, 2020. Jackie is a 7th grader at Scarsdale Middle School. Jackie is an avid soccer, basketball and lacrosse player, keeping her on a field or court throughout the year. When not playing sports, she likes drawing, watching Grey's Anatomy and spending time with friends and her cat, Milo. This year, she was a sports mentor for kids at the Coachman Family Center and plans to volunteer with the Sharing Shelf. Jackie is excited to share her special day with family and friends.



Daisy Gilmore, daughter of Alison and Matthew Gilmore and sister to Caroline, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 21, 2020. She is a seventh grader at Edgemont Middle School. Daisy loves skiing, singing, and hanging out with her friends. In her free time, she takes care of her dog, Lucky and her cat, Sparkles. For her mitzvah project, Daisy has been leading craft activities at Kol Ami parties for the kids at the Coachman Center, a local family shelter, and teaching a few elder relatives and friends how to use social media and shop online. She looks forward to sharing her special day with friends and family.



B'nai Mitzvah



Henry Morris Goldrich, son of Michael and Nancy Goldrich and brother to Nathan and Max Goldrich, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on March 26th, 2020. He is in the 7th grade at Edgemont Junior High School. During the school year, Henry is involved in soccer and the school ski team in addition to his school work. After school, he plays the violin and is a taekwondo black belt. Henry leads up “Kids for Mike” social media accounts for Mike Bloomberg’s presidential campaign. He was recently nominated by his teacher and won Edgemont’s prestigious “Jewel of the Heart” award. This award is earned through genuine displays of courage, integrity, and kindness. The Board of Education will present the award to him on January 28th. For his Mitzvah project, Henry volunteered Sunday mornings at Feeding Westchester. He packed grocery bags filled with fresh vegetables and fruits that were delivered to the elderly. Feeding Westchester’s mission is to end hunger in Westchester County. As the heart of a network of more than 300 partners, they source and distribute food and other resources to towns across Westchester, helping to ensure that none of our neighbors are hungry. Henry is very excited to share his special day with family and friends.



Samantha Hailey Pfeffer and Harley Jack Pfeffer, daughter and son of Heather and Daniel Pfeffer and sister and brother to Xylie will be called to the Torah as a Bat and Bar mitzvah on March 28, 2020. They are 7th graders at Edgemont Middle school and lifers at Timber Lake Camp. Samantha is making her debut on the Edgemont ski team and also enjoys singing and photography. When she is not spending time with friends or family, she can be found binging on Net Flix Series’. Harley is an avid baseball and basketball player but also enjoys football, tennis and skiing. When not on the field or playing hoops he spends time with friends both in person and virtually playing endless x box games. For their mitzvah project, Samantha and Harley are working together to prevent childhood drowning. After losing their 27 month old sister Saige in 2015, they learned



that drowning is the leading cause of death in children under 5. They have a simple strategy to prevent these awful tragedies, the WATER GUARDIAN TAG. The tag is meant as a way to designate a specific adult to be in charge of the children when there is access to water. It serves as a reminder that the risk of drowning is real. They have partnered with Pediatricians, The Westchester Board of Health, nursery schools and swimming programs in order to help spread awareness and keep children safe.

Their goal is to give out as many Water Guardian Tags as possible to families with children under 5 and have already donated almost 3000.



Diana Gaffner, daughter of Scott and Sandy Gaffner and sister to Stuart, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 4, 2020. She is a 7th grader at Scarsdale Middle School.

She loves softball, skiing, circus arts, hiking, reading, creative writing, and playing dungeons and dragons with her friends. As part of her mitzvah project she volunteers at Feeding Westchester.



Claire Weinstein, daughter of Rodney and Diane Weinstein, proud big sister to her three younger sisters Mary, Sophie and Emma and best bud of her big brother Michael, will be called to the Torah on Saturday April 4th as a Bat Mitzvah. She is currently a 7th grader at Highlands Middle School in White Plains. During the school year Claire swims competitively with the White Plains Varsity Swim team and also swims and competes year round on a club team Westchester Aquatics. For her Mitzvah project, Claire has been actively volunteering her time to help coach the

younger swimmers in the Westchester Aquatic club swim school at inter-team meets and practices. Because of her passion for the sport and belief that everyone should learn to swim and have the opportunity to be a competitive swimmer if they desire, on her behalf a donation was made to the Christopher Dewey Memorial Swim Foundation. Her donation will assist low income swimmers with training fees and also fees to participate in travel competitions. Claire is very excited to share this special day with family and friends.

B'nai Mitzvah



Elliot Brown Eisenberg, daughter of Melissa and Jason and big sister to Lucy and Teddy, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 18, 2020. She is a 7th grader at Scarsdale Middle School. Elliot loves basketball, golf, skiing, disaster baking and all things Camp Watitoh. In her free time she re-reads the Harry Potter series, draws and hangs out with her friends. For her mitzvah project, Elliot has been volunteering with Feeding Westchester to sort and distribute food to people who are hungry in our community. She looks forward to sharing her special day with friends and family.



