



Fall 2023

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# the Connection



NEW BEGINNINGS, ONE COMMUNITY, ENDLESS JOY.  
High Holy Days Celebrations Begin September 15!



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Cantor Daniel Mendelson

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## Our Story

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 seven and a half 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.

# The Many Layers of Teshuvah

Rabbi Jason Fenster



In high school, I was a math and science kid. I liked formulas, and I liked finding the *right answer*. Commas were the closest I got in English class to arithmetic. Eventually I landed in the social sciences and made my way to a career without

easy answers and not many formulas. I love my work, and I love the fluidity, but, at times, I miss the clarity of Algebra II.

And that is why I love Hebrew. Hebrew is a beautiful system of puzzles and formulas that, when you learn to dissect it, it opens up mysteries and new layers of meaning. Each word is built on a *shoresh*, a root and core set of three letters, and the definition morphs and grows depending on vowels and structures you build around and into it.

No matter your familiarity or comfort with the language, you are invited to join us on a Saturday morning if you want to play with the language of Torah. Until then, let's investigate the key word of our season: *Teshuvah*.

## Definition #1: Repentance

This is our go-to. It's simple enough and fits nicely into our High Holy Day schema of judgment and forgiveness. *Teshuvah* as repentance means recognizing our faults and saying sorry. In fact, *teshuvah* is part of the traditional, daily liturgy. During the Amidah we say: "*s'lach lanu ki chatanu*"—forgive us for we have sinned. Our tradition invites us to make it a regular practice to consider how we have missed and find a way to make amends.

## Definition #2: Return

Hidden within the word *Teshuvah* is the word *shuv*, which means "return." For Rambam, the great 12th Century philosopher, the true test of *teshuvah* is when one returns to the same situation and acts differently. For Rambam, it is not enough to just say "sorry;" there must also be a change in behavior. Only then, once we have returned and reencountered the same situation and acted with our better judgment, has *teshuvah* been achieved.

But what about when restoration is necessary?

A person we wronged is likely to be unsatisfied if the next time a chance for an insult comes along, we desist or if we opt to not be negligent the next time a friend is in need of support. Our *teshuvah*, therefore, requires a physical return: a return to the person whom we have wronged, to meet with them face to face, to give an honest apology, to be forgiven, and to repair what we have broken.

One last piece on return. Our tradition envisions that each of us is walking a path. The path is straight and steady, free of roots and stones that make us stumble. But, in the throes of day-to-day life, we veer off the path set out for us. We stop being the best version of ourselves because of stress or worry or hardship or frustration or boredom or...

*Teshuvah* is a return to the path. *Teshuvah* and this season are our opportunity for course correction back to the highest visions we have of ourselves.

## Definition #3: Response

I am a child of the Douglass Adams generation. I know the answer is 42, but to find our *teshuvah*, our response, first we must find the question. And, like all great Jewish riddles, we find it in a famous and beautiful story:

Rabbi Zusya dreamt that he was standing before God on the Judgment Throne. He worried about how little he had done and imagined that God would ask: "Why were you not as great as Moses? Why were you not as wise as Solomon? Why were you not as faithful as Abraham?" Instead, Rabbi Zusya told his students, God simply asked: "Zusya, why were you not Zusya?"

We are called to do only what is reasonable to ask of us. And to work our hardest to be able to respond YES when asked the question "Are you striving to be the best you?" A full *teshuvah* requires that I constantly ask myself if I am being my best self and working diligently to bring that person to the world.

A worthy task for the High Holy Day season and the rest of the year as well.

Wishing you and the people you love a year of goodness, a year of health, a year of blessing, and a year of good answers.

  
Rabbi Jason Fenster



# Still Small Voices

## Cantor Daniel Mendelson



*Uv'shofar gadol yitakah, v'kol d'mamah dakah yishamah - The great shofar is sounded, and the still small voice is heard. We will recite these words from the Un'taneh Tokef prayer throughout the upcoming High*

Holy Days. There are countless ways that connect us to the spirit of the season of renewal and repentance. We think of our traditions, our sacred musical liturgy, the experience of gathering in shul to worship with abandon. For many, the Days of Awe are brought to life with the blasting, piercing sound of the shofar.

There's a natural inclination to experience the louder crack of the bat moments as sacred. They absolutely are sacred. Our music can be soaring and our voices can make the floors shake but our job in synagogue is to be attuned to both the high drama of the Days of Awe and the smaller, quieter moments. When I consider the *still small voice* being heard amidst the siren of the shofar, I think of the 3 preschoolers that live in my house. Their small voices are starting to ask bigger questions: "Why can't I see germs?" "Why do I need bones in my body?" "Why can't I see gravity?" "How come there isn't a kindergarten for grownups?"

While 3-5 year olds may not register these questions as prayers, their small, sweet voices are louder than any shofar I'll ever hear. Sure, this part is personal. But our liturgy makes it clear that the High Holy Days are meant to be personal. My own personal High Holy Day alarm bell has always been the *Shehecheyanu* prayer recited on Erev Rosh Hashanah, *Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this moment.* The challenges and pressures that go into the work of delivering a meaningful cycle of High Holy Day worship get temporarily shelved during *Shehecheyanu*. All I can do is hold the Kiddush cup high and be grateful for the blessings that surround me.

The blessing of these beautiful children with their awe-inspiring worldview and boundless curiosity rings louder than any siren can. The words of *Un'taneh Tokef* give us permission to crank up the volume of our prayer on the outside, while understanding that prayer can always live loudest within each of us.

Wishing all of you a sweet new year filled with light, laughter, love and awe-inspiring questions. Shana Tovah U'metukah!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel".



# Cultivating An Enduring Sense of Community

Judy Sarch & Andrew Levenson



One of the best parts about being a synagogue co-president is the increased opportunities to meet the people of the congregation. As of this week, our membership is 670 families and growing!

As we engage with more of our congregation's families, we are humbled by the richness of diversity that spans age, life stages, economic strata, political leanings, professions, personal passions, and even religious backgrounds (yes, our community proudly welcomes many non-Jewish members). This year it is our mission to ensure that every individual at Kol Ami feels valued. To do this we will assess our practices and engage in dialogue with a wide spectrum of voices to see where change is needed.

In the face of this beautiful diversity, a fundamental question emerges: How do we cultivate an enduring sense of community among individuals with such an array of interests? How can we craft that sense of belonging? Our exceptional clergy, captivating programs, and avenues for Tikkun Olam provide strong foundations. Moreover, recognizing that while times inevitably change, we strive to evolve together, all the while cherishing the timeless values that define Kol Ami's essence.

With the approaching new year, our Kol Ami calendar is filled with opportunities, inviting you to venture into new experiences or introduce a companion to your usual activities. At its core, this is about community—about discovering the sparks of interest, creativity, and passions that reside within you.

To guide your explorations, here is our curated top 10 list of community endeavors.

