

the Connection



Kol Ami is Better Together. Chag Pesach Sameach!



Rabbi Shira Milgrom
Rabbi Tom Weiner
Cantor Daniel Mendelson

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ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS
Alison Adler

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CANTOR EMERITUS
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** of blessed memory*

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CONGREGATION KOL AMI
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914.949.4717 • nykolami.org

Dear Congregants:

It is our great honor and pleasure to provide you with the Report of the Nominating Committee with the slate of Officers and Trustees to be presented for a congregational vote at the Annual Meeting on May 9th.

The Report reflects the Nominating Committee's continued endorsement of a Co-Presidency structure that pairs an experienced Co-President with a newly elected Co-President. We believe that this structure best serves the interests of continuity of leadership and seamless transitions for the Congregation. The proposed slate of Officers also reflects the Committee's work to position the Executive Committee with qualified and dedicated Officers this coming year as well as for years to come.

The Committee is delighted to nominate Co-Presidents, creating the leadership partnership of Judy Sarch (one of our current Co-Presidents) and Andrew Levenson (a current Vice President who will be new to the President role). We believe that with Judy and Andrew, the Board of Trustees will be led by two proven effective, dedicated leaders who will support our community with intelligence, strength, stability, and great care during this time of clergy transition.

We are grateful for the thoughtful work of the members of the Nominating Committee and for all the input and insight provided by so many in our community during the nominating process. We hope you will join us on May 9th to elect the slate of Officers and Trustees.

L'shalom,

Gerri Sommers and Jonathan Litt
Co-Chairs, Nominating Committee

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

NOMINATIONS FOR 2023-24

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Officers to be Elected

(For a one-year term expiring in 2024)

Co-President Judy Sarch
Co-President Andrew Levenson
Secretary Jared Stone
Treasurer David Seif

Vice President

(For a three-year term expiring in 2026)
Charlene Bodner

Continuing Officers

Vice President

(Term expiring in 2025)
Gary Orentlicher

Vice President

(Term expiring in 2024)
Michael Elkin

Chief Legal Officer (Appointed)

Michael Zweig

New Trustees to be Elected

(For a three-year term expiring in 2026)
Elana Araj ▪ Michelle Kroin ▪ Helene Ginsburg

Trustees to be Elected for an Additional Term

(For a three-year term expiring in 2026)
Rachel Arenstein ▪ Charlene Bodner ▪ Michael Elkin
Andrew Levenson ▪ Judy Sarch

Continuing Trustees

(Term expiring in 2025)
Steve Brady ▪ Amy Goldstein ▪ Erik Klein ▪ Liz Mayeri
Gary Orentlicher ▪ Kevin Rosenzweig ▪ Jared Stone

Continuing Trustees

(Term expiring in 2024)
Melanie Gluck ▪ Steven Mustacchi ▪ Gerri Sommers
Suzanne Lasser ▪ David Seif

Retiring from the Board

Kevin Cohen ▪ Jennifer Lemberg ▪ Erika Vujnovich ▪ Michael Zweig

Nominating Committee

Jonathan Litt, *Co-Chair* ▪ Gerri Sommers, *Co-Chair*
Rebecca Bergman ▪ Steve Brady ▪ Alison Gilmore ▪ Jennifer Lemberg
Steve Loewengart ▪ Liz Mayeri ▪ Lauren Pollak

The Women of Congregation Kol Ami
invite you to a luncheon

HONORING

Rabbi Shira Milgrom

June 4, 2023 | 11am-2pm

A Traveler's Guide to a Jewish Practice

On this special day, we will sing,
dance, remember, and reflect on
all that Shira has done for us as
individuals and a community.

- Full program ticket, lunch and
engraved sea glass
keepsake \$72
- Musical program only \$36

To register and for more information
visit: nykolami.org/milgromluncheon
RSVP by May 25, 2023

252 Soundview Avenue WP, NY 10606



Whatever Your Retreat Is, You'll Find It Here.

The Retreat & Family Camp is BACK!

May 19-21, 2023

At the Circle Lodge
in Hopewell Junction, NY

Come for the day
or come for the weekend!

*Bus transportation to/from Kol Ami
provided on Friday evening*

*Shabbat services will stream live from
the lakefront of Circle Lodge!*

Special Guest Artist in Residence
Award Winning Singer and Songwriter
Neshama Carlebach



Activity highlights include: **Boating** ▪ **Arts and Crafts with Candice Moscoe-Polner** ▪ **Israeli Dancing with Shmulik** ▪ **Poker and Mahjong** ▪ Sports and Games ▪ **Cocktails and "Coketails"** ▪ **Book Discussions** ▪ Chair and Full Body Massages ▪ **Musical Performances by Cantor Danny and the Kol Ami Band** ▪ **Cupcake Wars** ▪ **Musical Bingo** ▪ Spiritual Workshops ▪ **Havdalah Campfire and S'mores** ▪ **and much more!**



[Click Here to Register By May 1](#)



Join us for some golfing fun at the

Second Annual Kol Ami Golf Outing 2023

Tuesday morning, May 23

Westchester Hills Golf Club

The golf scramble is open to all and will be a great day on the course with prizes and lunch!