Zachary Cole, son of Karen and David Cole, and brother of Sam and Jared, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 18, 2020. Zachary is a 7th grader at Ardsley Middle School. He swims on his school's modified swim team, and plays on the Yonkers Tennis Center's traveling tennis team. In March, Zachary will play cello as part of the Westchester All-County Intermediate Orchestra at SUNY Purchase. For his Bar Mitzvah project, Zachary organized a team of his friends and family, Zachary's Zebras, to raise money for Sunrise Day Camp at their annual Walk-a-thon. Located at the Friedberg JCC on Long Island, it is the first camp in the country for children with cancer. Zachary's Zebras raised over \$25,000 for Sunrise Day Camp.



Bode Vujnovich, son of Erika and Michael, and brother to Leo, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 25, 2020. Bode is a 7th grader at Ardsley Middle School. Bode is a nationally ranked junior tennis player and spends his time training at a local academy in White Plains and traveling to compete in tournaments. Bode was also recently recognized by the USTA for his superior sportsmanship on and off the court. For his mitzvah project, Bode is sharing his love for tennis with our veterans through an organization called Tennis Serving Vets. It is a fitness program for veterans using tennis as a vehicle for recovery from physical and emotional issues, including PTSD. He looks forward to sharing his special day with family and friends!



Zoe Dichter, daughter of Julie Mosow and Sasha Dichter, and sister to Jonah and Clara, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 25, 2020. She is in the seventh grade at Scarsdale Middle School and has been a camper at Eisner Camp for six summers. During the school year, she plays soccer, squash, and the piano, and her favorite way to pass a Saturday afternoon is baking. For her Mitzvah project, she is raising money for MiracleFeet, an organization that provides support to clinics throughout the world in order to provide treatment to children born with clubfoot. The treatment costs, on average, less than \$500 per child and is free or extremely low-cost for the families who receive it. So far, her friends have contributed to MiracleFeet for her birthday, and she also plans to run a race and hold a bake sale. Zoe is looking forward to celebrating with family and friends.

B'nai Mitzvah



Max Bliss, son of Jason and Jennifer Bliss, and brother to Benjamin, will be called to the Torah as a B'nai Mitzvah with his brother on Saturday, May 9, 2020. Max is a seventh grader at Eastchester Middle School. Max enjoys trying to crack up his brother, playing soccer, cooking and baking with his mom and dad, playing video games and spending time with his family and friends. We love you Max and are so proud of you!



Benjamin Bliss, son of Jason and Jennifer Bliss, and brother to Max, will be called to the Torah as a B'nai Mitzvah with his brother on Saturday, May 9, 2020. Benjamin is a seventh grader at Eastchester Middle School. Benjamin enjoys star gazing with his telescope (and all things space), being a peer mentor in school, playing soccer, trying new foods and restaurants with his mom and dad and spending time with his family and friends. We love you Benjamin and are so proud of you!



Lev Glazman, son of Rachel and Mo Glazman and brother to Jonah, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on May 16th, 2020. He is finishing 7th grade at Highlands Middle School in White Plains. Lev is looking forward to starting another summer at URJ Camp George in Ontario, Canada. During the school year, Lev plays hockey with the White Plains Plainsmen and his school team the White Plains Tigers. He loves fishing and plays piano and baritone saxophone. For his mitzvah project, Lev volunteered weekly with the NY Rangers Learn to Skate Program where he teaches younger kids how to skate and play hockey. Lev has enjoyed learning his Torah portion with his dad as his tutor. He is excited to share his special day with friends and family.



Talia Rothschild, daughter of Debbie and Jeff and sister to Jonathan, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on May 30, 2020. She is finishing 7th grade at Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School and is about to begin another Summer at Camp Timber Tops, her home away from home. During the year, Talia plays a variety of sports and made Varsity gymnastics. She also enjoys acting, skiing and playing with her dog, Rosie. Talia is very excited to share this day with her family and friends.



Jacob Newman, son of Cynthia and Steve, and brother to Jacqueline and Rebecca, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on May 30, 2020. Jacob is a 7th grader at Scarsdale Middle School and enjoys wrestling and basketball. He is an avid Michigan football fan. One of his favorite activities is training his pet Labradoodle.

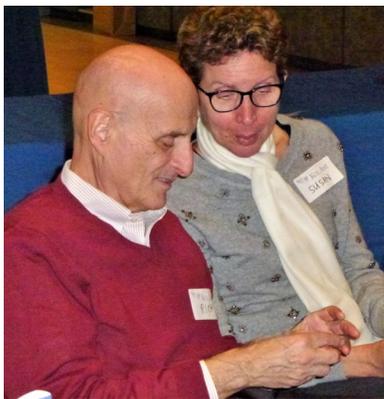
#nykolami

See what we have been up to!

Task Force on Reproductive Rights Panel Discussion in December



Another wonderful time was had at the Annual Adult Hannukah Party in December



Kol Ami Congregants joined thousands of other marchers in January to stand against recent anti-semitism crimes in NY.

Kol Ami Congregants, Clergy, and Staff attended the URJ Biennial once again in record numbers!





Rabbi Weiner visits with college students on the road and here at home to eat and catch up!



The WZC voting has been making great strides at Kol Ami since beginning in January.