- 1. Meet Rabbi Fenster!** - A series of welcome events are slated for this Fall. Alternatively, extend a call to him (914) 949-4717 X114; he eagerly awaits your insights.
- 2. Attend a Service** - Join us on Friday nights at 6:15 pm or Saturday mornings at 9:00 am. Whether you're a devoted Torah scholar or seek solace in the melodies of prayer, our services are a haven. Can't be here in person, join us online.
- 3. Extend a Helping Hand** - Many of our elderly members require assistance with rides and grocery shopping, and smile from the simple joy of a check-in call.
- 4. Volunteer in the Food Pantry** - Every week, we pack approximately 150 bags to support neighborhood families facing food insecurity.
- 5. Connect with Families and Kids** - Engage with our parent networks for young families, ECP, and Religious School.
- 6. Engage with Active Seniors** - Join KASA (Kol Ami Staying Active) for a range of activities and outings.
- 7. Connect with the Kol Ami Sisterhood** - Enrich yourself while supporting the synagogue.
- 8. Participate in study sessions** - Led by our clergy or lay leaders.
- 9. Mend the World, Tikkun Olam** - Social justice is a cornerstone at Kol Ami. Past initiatives include voting and reproductive rights advocacy, refugee resettlement, food drives, and monthly mitzvah mornings, uniting our children and parents in purposeful projects. You're invited to join existing efforts or blaze a new trail.
- 10. Play and Connect** - Whether it's Mah Jong, Poker, Golf, or board games, our welcoming groups eagerly await new companions.

As we stand on the cusp of a new year, let curiosity guide your steps and camaraderie light your way. Together, we amplify the spirit of Kol Ami, cultivating a sense of unity amid the beautiful diversity that defines us. From our families to yours . . . L'Shana Tova

# A New Year Filled With New Joys

## Jess Lorden, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The High Holy Days mark the most significant moments that bring us together as a community, and we are thrilled to provide a meaningful experience for you and your extended family.

This year, we have meticulously planned both in-person and virtual worship opportunities to ensure that each member of our community can participate in a manner that aligns with their comfort and needs. Whether you join us physically or virtually, our goal is to create a sense of shared time and purpose, fostering a profound connection among us all. Under the leadership of Rabbi Jason Fenster and Cantor Danny Mendelson, our services will be imbued with the traditions and customs of Kol Ami that resonate deeply with us all, creating an uplifting atmosphere that will leave a lasting impact.

As I reflect on the past year, from a professional standpoint I enjoyed the myriad ways in which we celebrated Rabbi Shira and Rabbi Tom. I will always cherish the moments we shared and the depth of the relationship I was so privileged to develop with Shira and Tom based on my role at Kol Ami. In looking ahead, I am profoundly grateful to the Senior Rabbi Search Committee which selected Rabbi Fenster to lead us into our 100th year and beyond. I love Rabbi Fenster's energy, enthusiasm and "menshness" and I'm excited and energized to be working with him. I am incredibly proud of the beautiful, meaningful ways that together we supported each other and our community in this time of transition. May we continue to build from strength to strength. On a personal note, Dave and I continue to be blessed in countless ways. We enjoyed so many special family moments this year. Sarah, Alex and Teddy (now 2 years old) continue to live and thrive in Northern Virginia. We try to see them at least once a month and we talk on the Facebook Portal regularly. Last Fall, Robby and Rachel added a dog named Duke to their family and most significantly, in July, Robby and Rachel became engaged. We are having fun helping the kids plan their wedding. We are so grateful for our good fortune.



As the High Holy Days rapidly approach, I am looking forward to sharing this sacred time with so many of you as we celebrate the New Year together in our beautiful sanctuary. As always, our office staff is busy working with existing members and welcoming our new members. Led by Paul Mauro, our Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, our custodial staff is hard at work refreshing our buildings, painting, and cleaning classrooms and hallways to get ready for the opening of the Religious School and our Early Childhood Program. Once again, our temple calendar is full of wonderful opportunities to worship, study and celebrate, engage as a community, and practice Tikkun Olam.

I am excited to share with you important information regarding our High Holy Days services and program offerings to help you make the upcoming holiday season inspirational for you and your family.

Dave, Sarah, Alex, Teddy, Robby, Rachel and I wish you Shana Tova Tikatavu. May this New Year be a sweet one for you and all those you love.

Fondly,

# High Holy Days Information

## Service and Program Offerings

### **Visit With Rabbi Fenster, Cantor Mendelson And Temple Leadership**

On Friday, September 8h, after our Kabbalat Shabbat Service, members are invited to join a special reception with Rabbi Fenster, Cantor Mendelson and Temple Leadership to exchange New Year greetings with us, and each other, and to receive a holiday challah with apples and honey; a gift from our Sisterhood.

### **Let's Start A Sweet New Year Together**

Our congregants and guests will worship together as one community at our Erev Rosh Hashanah service which starts at 7:30pm on September 15th. Following services, we will have a Community Potluck Oneg, in which members are encouraged to share their favorite dessert. We invite you to linger and visit with our Temple family at this time. Weather permitting, our oneg will be outside.

### **Live Streaming Of Our Services**

We will be live streaming our services so that members who are not able to attend services in person are nonetheless able to participate. We will be streaming the following High Holy Day Services: Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rosh Hashanah Day Early Service, Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Early Service, Yom Kippur Day Early Service, and Yom Kippur Memorial and Neilah Services.

### **Emergency Medical Support**

Once again we will set-up an emergency medical support area in our Gallery. Congregants who are medical professionals will be "on call" to provide immediate, on-site support and to help determine if a call to 911 is appropriate.

### **Safety And Security**

As we do each year, we will be working with the White Plains Police Department to implement our plan for security and traffic arrangements for all High Holy Days services. The Temple facility is carefully screened and surveyed before the building is opened to the congregation and guests and will be under constant police surveillance during this time. We ask that you report any suspicious individuals or activity to any of the police officers, ushers, Temple staff, or members of our Board of Trustees.

### **Member, Guest & Reciprocal Tickets**

New this year are name badges which will serve as tickets and will facilitate Rabbi Fenster meeting our congregants on a personal level. Name badges will be required for High Holy Day service entry and will be available for pick up in the Temple Office.

You will receive a name badge for each family member, including children who have not yet reached the age of 26. Name Badges should be used to attend the service for which you registered. Please wear your name badge for all High Holy Day worship services.

Tickets for guests may be purchased online. Requests for Reciprocal tickets must be arranged with the Temple Office. If you know anyone who is not a member who is interested in attending High Holy Days services at Kol Ami, please ask them to contact Jess (914-949-4717, ext. 101) for guest ticket information.

### **Ushers**

Please keep in mind that our ushers are Kol Ami members who give their time to ensure that our services proceed smoothly. Treat them with courtesy and respect. Either Alison or Jess will be available during every service. If a problem arises, please ask for our assistance.

### **Members And Guests With Special Needs**

In considering the needs of members and guests with physical limitations, we encourage you to attend the early services. Since there is not a preceding service, you may arrive earlier and face less congestion and easier access to the handicapped parking spaces we added this year. All entry to the sanctuary will be through the front door. No one will be admitted through the Religious School entrance.