There are sponsorship opportunities and we encourage everyone to make their own foursomes.

Individual golfers are welcome.

To be a sponsor or to register, go to:

www.NYKolAmi.org/Golf

Questions, email: golf@nykolami.org

KOL AMI POINTS TO WITH PRIDE



Claudia Harari and Alan Barson

The medal table of the winter edition of the Maccabi Games in Bavaria, the first to take place in Europe since 1936, glistened with Kol Ami pride. Two gold medals were conquered by Claudia Harari in the giant slalom and in the slalom, as well as a silver in the parallel slalom. On the top step of the podium also stood another Italian skier and Kol Ami representative, Alan Barson, first in the parallel slalom and second in the giant and slalom.

Ella Seif

Destination Imagination (DI) students work together in teams to solve open-ended STEAM challenges designed to teach the creative process. Ella's Destination Imagination team, the "Toto-Ily Oz-some Girls" from the Blind Brook Schools scored first place in their category in the New York State competition. The Toto-Ily Oz-some Girls head to Kansas City next to compete in the final competition with other students from all around the world. Congratulations, Ella! We will be rooting for the Toto-Ily Oz-some Girls as they move onto the finals.



Alison Gilmore

Every spring, the Westchester Jewish Council honors deserving individuals with the Julian Y. Bernstein Distinguished Service Award. We are thrilled to have Alison Gilmore recognized this year for her leadership and dedication to our Coachman Committee and for the countless ways she inspires our community to help others. Please join us in celebrating Alison's achievements at the Westchester Jewish Council Ceremony on Wednesday, May 10 at 7:30pm at Temple Israel Center.



Kol Ami/JCC Basketball team won the Westchester Jewish Basketball League championship! Coaches Scott Sherman, Kevin Wachtel and Dan Zarkowsky were amazing in guiding the boys to victory as their teamwork and perseverance shined throughout the season. Congratulations to Reed Banchek, Jax Rothschild, Ryan Begun, Reed Zarkowsky, Spencer Herbsman, Andrew Sherman, Jared Bodner, Evan Dollinger and Isaac Lipton who represented Kol Ami. Way to go, boys!!

KOL AMI POINTS TO WITH PRIDE



Max Towle

On March 18, Max competed in the 2023 US Track and Field (USATF) National Youth Indoor Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. He placed fifth in the 800 meter run for boys ages 13-14, with a time of 2:14. Max has loved to run from an early age and is currently training for the 2023 Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Junior Olympic Games to be held this summer in Des Moines, Iowa. We are so proud of Max's achievements and wish him the best of luck in his next race.

Take a moment to send our 2023 Confirmands a greeting and extend your blessings for reaching this milestone in their Jewish journeys. [Click here](#) to send a digital greeting and join us for our Shavuot service on Thursday, May 25.

2023 Confirmands:

Zachary Cole • Zoe Dichter
Elliot Eisenberg • Lev Glazman
Brooke Goldstein • Ethan Ilberg
Penelope Kraus • Alexandra Lee-Renert
Josh Litvak • Zoe Moskowitz
Reid Sandler • Eloise Schiamberg
Mireille Schiamberg • Ryan Siglag

CALENDAR

APRIL

Apr 5-12, Temple Office, and Building Closed in Observance of Passover

Apr 7, Passover First Day Service
10:00AM

Apr 12, Passover Yizkor Service
10:00AM

Apr 16, Youth Group and Confirmation Class Alumni Celebration of Rabbi Tom
12:00PM

If you spent your high school years laughing and learning with Rabbi Tom, we hope you will return to Kol Ami and join us for brunch. This will be an exciting opportunity to reminisce and reconnect with old friends and, of course, celebrate Rabbi Tom.

To RSVP, go to <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/form/alumni-brunch.html>

Apr 16, Sunday Funday with Backyard Sports
1:00PM

Come Play! In partnership with Backyard Sports, join us for a fun-filled afternoon of sports and games.

For ages 2 to 8. Children will be placed in age-appropriate groups to ensure the most fun. Schmooze and snacks following class. Bring a friend and join us!