The Kol Ami Men's Study Group enjoy an evening out in NYC



ECP Casino night was a blast in February! Catered by the Rye Roadhouse and lots of wonderful donations from parents, congregants, and the community to go towards ECP scholarships.



Temple Co-President Susan Kohn Arovas led an amazing January Synaplex children's activity making Shabbat candles and candlesticks.



Kol Arts led a fantastic children's music program during February Synaplex where kids made instruments and learned about rhythm.



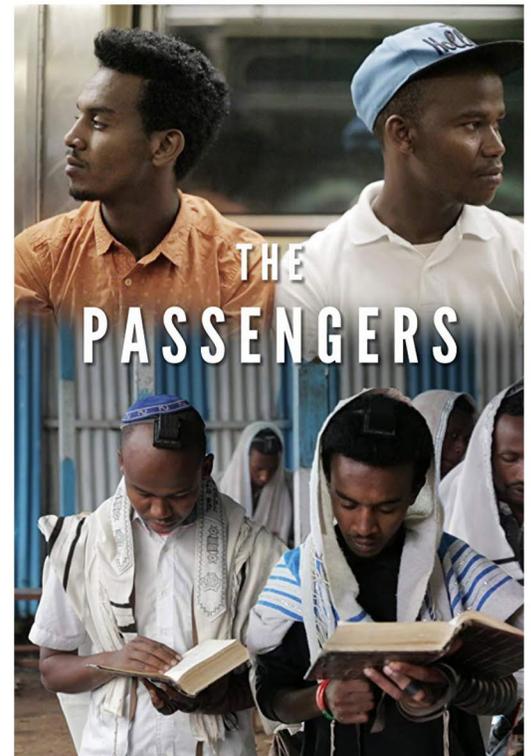
Our teens had an unforgettable time in Puerto Rico over the February break with Rabbi Weiner and Barak Stockler



Friday, March 20th

Ethiopia's more than 9,000 religious Jews eager to make aliyah (declare Israeli citizenship) in the Holy Land are still waiting for that miracle as Israel continues to deny their appeals to citizenship, despite taking in thousands of Jews from Europe and the US. Instead of waiting, best friends Demoz and Gezi took direct action through a monumental journey across the American landscape as ambassadors. Through intimate access in this documentary movie we are able to follow them as they tell their story.

**Hosted and Moderated by
Ryan S. Porush, Documentary Film Maker
and Dr. David Elcott**



Game Night for Kids!!

Fun for the whole family playing ping-pong, foosball, life sized chess, giant Jenga, cornhole, and more! Come and challenge Kol Ami Co-President Scott Musoff to a game of backgammon!

Enjoy Dinner From Mariachi Loco \$25pp for Adults, Kids and Teens eat free!

You can register online with a credit card by clicking [here](#) or by bringing a check to the Main Office

(we are sorry but we can not accomodate walk-ins for dinner)

TOGETHER for SHABBAT

Synaplex
Something for everyone

Friday, April 24th

Don't know what to make for dinner?
Make reservations! And let us take care of the rest.

Synaplex Shabbat Evenings are once a month and it gives us the opportunity to join together as a community for music, prayer, food, relaxation, guest speakers, children's programming, and youth group activities. Come for some or all of the evening.

Enjoy dinner after Shabbat Services catered from Niko's Greek Taverna.

\$25pp for Adults, Kids and Teens eat free!

Register online at: www.nykolami.org/synaplex or bring a check to the Main Office.

(we are sorry but we can not accomodate walk-ins for dinner)



Combating Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery Hidden in Plain Sight

The human trafficking industry preys on vulnerable young women throughout the world who seek to escape poverty, violence, and oppression. These women are often lured by sex traffickers through false promises of a better life.



Come hear Bill Silverman, Counsel to the New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition and Kol Ami Congregant. Throughout his career, Bill has dedicated himself to the promotion of equal access to justice through pro bono service, particularly in the area of family court, anti-trafficking, and immigration.

8pm in the Main Sanctuary



Children's Programming for April

Featuring our amazing Candice Moscoe-Polner working with materials that will bring the excitement of Spring indoors! (children 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

7:45pm in the Gallery

TOGETHER for **SHABBAT**
Synaplex

Something for everyone

The People v. **MORDECAI**



Save the Date for the
Kol Ami Synaplex Trial
June 12, 2020

*Please note there will be no Synaplex on May 8th



ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY

To participate in the writing of a brand-new Torah

- **Is there an upcoming or past celebration you want to honor: B'nai Mitzvah, Confirmation, birth, engagement, wedding or trip to Israel?**
- **Is there a person who has made a difference in your life?**

This is the perfect opportunity for you to acknowledge that special event or person by dedicating

- A word
- Your child's/parent's/spouse's/grandparents' Parsha (*yes if you give us the date of birth, we can find the respective Torah portion*)
- One of the Days of Creation
- A Torah Story that is meaningful to your or your family
- A Special Torah Passage

“The Torah is not complete unless each letter is spoken aloud.” That’s 304,805 letters! By making a dedication, each member of your household will have the honor of reciting a Hebrew letter out loud while placing your hand on our Soferet Julie Seltzer’s, hand as she writes the letter in our new Torah. This monumental act will fulfill the 613th Commandment “that every person shall write a scroll of the Torah for himself”(Deut. 31:19.)