We have a limited supply of large print prayer books for vision impaired congregants. These prayer books will be available at the check-in desk.

New this year are two assisted listening devices available for use in the main sanctuary. If you have difficulty hearing during our worship services, you may use one of these systems during all services which will be live streamed. Simply come to the Tech Desk before service and Zoe Fuentes will assist you.

### **Memorial And Neilah Services**

Because the Family Service takes place in the main sanctuary immediately prior to the Memorial and Neilah Services, we need at least thirty minutes to reset the sanctuary for these concluding services. If you are planning to attend the Memorial and Neilah Services, please do not arrive prior to 4:30pm. Our ushers have been instructed not to open the doors until such time.

### **Cell Phones**

All cell phones should be left at home or in your car. If you are required to carry a phone or pager, please set it on vibrate mode.






## Early Childhood Program Highlights

We enjoyed an incredibly fun-filled summer camp season. Our children engaged in water activities, nature and gardening activities, sports, music and imaginative play. We look forward to a wonderful school year ahead and wish all of our Kol Ami families a Shana Tova - a healthy and happy New Year!







# We invite you to Family High Holy Day Services at Congregation Kol Ami!

Join Rabbi Jason Fenster and Cantor Danny Mendelson for a special service designed for our littlest ones ages 0-6 and their families. These lively, interactive services are filled with music, storytelling, shofar blowing and sweet treats. Open to the public!

Bring your families, bring your friends and experience the joys of the High Holy Days with us.

**Rosh Hashanah Family Service**  
**Saturday, September 16 at 3:30pm**

**Yom Kippur Family Service**  
**Monday, September 25 at 3:30pm**



CONGREGATION  
**KOL AMI**

252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, New York • 914.949.4717 • [ryeham.org](http://ryeham.org)



# Kol Ami TOT SHABBAT

**SATURDAY, September 9, October 14 & 28  
November 18, December 2 & 16**

**Tot Shabbat meets monthly on Saturday mornings at 9am. These warm, music-filled services are led by our clergy and are followed by a nosh, crafts and play. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joys of Shabbat with friends, old and new. Save the dates listed above and bring a friend - all are welcome to join!**



Mishpach-a means firstly a family but can also refer to a wider communal network of friends and acquaintances, sharing a common bond. As Young Family Ambassador, I invite you to discover our mishpach-a at Congregation Kol Ami. Come to a Tot Shabbat to celebrate the joys of Shabbat through music, storytelling, crafts and play. Celebrate the change of seasons and Jewish holidays with our Family High Holy Day services, Sukkot Festival, Simchat Torah, Hanukkah and Purim celebrations.

Join me for a baby playdate class for little ones 14 months and younger, through which you can engage with and get to know other parents and caregivers in our loving community. There are many exciting opportunities for young families which I hope you will take part in and make our mishpach-a, our Kol Ami family, an extension of yours.

Contact me at [joelelevenson@nykolami.org](mailto:joelelevenson@nykolami.org) should you have any questions or would like to learn more.



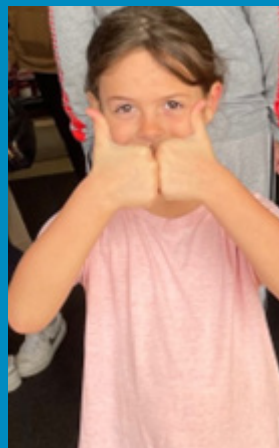
# Religious School Highlights

Pam Pass, Religious School Director

## GETTING READY FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!

If you haven't already done so, it's not too late to register for 2023-24.

[Click here to enroll today.](#)



# The Underlying Beauty Behind Monstera Moments

## Zöe Shannon, Director of Youth Engagement



I have a Monstera Deliciosa—a swiss cheese-esque plant that naturally belongs on a tropical island rather than in my living room. It's grown to be larger than the TV and lamp it's situated between. The credit for its size, however,

goes to a friend who gifted it to me before he relocated across the country. While I can't claim responsibility for its initial growth spurt, I can proudly say I managed to transport it on the subway for an hour without causing harm. After nearly three months of tending to this sunlight-starved traveler, I was devastated to spot a small yellowing leaf. In my desperation, I watered it excessively, cleaned off the dust from every sorrowful leaf, and meticulously checked for any signs of pests. Eventually, I resigned myself to a state of mourning.

Then, today, something miraculous occurred—perhaps not on the scale of the Maccabees, but bear with me. A new leaf unfurled. As I discovered this morning, new Monstera leaves emerge by unfolding from the side of a mature leaf. It should be noted, the yellowing leaf was a tiny new growth at the plant's base, while the Monstera boasted seven full, vibrant green leaves. My fixation on the loss of the small yellowing leaf blinded me to the thriving growth occurring above. Metaphors abound in this scenario—about the capacity for growth from unexpected places and the tendency to overlook positive developments in the shadow of minor setbacks.

Reflecting on my summer, I've encountered personal and professional "Monstera Moments:"

- Participating in the Yiddish Book Center's Great Jewish Books Seminar for Jewish Educators, despite many of the books being in storage.

- Assisting my mom in moving out of our family's childhood home, signaling new beginnings.
- Serving as a bridesmaid and signing my dear friend's Ketubah, despite the exhaustion that accompanied it.
- Engaging with the history and ongoing presence of racist systems in America during our Teen Civil Rights Trip, witnessing our teenagers forge powerful connections and strive for a brighter future.
- Sharing precious, sacred moments and time with family, even if sometimes there are tears involved.

Much like a yellowing leaf in moments of beauty and growth, life often presents us with imperfections. This botanical process echoes the intricate nature of growth arising from unexpected sources, often overshadowed by minor shortcomings. In the upcoming year, I look forward to recognizing the green amidst the occasional spots of yellow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Z.S.' with a stylized flourish.

P.S. I recently attempted to rescue a plant from the side of the road, bringing it home for a week before realizing it was infested with mealy bugs and spiders. As for that metaphor, I'm not quite ready to unpack it yet.



# KOL AMI TEENS WENT TO ALABAMA!



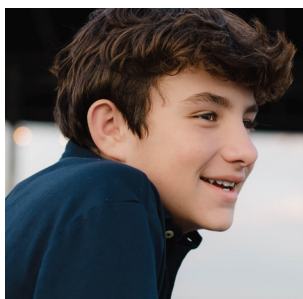
## CIVIL RIGHTS *Trip*

THE INAUGURAL INTER-COMMUNITY CIVIL RIGHT TRIP IN  
COLLABORATION WITH MORE THAN HORSE FARM,  
HITCHCOCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NEW ERA CREATIVE  
SPACES, AND WESTCHESTER YOUTH ALLIANCE



# B'nai Mitzvah

With love and tremendous pride, we look forward to having these B'nai Mitzvah students lead us in worship, carry our sacred scroll through the congregation, and chant from the Torah. We rejoice with them and their families as they share their intellectual gifts by teaching us from the weekly Torah portion and deliver their "D'var Torah."