To register, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/sunday-funday-with-backyard-sports.html>

Apr 19, Babies and Bagels
1:00PM

Join us for soft play and conversation. Make new friends! Open to families with babies newborn to 12 months old.

To register, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/babies-and-bagels1.html>

Apr 19, Yom Hashoah Congregational Service with Guest Speaker, Dr. Joanna Sliwa
6:30PM

Dr. Joanna Sliwa, Historian at the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) will join us this year in commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day. Joanna's research focuses on the Holocaust in Poland and on Polish Jewish history. Her first book, *Jewish Childhood in Kraków: A Microhistory of the Holocaust* received the 2020 Ernst Fraenkel Prize from the Wiener Holocaust Library.

Following Dr. Silwa's presentation, join our eighth graders as they lead the community in a beautiful and meaningful Yom Hashoah service filled with music, poetry and prayer.

Apr 21, Earth Day Shabbat
6:15PM

Join us for a celebration of the world around us, as we take time to look out, to appreciate the nature that surrounds us and reflect on our interconnectedness with the earth. An environmentally friendly oneg will follow.

Apr 22, Earth Day Tot Shabbat
9:00AM

Get ready to sing, dance and celebrate Shabbat! Join Rabbi Shira for a lively, interactive Shabbat service geared to our youngest members. Challah, juice and snacks will follow. Stay for Earth Day themed crafts, games and playtime led by our Young Family Ambassador, Joele Levenson and Past President, Susan Kohn Arovas.

To register, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/earth-day-tot-shabbat.html>

Apr 23, Kol Arts Chamber Music Concert
1:00PM

Join us for musical "tapas," works by Mozart, Ravel, Farrenc and Ponchielli featuring the vocal talents of Cantor Danny Mendelson and Cantor Amanda Kleinman.

To purchase tickets, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/kol-arts-chamber-players-concert.html>

Apr 25, Celebrating Israel at 75 Concert at Westchester Reform Temple
7:30PM

Celebrate Israel's 75 years with a magnificent evening of music featuring the acclaimed Israeli singer/songwriter, Achinoam Nini.

To purchase tickets, go to: <https://form.jotform.com/wrt/NOA423>

CALENDAR

MAY

May 5, Synaplex Shabbat: Mordechai On Trial for The Untold Story of Esther **6:15PM Kabbalat Shabbat, 7:15PM Dinner, 8:00PM Trial**

The Trial of Mordechai will mark the return of live trials to Kol Ami! CLE credit offered. More detailed information to follow.

May 12, Second Grade Torah Procession and Religious School Tribute Shabbat for Rabbis Shira and Tom **6:15PM**

Join us for a joyful and spirited Shabbat as the second graders lead us in prayer and song, and proudly march through the Sanctuary with their handmade Torahs and beautifully decorated covers. Our Religious School students will also be honoring Rabbis Shira and Tom with their own special tributes. A festive oneg will follow.

May 13, Tot Shabbat **9:00AM**

Get ready to sing, dance and celebrate Shabbat! Join Rabbi Shira for a lively, interactive Shabbat service geared to our youngest members. Challah, juice and snacks will follow. Stay for Shabbat themed crafts, games and playtime led by our Young Family Ambassador, Joele Levenson, ECP Teva Art Specialist, Candice Moscoe-Polner and Religious School Teacher, Debra Zitrin.

To register, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/tot-shabbat4.html>

May 13, Adult B'nai Mitzvah Service **2:00PM**

Join our Adult B'nai Mitzvah class as they celebrate the culmination of nearly two years of study. This is a beautiful service filled with music and prayer, allowing each Adult B'nai Mitzvah student to recite Torah before the congregation. A joyful and festive oneg to follow.

May 19-21, Retreat and Family Camp at Circle Lodge, Hopewell Junction, NY

It promises to be another great weekend of relaxation, rejuvenation and family fun at Camp Kinder Ring.

To register go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/form/Retreat2023>

May 23, Golf Outing at Westchester Hills Golf Club

The golf scramble will be a great day on the course with prizes and lunch! There are sponsorship opportunities, and we encourage everyone to make their own foursomes. Individual golfers are welcome.

To be a sponsor or to register, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/form/Golf2023>

May 25, Shavuot/ Confirmation Service **7:00PM**

Join us for a joyful and spirited Shavuot service led by our 10th grade Confirmation Class. The service will showcase the many talents of our 10th graders and will be filled with music, artwork and poetry representative of the class. If you haven't yet been to one of these Shavuot services, you're in for a real treat. Come participate in this memorable moment for our Confirmands and be part of a multigenerational community-wide service that will be moving and inspirational for all.

May 26, Shavuot Yizkor Service **10:00AM**