Participation options beginning at \$54 are described on the enclosed form. Dedications can be made online at www.nykolamy.org/toratchayim or by submitting or mailing the form to the temple office.

To participate in one of the Letter Fill-in Sessions with our Soferet Julie, donations must be received no later than March 1st.

Please contact, Rabbi Shira, Rabbi Tom, Cantor David, or Lisa Borowitz, the Torat Chayim Chair, if you have any questions or need assistance in selecting a dedication. To reach the clergy, please email Ginny Herron-Lanoil at ginnyherron-lanoil@nykolami.org. Lisa can be reached at lisa.borowitz@cowen.com or 914-325-0749.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

Rabbi Tom Weiner

Cantor David Rosen

Lisa Borowitz



2020 Spring Gala

honoring

Susan Kohn Arovas

Scott Musoff

&

Cantor David Rosen

Save the Date - May 7, 2020

Passport to Kol Ami

*Let us take you
on a magical journey*

An unforgettable evening of
Middle Eastern cuisine, music,
magic & gratitude

*Tickets, recognition & sponsorship
opportunities coming soon*

VOTE REFORM

ARZA for the Reform Movement and Reconstructing Judaism World Zionist Congress Elections 2020

The Reform and Reconstructionist Movements are proud to join together to form the “Vote Reform /ARZA” slate for the World Zionist Congress 2020 Election. Our movements are deeply committed to a strong and secure Israel, and to strengthening the Israel-Diaspora relationship. We are committed to the vision and aspiration outlined in Israel’s Declaration of Independence:

“THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice, and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture...”

We are passionately invested in a Zionism that creates and sustains an Israel that is both Jewish and democratic and is a free society that upholds equality of religion, gender, race, and ethnicity.

WE BELIEVE IN:

Religious Equality: We envision and work for an Israeli society in which all Jewish denominations are treated fairly and with respect – a society in which all of us are seen as Jews, regardless of our interpretation of texts and traditions. We also seek an Israel in which people of all genders can pray, work and live together as equals deserving of the same respect and honor.

Combatting Racism, Discrimination, and Hatred: Religious and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities, and all other members of Israeli society deserve to be treated with full equality under the law, civility, dignity, and respect.

Security in the Region: The pursuit of peace, security and stability for Israel, the Palestinians and the surrounding region remains our hope and our goal.

Two States for Two Peoples: We know that although the road may seem long, we are committed to building the path to peace based on a Two-State Solution. We believe that Two States for Two Peoples is essential for the security and stability of both Israelis and Palestinians.

WHO WE ARE:

ARZA – the Association of Reform Zionists of America – is the largest constituent of ARZENU, the umbrella organization of Reform and Progressive Religious Zionists in Israel and around the world. ARZENU has a proven record of delivering on our pledges to advocate for an Israel that is Jewish, democratic and pluralistic, and for leading with our values. With our allies, we ensured that progressive Jewish movements in Israel were able to grow and expand their reach, making a significant impact on Israeli society and world Jewry at large. Increasing our representation in the World Zionist Congress is critical to maintaining and building on this success.

In support of those beliefs, in this World Zionist Congress election the “Vote Reform” ARZA slate pledges:

▶ To advocate for government recognition and societal acceptance of the many diverse expressions of Jewish religious identity, so that all such expressions are recognized as legitimate and equal under the law.

▶ To support the government and societal initiatives that seek to pursue a Two-State Solution and a long-term peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

▶ To influence the National Institutions (WZO, KKL, JAFI) in support of a strong shared society and democratic civil society in Israel.

▶ To assure that liberal streams of Judaism are provided equal financial support and resources in the Jewish State, ensuring that our movements in Israel and all Jewish denominations in Israel remain strong, vibrant, and growing.

Vote Reform

A VOTE FOR ARZA IN THE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTIONS IS A VOTE TO PROMOTE EGALITARIANISM, PLURALISM AND PEACE IN ISRAEL.



Central Conference of American Rabbis • Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion
American Conference of Cantors • Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism • Women of Reform Judaism • NFTY
- The Reform Jewish Youth Movement National Association for Temple Administration • Association of Reform
Jewish Educators • World Union for Progressive Judaism Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism •
Men of Reform Judaism • Program Directors of Reform Judaism • Reform Youth Professionals' Association

[Click here to VOTE!](#)

Monday, March 9th

Don't miss all the fun of Purim!

I Guess That's Why They Call It A Spiel



Featuring the music of

ELTON JOHN



**PURIM SERVICE & MEGILLAH READING
STARTS AT 6:15PM. PURIM SPIEL
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICES.**

The Purim Carnival, run by the Kol Ami Youth Group, starts at 5pm with Live Music, Popcorn, Cotton Candy, and Games! Bring cash to purchase tickets for the games and activities. All Religious School students will receive ten free carnival tickets to play games.

COMPLIMENTARY PIZZA AND SANDWICHES FOR EVERYONE.