**Noah Nevitt**, son of Michele and Jon Nevitt, and brother to Charlie, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 14, 2023. Noah is in 8th grade at Edgemont Jr/Sr High School. He loves playing Lacrosse, spending time with friends, and hanging out with his 2 dogs - Stella and Luna. Noah has enjoyed spending his summers at Camp Taconic since he was 7-years old. Because of his love for camp, for his mitzvah project, Noah has been raising money for SCOPE (Summer Camp Opportunities Promote Education) whose mission is to provide summer camp opportunities to all children regardless of their socio-economic background. Noah is looking forward to celebrating his Bar Mitzvah with friends and family.



**Zoe Sobol**, daughter of Emily and Michael Sobol, and sister to Noah, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 14, 2023. Zoe is in 8th grade at Irvington Middle School and spends most of her time on the soccer field and hanging out with friends! For Zoe's mitzvah project, she is supporting JASA in their wonderful programs for seniors focused on the arts, specifically with a focus on social and cognitive benefits.



**Xan Schwartz**, son of Matthew Schwartz and Dr. Patricia Schwartz, and brother to Lucy and Millie, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 21, 2023. Xan is in the 7th grade at Winston

Preparatory School in Norwalk, CT, and delights in being involved in every extracurricular sport that his school has to offer! He enjoys spending the winter on the slopes of Stratton Mountain where he is an avid snowboarder and member of the Mountain Riders program. When not on the field or on the slopes, he enjoys spending time playing video games with his friends and snuggling with his beloved pets. His love of animals has inspired his mitzvah project of collecting donations for the SPCA of Westchester.



**Sammy Arsuaga**, son of Lisa Feld and Francisco Arsuaga, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 28, 2023. Sammy is an 8th Grader at Scarsdale Middle School. Sammy writes for his school newspaper and he likes fencing, tennis, Dungeons and Dragons, reading, and video games. He is excited to celebrate with his friends and family, including his mother, father and younger brother.

# B'nai Mitzvah



**Jocelyn Bodner**, daughter of Charlene and Mitch Bodner, and brother of Jared, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 4, 2023. Jocelyn is in 8th grade at Highlands Middle School in White Plains. Jocelyn has a passion for dance and is on a competitive dance team with DeRosa Performing Arts Center. She also loves spending time with friends, family, and her dog, Brewster. She especially loved going to sleepaway camp for the first time this year. For her mitzvah project, Jocelyn has personally baked and sold baked goods to raise funds and increase awareness of cancer for the Make-A-Wish foundation in memory of her Aunt Kelly Cesare. Jocelyn and her family are very excited to celebrate her big day!

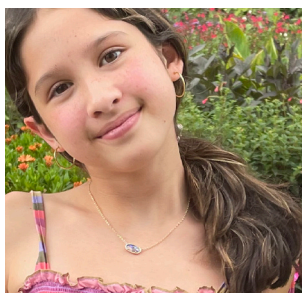


**Alexa Paley**, daughter of Michael and Nancy Paley, and sister to Leah, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 4, 2023. Alexa is in 8th grade at Edgemont Junior

Senior High School. She spent this summer in the Berkshires at camp. Alexa loves sports and competes in soccer, lacrosse and skiing. She also enjoys travel, spending time with friends and cheering on the NY Rangers. Alexa looks forward to celebrating her special day with lots of friends and family.



**Levi Sherman**, son of Sharon and Adam Sherman and brother to Jordana, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 4, 2023. Levi is in 7th grade at Scarsdale Middle School. He loves playing the piano and baseball and is a loyal Mets fan. Levi is working with Grassroots Grocery for his Mitzvah project, where he helps sort and deliver food to communities in need. He is looking forward to celebrating his special day with family and friends.



**Selila Fleck**, daughter of Doyla and Evan Fleck, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 9, 2023. Selila is an eighth grader at Edgemont

Junior-Senior High School. She is an avid golfer and also loves to play lacrosse. She spent this past summer taking pastry lessons, studying fashion design, and surfing. Selila is looking forward to celebrating her Bat Mitzvah with her loving parents and brothers, Ronen and Trajan.



**Zoelle ("Zoe") Lee-Renert**, daughter of Matthew and Patricia Lee-Renert and sister of Alexandra will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 11, 2023. She is an honor roll student at Highlands Middle School in White Plains where she also plays clarinet and is a member of the Select Choir as well as the Advanced Art program. When she's not singing and drawing at school, she can often be found doing so with her big sister. Zoe also loves video games, with The Legend of Zelda being among her favorites. Zoe would like to thank Morah Pam, Cantor Danny, Rabbi Tom and Rabbi Fenster in helping her prepare for this honor. She is looking forward to sharing this joyous day with her loving family and friends!

## WEEKLY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**6:15pm**

### **Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Service:**

Our weekly Kabbalat Shabbat service takes place in our Main Sanctuary with Rabbi Jason Fenster and Cantor Danny Mendelson. Kabbalat Shabbat services are also streamed weekly on our website, FaceBook, and Youtube pages.

**9:30am**

### **Saturday Morning Torah Study and Shabbat Service:**

Bring your creativity and curiosity as we delve us into the depths of Torah and explore the relevancy of these timeless teachings to our lives today. Whether you're a seasoned Torah scholar or completely new to Torah study, there is always something new to discover.

*Online: [Click here.](#)*

*Meeting ID: 964 7214 2409*

*Passcode: 709665*

*Dial In: (929) 436-2866*

# Weekly Torah Portions

## SEPTEMBER 2023

### **Week ending September 2**

#### ***Parashat Ki Tavo***

#### ***Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8***

Ki Tavo addresses the time when the Israelites will settle in the Land of Israel. The Israelites are instructed to express their gratitude to God for their bountiful harvests and freedom from slavery by tithing ten percent of their crops for the Levite, the stranger, the orphan, and the widow. They are also told that if they obey God's mitzvot faithfully, they will receive every blessing imaginable; and if they do not fulfill their brit (covenant) with God, many curses will descend upon them.

### **Week ending September 9**

#### ***Parashat Nitzavim - Vayeilech***

#### ***Deuteronomy 29:9–30:20, 31:1-30***

In Parashat Nitzavim, in the final address by Moses to the Children of Israel, we are reminded that each and every one of us is a member of the Covenant. From our ancestors at Sinai to this very day, each of us is the heir to this sacred tradition. The words found in chapter 30, verses 12-14 can be found in our Ark in the main sanctuary. We are exhorted to "choose life," to love God, to walk in God's ways, and to keep God's commandments in this parashah. By doing so, we open our hearts to God and to each other.

In Vayeilech, since God has prohibited Moses from entering the land God has promised to the Israelites, Moses prepares the people for his death and tells them that Joshua will succeed him as their leader. This parashah continues by assuring the Israelites that they will be successful in re-conquering the Land of Israel and that God "will not fail you nor forsake you."