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 sturmshsheila@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 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

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT

MINDFULNESS & MEANINGFUL CONNECTION

QUIET THE MIND
and the soul will speak.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

AT PAUSE TO BE PRESENT™

MEDITATION STUDIO

FOLLOWED BY A DELICIOUS

BRUNCH DOWNSTAIRS AT

Le Provencal Bistro



\$54 for both Workshop and Brunch

\$36 for Workshop only

RSVP By Monday, March 16th to Alison Adler at
alisonadler@nykolami.org



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WWW.MATZOHGRAM.COM

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Matzohgram® Printed Matzos offers you a unique and fun way to celebrate Passover while supporting our Religious School with your purchase. These Printed Matzos are ideal Seder gifts for family and friends. Matzohgram® uses FDA Compliant food grade edible inks and is Certified Kosher for Passover. Matzohgram® Matzos are baked by Matzot Aviv in Israel.

Available in two sizes: Regular and Mini. Each box contains multiple designs.

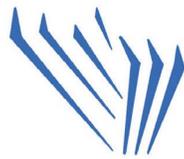
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1923-2019 • 96 YEARS

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WWW.MATZOHGRAM.COM



100 Years of Women's Right to Vote June 5 ~ June 7, 2020

The Sisters 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 and dinner at Deerhead Lakeside Restaurant on Cayuga Lake.

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

Weekend accommodations at Del Lago Resort, Geneva, NY.

\$500 per woman includes shared hotel room for 2 nights and all meals Friday evening thru Sunday afternoon.

Travel will be by carpool...

Questions? Email Sisterhood@nykolami.org

Online registration at

www.nykolami.org/event/sisterhood/

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



2020 Yankee Experience with Congregation Kol Ami

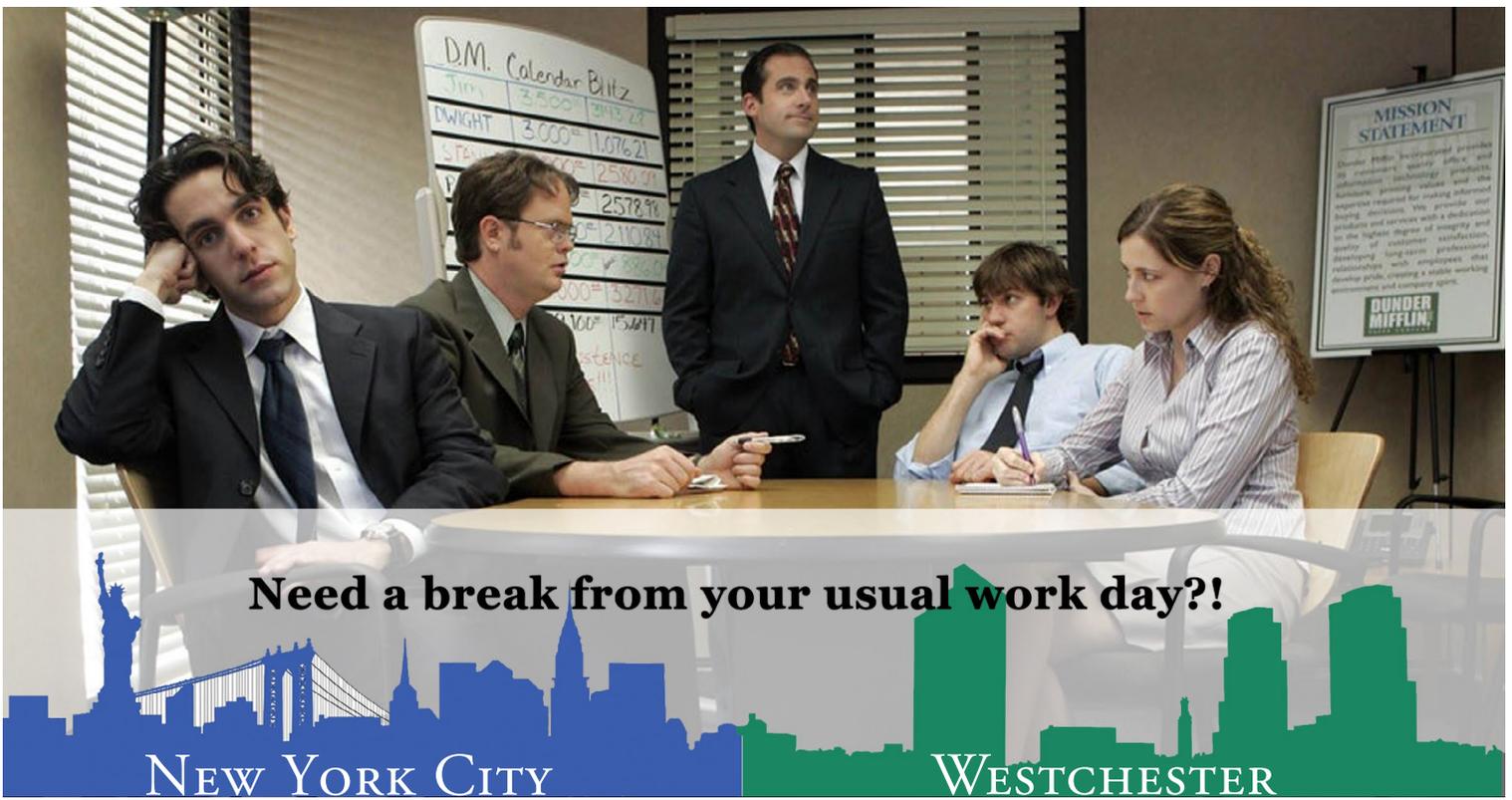
Join us in a Private Party Suite for the
Sunday, June 7th Game vs Tampa Bay Rays

-  Museum and Monument Park Tour
-  Indoor and Outdoor Game Seating w/Suite
-  Private Bathrooms and High Def TVs
-  Scoreboard Message and Announcement
-  Ballpark Fare and Non-Alcoholic beverages
-  Gift Bags for Kids

Space is limited!

\$145pp

To reserve your tickets, bring a check made out to Congregation Kol Ami to the Main Office.
Tour Experience is Pre-Game, and Game starts at 1:05pm



Need a break from your usual work day?!

NEW YORK CITY

WESTCHESTER

STUDY IN THE CITY

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



**Don't miss our last Study in the City
with Cantor David Rosen**

**Wednesday, March 4th
12:30pm**

**Hosted by Kol Ami Trustee Michael Elkin
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.

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

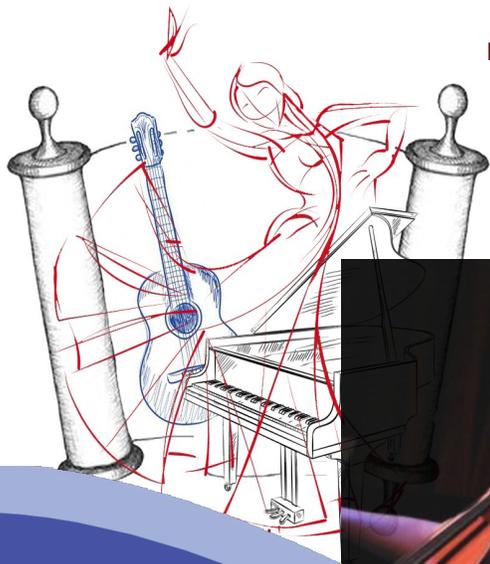
Suggested levels of giving

\$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



New this spring!

**Check out the Kol Ami Website (under learn)
for information about the new Kol Arts Program at Kol Ami!
Registration is rolling and it's not too late to sign up for classes.**

**Contact Naomi Graf,
Director of Kol Arts at kolarts@nykolami.org
for further information.**

**The program kicked off at the January Synaplex with a performance by
The Kol Arts Chamber Players at the Explorations in Jewish Music hour.
Joyce Hammann, violin, Naomi Graf, viola, Andrew Kim, cello and
Rie Matsumoto, piano performed selections of pieces composed
throughout the centuries.**

**In February, Kol Arts sponsored the children's program during Synaplex with
"Make It, Shake it - Exploring Percussion! What's a Balafon?"**

**We are looking forward to bringing many more exciting
music programs to Kol Ami!**

SHOP “The Rack”

Call Judy McEvoy at 714-8288 to set up your private appointment to **Shop The Rack**



Has your child outgrown their Bar Mitzvah suit, Bat Mitzvah long dress, temple dresses or kids dressy clothes that they’ve worn to friends parties? You can pass these clothes on to a sibling, friend, or donate them to **The Rack at Kol Ami** for recycle/purchase.

Congregants can make a private appointment to shop and try on clothes from **The Rack**—\$18/item (\$36 for long dresses and suits). Ties, if available, come free with a boys shirt purchase. All proceeds go to the Kol Ami Fund for the Needy supporting our congregants, Coachman Family Center activities, and the Kol Ami Pantry.

Donations can be dropped off to Jess Lorden’s office and must be in excellent condition, clean, on a hanger, and labeled with a size in order to be accepted.



ITEMS ACCEPTED IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

- BOYS SUITS
- BOYS BLAZERS
- BOYS DRESS SHIRTS
- TIES
- GIRLS PARTY DRESSES (LONG + SHORT)



Call Judy McEvoy at 714-8288 to set up your private appointment to **Shop The Rack**

Shop the Kol Ami Recycle Rack

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE KOL AMI FUND FOR THE NEEDY SUPPORTING OUR CONGREGANTS
COACHMAN FAMILY CENTER ACTIVITIES, AND THE KOL AMI PANTRY

What Is Our Responsibility to Future Generations?

A Story from the Talmud.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

For more information please contact
Judi Brown gojustjudi@gmail.com
Evelyne 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 : lsw20@earthlink.net, 914-686-9516

Sundays 11:00am-1:00pm

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

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.

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.