### **Week ending September 16**

#### ***Yom Rishon shel Rosh HaShanah***

#### ***Genesis 22:1-19***

#### ***(from Parashat Vayeira)***

This portion is commonly known

as The Akedah, or "the Binding of Isaac." It tells the story of Abraham's response to God's request that he sacrifice his son, Isaac. Just as Abraham is about to offer his son up as a sacrifice, an angel calls out to him, instructing him not to harm the boy

### **Week ending September 23**

#### ***Parashat Haazinu***

#### ***Deuteronomy 32:1–52***

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

### **Week ending September 30**

#### ***Yom Rishon shel Sukkot***

#### ***Leviticus 23:33-44***

#### ***(from Parashat Emor)***

We are instructed to observe the festival of Sukkot for seven days in these verses. Our ancestors lived in a booth for seven days and brought sacrifices to the Temple. We are reminded of the fragility of human life and taught not to take our lives and possessions for granted. These verses include the shaking of the lulav and etrog and the commandment to rejoice on each of the seven days.

## OCTOBER 2023

### **Week ending October 7**

#### ***Sh'mini Atzeret - Simchat Torah***

#### ***Deuteronomy 33:1– 4:12,***

#### ***Genesis 1:1-2:3 (from Parashat***

#### ***V'zot Hab'rachah and***

#### ***Parashat B'reishit)***

This week we celebrate the ending and the beginning of the Torah cycle by reading the very end of



# Weekly Torah Portions

Deuteronomy (the last book of the Torah) and the very beginning of Genesis (the first book of the Torah). In the final verses of the Torah, we read of Moses' blessing of the Israelites (the twelve tribes of Israel) and his death. From this passage, we immediately begin our new cycle of Torah reading with the story of creation from the beginning of Genesis.

## **Week ending October 14**

### ***Parashat B'reishit***

#### ***Genesis 1:1-6:8***

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

## **Week ending October 21**

### ***Parashat Noach***

#### ***Genesis 6:9-11:32***

In this parashah, God expresses disappointment with human corruption and decides to destroy all life on earth in a flood. God finds favor in Noah's character and spares his family. God commands Noah to build an ark for himself, his family, and the pairs of animals who will join Noah and his family on the ark. A rainbow symbolizes the first covenant (brit) between God and the people.

## **Week ending October 28**

### ***Parashat Lech L'cha***

#### ***Genesis 12:1–17:27***

The story of our ancestors begins in earnest in Lech L'cha. Abram is promised he will be the

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

## **NOVEMBER 2023**

## **Week ending November 4**

### ***Parashat Vayeira***

#### ***Genesis 18:1-22:24***

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

## **Week ending November 11**

### ***Parashat Chayei Sarah***

#### ***Genesis 23:1-25:18***

The first words of this parashah translate as "the life of Sarah", but it begins with her death. Abraham purchases land in which to bury his wife, and then sends his servant to the village of his brother to acquire a wife for his son Isaac. The

servant observes Rebekah, who offers water to him and to his camels to drink. Rebekah follows Abraham's servant back home and becomes Isaac's wife. Abraham dies at the age of 175 years, and Isaac and Ishmael bury him with Sarah in the cave of Machpelah.

## **Week ending November 18**

### ***Parashat Tol'dot***

#### ***Genesis 25:19-28:9***

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

## **Week ending November 25**

### ***Parashat Vayeitzei***

#### ***Genesis 28:10-32:3***

Vayeitzei, meaning "and he went out," refers to Jacob's journey to Haran, his mother Rebekah's birthplace, to escape his brother Esau's wrath over stealing his blessing. On his journey, Jacob dreams of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven, and is given the same promise that God gave Abraham and Isaac, i.e., that he will inherit the land and be blessed. Jacob meets Rachel at the well and works for her father (his uncle Laban) for seven years in order to marry her. Jacob, who deceived his brother Esau, is himself the victim of deception; Laban substitutes Leah (his older daughter) for Rachel. Jacob must serve Laban an additional seven years in order to wed his intended spouse, Rachel. Jacob eventually has a total of twelve sons and decides to return to his homeland.

# Welcome!

**We are delighted to welcome the newest members of our Kol Ami community with open arms and warm hearts. Each one brings unique stories, experiences and talents that enrich our congregation.**

Jennifer Scherer & Charles Basner

Laura & Louis Berlin

Ariela Vasserman & Zachary Blumkin

Lauren & David Carasso

Brooke & Adam Cohan

Susan Moser & John Doran

Caroline & Imri Eisner

Jackie & Jay Greenbaum

Jessica Davidson & Howard Horvath

Estee & Ben Jaffe

Kristina & Alan Kadlec

Aileen & David Landes

Cantor Jill Abramson  
& Rabbi Jonathan Malamy

Emily & Craig Meisner

Michele & Mark Montague

Elyssa & Michael Nadler

Staci & David Piken

Mimi & Kurt Pressman

Andrea Reiss

Alison Borek & Michael Rogalski

Pam Furman & Stephen Roxland

Elly & David Schribman

Ethel & Murray Shapiro

Deborah Hemel & Douglas Stone

Leah Blank & Matthew Sullivan

Ariel & Jonathan Swotinsky

Judith & Harvey Wacht

Elizabeth & Glenn Weinberg

Jillian Kosminoff & Chris Williams

Rachel & Charles Wright

**As we embark on a new year, let's join together to ensure these new members feel at home. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to someone new to you. Start 5784 off by making new connections and strengthening the loving, inclusive place that we call Kol Ami.**

# CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER

### Sept 8

#### Clergy Meet & Greet

7:15PM

immediately following Kabbalat Shabbat services

Join us for a special reception with our Rabbi, Cantor and Temple Leadership to exchange New Year greetings and receive a holiday challah with apples and honey; a gift from our Kol Ami Sisterhood.

*Register here for planning purposes: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/kabbalat-shabbat-service-and-meet-and-greet-clergy-at-oneg.html>*

### Sept 9

#### Tot Shabbat

9:00AM

Get ready to sing, dance and celebrate Shabbat! Join Rabbi Fenster for a lively, interactive Shabbat service geared to our youngest members. Challah, juice and snacks provided. After a nosh, continue onto Shabbat themed crafts and games led by our Young Family Ambassador, Joele Levenson. Open to the community. All are welcome!

### Sept 9

#### S'lichot Services with Reform Congregations of Westchester

7:00PM

#### Westchester Reform Temple

Join Rabbi Fenster and Cantor Danny at WRT as we gather with neighboring Westchester congregations for an hour of learning with clergy followed by a dessert reception and an evening S'lichot service of meaningful reflection, music and prayer.

### Sept 12

#### White Plains Elul Study

7:45PM

Hebrew Institute of White Plains Kol Ami, Temple Israel Center, Bet Am Shalom, and Hebrew Institute of White Plains will come together at HIWP for an evening of shared study and community. Join Rabbi Fenster and fellow congregants as together we learn from the clergy of our neighboring congregations and share one last moment of preparation before Rosh Hashanah.

### Sept 15

#### Erev Rosh Hashanah and Community Potluck Dessert Oneg

7:30PM

Let's start a sweet new year together! We look forward to welcoming in the new year as one community at our Erev Rosh Hashanah service. Bring your favorite nut-free dessert to our congregational oneg immediately following services and stay to exchange warm wishes with our staff, clergy and with each other.

### Sept 16

#### Rosh Hashanah

#### Day 1 Services

#### Early and Late

#### services start

9:00AM and 12:30PM

#### respectively.

To register for High Holy Days and make your service selections, go to:  
<https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/form/HH2023-ticket-reservation.html>

#### Rosh Hashanah Family Service for Families with Pre-K Children

3:30PM

Join Rabbi Fenster and Cantor Danny for a dynamic and fun-filled Rosh Hashanah service specifically designed for families with pre-K children. Get ready for lots of songs, storytelling, Shofar blowing and sweet treats! Open to the community.

### Sept 17

#### Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Service

10:00AM

Join us for a second day of worship in the Main Sanctuary.

### Sept 17

#### Community Tashlich

5:15PM

Gather with Kol Ami friends outside the home of congregants, Deb and Scott Smith at 92 Sheldrake Road in Scarsdale to reflect upon the year past and cast away what you may personally feel could be improved upon.

### Sept 24

#### Kol Nidre Services

#### Early and Late services

start 6:00PM and 9:00PM, respectively.

To register for High Holy Days and make your service selections, go to:  
<https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/form/HH2023-ticket-reservation.html>



# CALENDAR

## Sept 25

**Yom Kippur Day Services**  
Early and Late services  
start 9:00AM and 12:30PM,  
respectively.

To register for High Holy Days and make your service selections, go to:  
<https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/form/HH2023-ticket-reservation.html>

**Yom Kippur Family Service for Families with Pre-K Children**  
3:30PM

Join Rabbi Fenster and Cantor Danny for a meaningful Yom Kippur service specifically designed for families with pre-K children. Get ready for lots of songs, storytelling and leave feel engaged, motivated, and inspired! Open to the community.

**Yom Kippur Afternoon Program**

3:45PM  
Join Rabbi Fenster for an afternoon of thought-provoking discussion and reflection in the Chapel.

**Yizkor and Neilah Service**  
5:00PM

Join us for a beautiful and meaningful end to the Days of Awe.

**Sept 29  
Erev Sukkot Service**  
6:15PM

Join us as we embrace the harvest season, shake the lulav and etrog and usher in this joyous holiday together.

**Sept 30  
Sukkot Service**  
10:00AM

Join us for our Sukkot morning service underneath our beautifully decorated Sukkah.

## OCTOBER

**Oct 2  
Sisterhood College Admissions Presentation and Reception**  
7:00PM

Join Dana Ponsky as she discusses the college application process, covering key aspects like choosing schools, preparing applications and financial aid. Additionally, Dana will spotlight the unique Jewish campus life experiences available, such as Hillel organizations, Jewish cultural events and religious activities, helping students and parents understand the Jewish communities at select schools. Open to high school students and parents, within the larger Westchester community. All are welcome to stay for coffee and dessert in the Kol Ami Sukkah following the presentation.  
RSVP here: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/sisterhood-college-admissions-and-jewish-life-presentation.html>

**Oct 6  
Erev Simchat Torah Service**  
6:15PM

Join us for our Simchat Torah service as we rejoice in Torah! We will celebrate the consecration of new students who are beginning their religious school education and welcome them into Jewish learning.

Then get ready for a celebration of completing and beginning anew our reading of Torah as we dance around the sanctuary with Torah scrolls and to the music that fills the room and our hearts with joy.

**Oct 7  
Simchat Torah  
Yizkor Service**  
10:00AM

Join us again on Simchat Torah morning as we read the concluding chapter of Deuteronomy and immediately start again with Genesis as a sign of the continuous reading of Torah. The service concludes with Yizkor, a service of remembrance for our loved ones.

**Oct 14  
Tot Shabbat**  
9:00AM

Get ready to sing, dance and celebrate Shabbat! Join Rabbi Fenster for a lively, interactive Shabbat service geared to our youngest members. Challah, juice and snacks to follow. After a nosh, continue onto Shabbat crafts and games with ECP Teva Art Specialist, Candice Moscoe-Polner and Religious School Teacher, Debra Zitrin. Open to the community. All are welcome!

# CALENDAR

**Oct 27**

## **Synaplex Shabbat**

**Featuring Eliana Arian**

**6:15PM Kabbalat Shabbat**

**Service; 7:15PM Dinner;**

**8:00PM Guest Speaker,**

**Eliana Arian**

Elana Arian is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and recording artist. She studied conducting and violin, jazz guitar, and songwriting at Yale and has performed at some of the most celebrated concert halls in the country. Elana inspires communities across the country with her soulful music and has collaborated with some of the leading voices in contemporary Jewish music. We are thrilled to welcome her back to Kol Ami to kick off our 2023-24 Synaplex programming! More detail to follow.

**Oct 28**

## **Tot Shabbat**

**9:00AM**

Get ready to sing, dance and celebrate Shabbat! Join Rabbi Fenster for a lively, interactive Shabbat service geared to our youngest members. Challah, juice and snacks to follow. After a nosh, continue onto Shabbat crafts and some Challahween fun with ECP Teva Art Specialist, Candice Moscoe-Polner and Religious School Teacher, Debra Zitrin. Open to the community. All are welcome!

## **NOVEMBER**

**Nov 5**

### **Kol Ami Night Out:**

### **Azi Wind's Inner Circle Magic Show**

**4:00PM**

The most intimate magic show you will ever experience where your very presence changes the course of the afternoon. It's not just close-up magic – it's storytelling, it's drama, it's jaw-dropping – where card magic taps into the most powerful utterance of all... your name. Come join us for this unforgettable afternoon of magic, laughter and community fun!

*For more information and to purchase tickets, go to: <https://nykolami.shulcloud.com/event/azi-winds-inner-circle-magic-show.html>*

**Nov 14**

### **Mitch Albom Book Tour: The Little Liar**

**7:30PM**

New York Times bestselling author, Mitch Albom launches his latest book tour at Congregation Kol Ami! In his first novel set during the Holocaust, Mitch Albom interweaves the stories of Nico, who becomes a pathological liar, his brother Sebastian, who miraculously survives the death camps and spends years seeking revenge, their childhood schoolmate Fanni, whom both brothers love, and the Nazi officer, Udo Graf, who affected them all indelibly. As the decades pass, the reader witnesses the consequences of what they all endured, and the price they paid for their truths and lies. The Little Liar is a timeless story about

the harm we inflict with our deceits, and the power of love to overcome the most tragic of circumstances and redeem us in the end. We are thrilled to have Mitch Albom spend this evening at Kol Ami, reading excerpts from his latest novel, leading a Q&A session and signing books for purchase. More detail and registration information to come!