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

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 at 914-946-7789

March 11th, Wednesday, at 2:30pm

The Bristol
305 North Street, White Plains NY

April 29th, Wednesday, at 2:30pm

The Osborn
101 Theall Rd., Rye, NY

May 27th, Wednesday, at 2:30pm

The Martine Center (formerly Schnurmacher)
12 Tibbits Avenue, White Plains, NY

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 10:00am 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 Betsymc@gmail.com 914-960-9390

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

Life Cycles

Congratulations

- ✧ To Judi Brown & family on the birth of Judi's grandson, Isaiah George Brown
- ✧ To Jill & Zef Abraham & family on the engagement of their daughter, Sarah to Brent Navon
- ✧ To David Gravitz & family on the birth of David's great granddaughter, Abigail Caroline Morrell
- ✧ To Harriet Kraver & family on the birth of Harriet's grandson, Ryan Max Kraver
- ✧ To Michael and Lauren Kraver & family on the birth of their nephew, Ryan Max Kraver

Condolences

- ✧ To Ellen Golden & family on the death of Ellen's mother, Annette Wiener
- ✧ To Sue and John Baer & family on the death of Sue's daughter, Cindy Katz
- ✧ To Stephen Baer & family on the death of Stephen's sister, Cindy Katz
- ✧ To Alison Adler & family on the death of Alison's uncle, Ezra Attia
- ✧ To Alice Seidman & family on the death of Alice's husband, Stanley Seidman
- ✧ To Eric Simkin & family on the death of Eric's father, Irwin Simkin
- ✧ In loving memory of our 4th grade teacher, Ruchama Schechter
- ✧ To Amelie Kraus & family on the death of Amelie's mother, Annik de Lacaze
- ✧ To Jason Zubatkin & family on the death of Jason's grandfather, Arnold Zubatnick
- ✧ To Daniel Kovenat & family on the death of Daniel's father, Mark Kovenat
- ✧ To Amy-Jo Gamon & family on the death of Amy's mother, Barbara Uttal Weston Clark
- ✧ To Pamela Millian & family on the death of Pamela's father, Clifford Millian
- ✧ To Phyllis Margolin & family on the death of Phyllis husband, Irwin Margolin
- ✧ To Ethel & Murray Shapiro & family on the death of Ethel's nephew, Lawrence Fred Wolff
- ✧ To David Gravitz & family on the death of David's aunt, Jessie Gravitz
- ✧ To Judy Asher & family on the death of Judy's husband, Robert (Bob) Asher
- ✧ To Myrna Barzelatto & family on the death of Myrna's granddaughter, Melanie Rose Chaite
- ✧ To Jason Zubatkin & family on the death of Jason's grandmother, Paula Zubatkin
- ✧ To Nancy Nemlich & family on the death of Nancy's sister, Joan Meltzer

In Memorium

- ✧ Stanley Seidman
- ✧ Dr. Stanley Markovits
- ✧ Irwin Margolin
- ✧ Robert (Bob) Asher

Generous Contributions

Rabbi Shira Milgrom's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of her mother, Marion Sheff, from Barbara Block
- ✧ To help keep others as tenderly blessed as she has kept her, from Cindy Liga Muniz and the Muniz-Mustachi family
- ✧ In appreciation, from Robert Koch
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Stephanie Levine
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Bonnie and Eric Eilen
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Beth and Gene Kava
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Roger Seti
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Marjorie Bruckman
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from the Old Guard of White Plains
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Myron and Anlee Marcus
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Barbara Wexler
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Ron and Julie Carran
- ✧ In memory of their daughter, Cindy Katz, from Susan and John Baer
- ✧ In honor of the marriage of Andrew Casper and Ellie Sterns, from Myron and Anlee Marcus
- ✧ In loving memory of her mother, Sadie Seaman, from Jo Landau
- ✧ Thank you all year long, from Kenneth Cohen and June Helme
- ✧ In memory of Morah Ruchama Schechter, from Alan Barson
- ✧ In appreciation, from Elaine Petschek
- ✧ In honor of Gloria Egles, mother of Bonnie Eilen on her birthday, from Judy and Bob Asher
- ✧ In honor of Gloria Egles' 90th birthday from Myra Oltsik
- ✧ In memory of Amy-Jo Gamon's mother, Barbara Uttal Weston Clark, from Myra Oltsik
- ✧ In memory of her husband, Marvin, from Joan Cooper
- ✧ In memory of Clifford Millian, from Pam Millian and Dr. Gary Orentlicher
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Robbie and Andy Seidman
- ✧ In celebration of the birth of their granddaughter, Brooke Addison Sanchez, from Robbie and Andy Seidman
- ✧ In memory of her husband, Irwin, from Phyllis Margolin
- ✧ In memory of Irwin Margolin, from Alice Seidman
- ✧ Mazal tov to Mattie Abler on the occasion of her 100th birthday from, "The Moving on Group"

Rabbi Tom Weiner's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In support of our LGBTQ community, from Drs. Joe and Janet Zuckerman
- ✧ In appreciation, from Robert Koch
- ✧ In honor of Ryan's Bar Mitzvah, from Lisa and Matt Siglag
- ✧ In memory of Ruth Gujarati, from Damodar Gujarati
- ✧ In appreciation, from Jo Landau
- ✧ In memory of her husband, Roy, from Leone Caspler
- ✧ In memory of his wife, Judy, from Jimmy Weil
- ✧ In memory of Clifford Millian, from Pam Millian and Dr. Gary Orentlicher
- ✧ In support of the Men's Study Group, from Glenn Miller
- ✧ In support of the Men's Study Group, from Gene Kava
- ✧ In support of the youth Tikun Olam trip to Puerto Rico, from David and Amanda Cole
- ✧ In memory of Dr. Stanley Markovits, from his children Robin Jensen and Gary Markovits
- ✧ Mazal tov to Mattie Abler on the occasion of her 100th birthday from, "The Moving on Group"