**Nov 18**

### **Tot Shabbat**

**9:00AM**

Get ready to sing, dance and celebrate Shabbat! Join Rabbi Fenster for a lively, interactive Shabbat service geared to our youngest members. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we'll share stories of gratitude and blessing. Challah, juice and snacks to follow. After a nosh our "friendsgiving" continues with holiday themed crafts and games with ECP Teva Art Specialist, Candice Moscoe-Polner and Religious School Teacher, Debra Zitrin. Open to the community. All are welcome!

**Nov 19**

### **Coachman Thanksgiving Dinner**

**5:00PM**

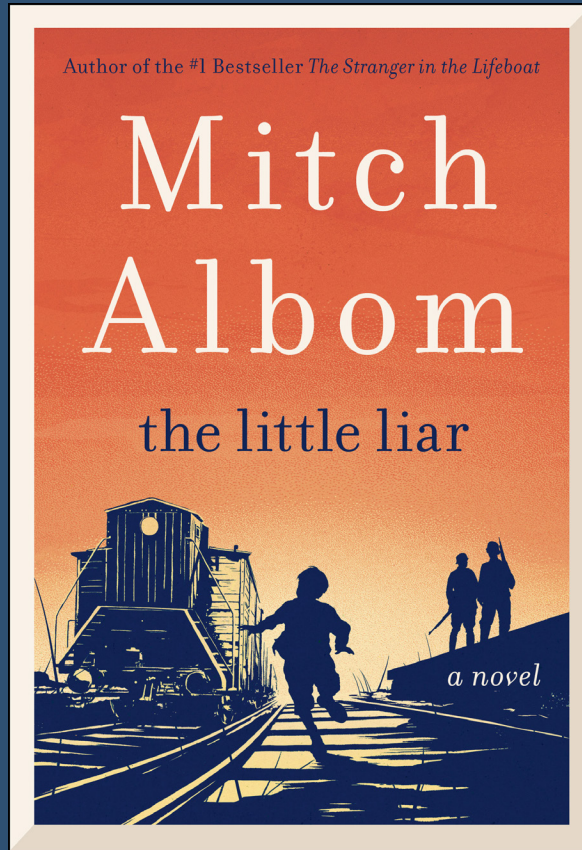
Join us as we host families residing at the Coachman Family Center for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixin's! Once again, we will add some much needed joy into the lives of those less fortunate and give our Coachman friends reason to feel thankful. Save the date with more information to follow.

**Nov 23-24**

### **Thanksgiving Observed**

Temple Office and Buildings Closed

SAVE THE DATE!



Tuesday, November 14 at 7:30PM



New York Times bestselling author, Mitch Albom going on tour with his latest novel, *The Little Liar*, and his first stop: Congregation Kol Ami!!

Set during the Holocaust, *The Little Liar* is a timeless story about the harm we inflict with our deceptions, and the power of love to overcome the most tragic of circumstances and redeem ourselves in the end.

We are thrilled to welcome Mitch Albom to our community as he reads excerpts from his much anticipated new novel, leads a Q&A session and signs books for purchase. More detail and registration information to come!



# LIFE CYCLES\*

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Janet & Mark Hershey  
on the birth of their  
granddaughter,  
Charlotte Isabel Hershey

To Marsha & Paul Geller  
on the marriage of their son,  
Douglas, to Alexa Spieler

To Cathy Pohl & David Lee  
on the marriage of their  
daughter, Rachel E Lee to  
Daryl A Hornick-Becker

To Shirley Weir  
on the marriage of her  
granddaughter, Rachel

To David Gravitz  
on the birth of his  
great-grandson,  
Phoenix Julian Ofgang

To Kathy Pike on the marriage of  
her daughter, Julia Forster

## CONDOLENCES

To Nathan Barotz & family  
on the passing of Nathan's  
father, Peter Barotz

To Jared Begun & family  
on the passing of Jared's mother,  
Leslie Deborah Begun

To Shari Soloway & family  
on the passing of Shari's father,  
David Soloway

To Barbara Block & family  
on the passing of Barbara's  
sister-in-law, Vivian Sheff

To Marjorie Gleit & family  
on the passing of Marjorie's  
husband, Milton Gleit

To Deborah Linder & family  
on the passing of Deborah's  
stepfather Leonard Lieboff

To Betsy Bohrer & family  
on the passing of Betsy's father,  
Joel Greenberg

To Jennifer Schultz & family  
on the passing of Jennifer's  
grandmother, Elsie Mallis

## IN MEMORIAM

Milton Gleit



### We want to hear from you...

*Kol Ami is about the ways we can care for each other in community through major life events. We can all sing and dance, share the joy of bride and groom, or celebrate the birth of a child. When we sing the prayer for healing in the synagogue, we learn who needs a visit or some other source of support. We see the mourners rise for Kaddish and know whom we must comfort. Our passage through life gains much meaning through our connections with other people when we share our most significant transitions.*

\*As of August 31, 2023

# DONATIONS\*

## CLERGY'S DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

### RABBI SHIRA MILGROM

In appreciation  
*from Yehezkel Landau  
and Joyce Schriebman*

In appreciation  
*from Ann V. Schaffer*

In honor of Anita Fassler's  
95th birthday  
*from Mildred Schiff  
and Richard Oshlag*

### RABBI TOM WEINER

In honor of  
their son Doug's wedding  
to Alexa Spieler  
*from Paul and Marsha Geller*

### RABBI JASON FENSTER

In honor of  
Juliana Stone for her  
contributions to community and  
friendship building at Kol Ami  
*from Jessica and Josh Wagner*

In honor of  
Rabbi Fenster, Gavi and family  
*from Erin and David Dubin*

In appreciation  
*from Danny and Judy Sarch*

In appreciation  
*from Ellen and Jon Litt*

In appreciation  
*from Andrew and Joele Levenson*

In Rabbi Fenster's honor  
*from Lois B. Wolff, a member of  
Congregation B'nai Jehoshua  
Beth Elohim, Deerfield, IL*

In appreciation  
*from Gerri and Andy Sommers*

In memory of Milton Gleit  
*from Marjorie Gleit and family*

In appreciation  
*from Michael Zweig  
and Michelle Gersen*

In appreciation  
*from Pam Millian and  
Gary Orentlicher*

In honor of  
Hank Rouda's  
years of service as  
President of Kol Ami  
*from Diane Rouda*

In memory of her father,  
David Soloway  
*from Shari Soloway*

In memory of her husband and  
the father of Shari and Daniel,  
David Soloway  
*from Ruth Soloway*

In appreciation  
*from Cindy and Scott Musoff*

In appreciation  
*from Ilene and Glenn Miller*

In memory of  
Arthur Stracher  
*from Debbie Trust and  
Mark Hessing*

In memory of  
Florence Glazer's son,  
Michael, and granddaughter,  
Sydney Glazer  
*from Barbara Block*

In memory of her husband,  
Thomas Malmud  
*from Rita Malmud*

## CANTOR DANNY MENDELSON

In honor of the Confirmation of  
their son, Zach Cole  
*from David and Karen Cole*