Generous Contributions

Cantor David Rosen's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In honor of Ryan's Bar Mitzvah, from Lisa and Matt Siglag
- ✧ In memory of Stanley Seidman, from Barbara Block
- ✧ In loving memory of Gladys Statman, her sister, from Jo Landau
- ✧ In memory of Clifford Millian, from Pam Millian and Dr. Gary Orentlicher
- ✧ In memory of Arnold Zubatkin from his son, Marty and Beth Zubatkin

Fund for the Needy

- ✧ In honor of Myrna Barzelatto, from Patty & Bert Wohl
- ✧ In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Cindy Muniz, from Patty & Bert Wohl
- ✧ In appreciation, from Barbara Shore
- ✧ In appreciation of Jessica Lorden's kindness to my daughter Mollie, from Nancy Ressler
- ✧ In appreciation of the Social Action Committee and the good work they do, from Susan & Ken Gordon
- ✧ In loving memory of Clifford Millian, father of Pamela Millian, from Jess & Dave Lorden
- ✧ In loving memory of Clifford Millian, from Ethel & Murray Shapiro
- ✧ In loving memory of Dr. Stanley Markovits, from Jill & Zef Abraham
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Bernice Gale

The Audrey Greenberg Scholarship Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Fradel Heiss, from Marjorie Bruckman

Kol Ami Fund

- ✧ In honor of Beth & Moshe Tomkiewicz & Family, from Paul & Marilyn Richards
- ✧ In appreciation of Nir Barzilai's professionalism & kindness, from Nina Blumenfeld
- ✧ In honor of Diana Munder, from Len Leven
- ✧ In appreciation, from Madge Conway
- ✧ In appreciation, from Alice Tenney & Budd Wiesenberg
- ✧ In appreciation, from the Bristol Assisted Living Facility
- ✧ In honor of our friend, Gerri Sommers' special birthday, from Jodi & Howard Klein
- ✧ In honor of Gerri Sommers, from Betsy & Myles Rodnick
- ✧ In honor of Gerri Sommers, from Leslie & Marc Schneider
- ✧ In honor of Gerri Sommers, from Sydney Schneider
- ✧ In appreciation, from David & Amanda Cole
- ✧ In loving memory of Clifford Millian, from David & Lori Okun
- ✧ In honor of Gloria Egles, mother of Bonnie Eilen on her special birthday, from Debbie & Tom Lewis
- ✧ In loving memory of Edward Winnick & Esther Pushkin, from Stacey & Robert Pushkin
- ✧ In honor of Steve Ross's, "Special Birthday", from Harriet & Marty Agulnek
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwing Margolin, from Leslie & Ray Kimmelman
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Sally Lebow
- ✧ In loving memory of our fathers, Herbert Farber & Leonard Gelfand, from Judy & Jeff Gelfand

Refugee Resettlement Fund

- ✧ In honor of Susan Davis, from Joan Pachner

Generous Contributions

Yad b'Yad Fund

- ✧ In honor of Myrna Barzelatto, from Susan Smithline
- ✧ In honor of Carol & Gene Klein, from Susan Smithline

Friends of the Arts

- ✧ In appreciation, from Stan and Barbara Selbst
- ✧ In memory of Cynthia Kamen, from Michelle Gersen and Michael Zweig
- ✧ In memory of Lou & Vide Wiggs, from Grace Wiggs
- ✧ In appreciation, from Hank and Jean Rouda

Kol Ami Cares Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Barbara Fischer, wife of Bill Fischer, from Dr. Steven & Gail Fell

Synaplex Circle

- ✧ In appreciation, from Nina Blumenfeld

Food Pantry Fund

- ✧ In appreciation, from Douglas & Kimberlee Goldsmith

Religious School Fund

- ✧ In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Peeples, grandson of Joyce Hoffman, from Marjorie Bruckman

Kol Ami Annual Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, husband of Phyllis Margolin, from Todd Greene

Adult Education Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Linda & Milton Persily
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Ellen Umansky
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Suzan Rosen
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Richard Demak
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Beth & Gene Kava
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Carol Ingall & Stephan Brumberg
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Rosalind & Richard Kaufman
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Alan & Regina Steinfeld
- ✧ In loving memory of Robert (Bob) Asher, husband of Judy Asher, from Marian Steinberg
- ✧ In loving memory of Robert (Bob) Asher, from Linda & Milt Persily
- ✧ In loving memory of Bob Asher, from Beth & Eugene Kava
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Julie Rosenshein
- ✧ In loving memory of Dr. Stanley Markovitz, from Barbara and Stan Selbst
- ✧ In honor of Mattie Abler's, "Special Birthday" from Linda & Milt Persily
- ✧ In loving memory of Bob Asher from Ellen Umansky
- ✧ In loving memory of Bob Asher from Alan & Regina Steinfeld

The ECP Fund

- ✧ In loving memory of Fradel Heiss, from Marjorie Bruckman
- ✧ In loving memory of Irwin Margolin, from Marilyn & Irwin Haberman

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

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



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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.

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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



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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.

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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 Confirmands (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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