In memory of  
her stepfather  
Leo J. Cohan  
*from Susan Gordon*

## KOL AMI FUND

In loving memory of  
his wife, Eleanor Fleisch  
*from Harry Fleisch*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young,  
mother of Gail Young  
*from all Shirley's friends  
at the Ambassador*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Vivian Sager*

In honor of  
Carolyn Murphy  
becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
*from Michael Taubin*

In loving memory of  
Peter Barotz, beloved  
grandfather & father  
of Nathan Barotz  
*from Susan Kohn, Greg Arovas  
& the Arovas family*

In honor of  
Hank Rouda  
*from Joyce Schriebman  
& Yehezkel Landau*

In loving memory of  
Wally Musoff, father of  
Scott & father -in-law of  
Cindy Musoff  
*from Cindy's parents,  
Lynn & Donald Lazar*

\*As of August 31, 2023

# DONATIONS\*

In honor of Rhoda Adler  
*from Susan Feder-  
Gordon & family*

In appreciation of  
the summer jazz concert  
*from Regina and Kenny Berthold*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Kerevetsky  
*from her daughter Hilda Geller  
& the Geller family*

In honor of  
Michael Elkin  
*from William Blumstein*

In honor of  
Lisa Borowitz for enabling  
Laurie to participate in  
services at Kol Ami and  
celebrate Judaism  
*from Laurie Newman*

## ADULT EDUCATION FUND

*In honor of Doris Dingott's  
book club leadership  
from Beth & Gene Kava*

## KOL AMI CARES

With deep appreciation to  
Lisa Borowitz & Adrienne  
& Scott Pollak  
*from Gail Young, Ken Jurist  
& family*

## ECP FUND

In honor of  
Betsy McCormack  
for teaching me Mah Jongg  
*from Juliana Stone*

In honor of  
Betsy McCormack,  
a gifted Mah Jongg teacher,  
for teaching ECP moms to play  
and helping to build community  
*from Jessica Wagner*

In honor of  
Betsy McCormack  
for Mah Jongg class  
*from Liz Bergman*

In honor of  
Betsy McCormack  
for Mah Jongg classes  
*from Randi Wise*

In appreciation  
*from Juliana & Jared Stone*

In appreciation of  
Ilene Miller  
*from Kay Osborne*

In appreciation  
*from Brooke & Toby Cohen*

## FLOWER & LANDSCAPING FUND

In loving memory of  
Mary Ann Latona Nadler  
*from Jerry Nadler*

## FOOD PANTRY

In honor of  
Beth Kava & a wonderful  
current events year  
*from Barbara Block*

## FUND FOR THE NEEDY

In honor of  
Miriam Rogowsky's birthday  
*from Barbara Block*

In loving memory of  
Roger Seti  
*from Marla & Jerry Peers*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Ethel & Murray Shapiro*

In honor of  
Alan Lerner's 75th birthday  
*from Judy & Matthew Gluckson*

In loving memory of  
Richard Aryeh Nanas,  
son-in-law of Barbara Block  
*from Beth & Gene Kava*

In loving memory of  
Dorothea Knecht, mother of  
Steven Knecht  
*from Faith & Debbie Schafer*

In honor of  
Rabbi Shira Milgrom's retirement  
*from Sam Koch*

In honor of  
Rabbi Shira Milgrom's retirement  
*from Randy & Harris Jacobs*

In honor of  
Rabbi Tom Weiner's  
retirement  
*from Sam Koch*

In celebration of  
Linda & Milt Persily's  
60th anniversary  
*from Beth & Gene Kava*

In loving memory of  
Cynthia Schwartz, mother  
of Steven Schwartz  
*from Arianne, Brintha, Jill,  
& Mary Fiore*

In honor of  
Jess Lorden & Alison Adler  
*from Fern & Steven Schwartz*

## MUSIC FUND

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Patricia & Michael Koizim*

\*As of August 31, 2023



# DONATIONS\*

## REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT FUND

In honor of  
Susan Rudnick's  
Bat Mitzvah  
*from Linda Puner*

## RICK KRAVER COLLEGE YOUTH FUND

In honor of  
Susan Rudnick becoming  
a Bat Mitzvah  
*from Gail Sider*

In honor of  
Logan Rademacher,  
grandson of Bonnie & Eric Eilen,  
becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
*from Harriet Kraver*

In honor of  
Lily Jacobs, granddaughter  
of Randy & Harris Jacobs  
becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
*from Harriet Kraver*

In honor of  
Charlene Bodner becoming  
a Bat Mitzvah  
*from Barry & Jessica Kraver*

In honor of  
Remi Kraver's Bat Mitzvah  
*from Myra Oltsik*

In honor of the wedding of  
Sheree Geller, daughter of  
Marsha & Paul Geller  
to Russ Bratman  
*from Myra Oltsik*

In honor of  
the wedding of Douglas Geller,  
son of Marsha & Paul Geller to  
Alexa Spieler  
*from Myra Oltsik*

In honor of  
Ruth Goldberg's, 90th birthday  
*from Myra Oltsik*

In honor of  
Bonnie Eilen's 70th birthday  
*from Myra Oltsik*

In honor of  
Rabbi Tom Weiner's retirement  
*from Randy & Harris Jacobs*

## SHIRA MILGROM FUND FOR JEWISH LIFE

In honor of  
Rabbi Shira Milgrom and  
Dr. David Elcott, with gratitude  
for their friendship and their  
many contributions to the Jewish  
community and beyond.  
*from Wendy Zierler  
& Daniel Feit*

In honor of  
Shira Milgrom for her wisdom  
& dedication conducting the  
Friday Hasidic study group"  
*from Neal Keller &  
Susan Rudnick*

In honor of  
Rabbi Shira Milgrom  
for her years of service to  
Kol Ami, her friendship with and  
spiritual support of my sister,  
Gail and for honoring my mother  
through the shared burial of  
her tallitot.  
*from David Young*

In honor of  
Rabbi Shira Milgrom  
& Dr David Elcott  
*from Kay Osborne*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Shirley's daughter  
& son-in-law Gail & Ken,  
& from the extended family*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young, beloved  
mother, mother-in-law,  
wife, grandmother & great  
grandmother  
*from Andrea Marinbach*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Sandy & Dan Weiss*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Linda & Milt Persily*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Emily & Jeff Goodwin.*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Frances Pantaleo  
& Robert Freedman*

In appreciation of  
Myrna Barzelatto  
*from Kay Osborne*

In loving memory of  
her father, George Kroner  
*from Vivian Kroner*

In honor of Janet and Mark  
Hershey and in celebration of  
the birth of their granddaughter,  
Charlotte Isabel Hershey  
*from Ilene and Glenn Miller*

## TOM WEINER FUND FOR YOUTH PROGRAMMING

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Ruth Scher*

In loving memory of  
Shirley Young  
*from Judi Specto*

In honor of  
Rabbi Tom Weiner's retirement  
*from Kay Osborne*

\*As of August 31, 2023