

CONGREGATION Kol Ami

VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, December 3, 7:30 p.m.

First-Friday *erev Shabbat* Service with Birthday and Anniversary Blessings on the third night of *Hanukkah*; join us as we light the *hanukkiah*!

SATURDAY, December 4

10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service; a cohort of our Grade 8-9 students will share their creative writings in response to questions regarding Jewish practices that have contemporary applications

FRIDAY, December 10, 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service; our Adult and Student Choirs will add their voices

SATURDAY, December 11,

10:00 a.m. - "Touch *Torah*"

Shabbat Service for our youngest children and their families

FRIDAY, December 17, 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service with guest speaker Professor Vivian M. Rosenberg presenting "Martin Luther and the Quest for Certainty in an Uncertain World" (see page 8)

SATURDAY, December 18

10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service; another cohort of our Grade 8-9 students will share their creative writings in response to questions regarding Jewish practices that have contemporary applications

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KOL AMI'S FIRST ANNUAL

CRAFT & FINE ARTS SHOW A SUCCESS!



PHOTOS BY KENNY MOSS

On October 23 and 24, Kol Ami's sanctuary was transformed into a festive avenue of artisans, showcasing more than 40 local and regional artists, musicians, and gourmet caterers.

The Saturday evening festivities began in the lobby with a wine-and-beverage bar, which ensured all attendees were in the right "spirit," along with gourmet delights. The art raffles were beautifully displayed and enticing. Participants were then welcomed into the sanctuary, in which the orange-shaded chandeliers cast the most incredible glow over the entire scene... establishing a warm, comfortable, and exciting atmosphere. Each booth emphasized the unique talents of its artist. The breadth

and depth of art media guaranteed enjoyment for all types of art enthusiasts. Artists included: woodcrafters, jewelers, fabric artists, painters, photographers, ceramicists, metalists, and glass blowers. In addition, Saturday-night's guests were serenaded by local musicians.

The purpose of the show was to expand Kol Ami's role as a recognized and respected regional art-hosting center. We had almost 600 people in attendance and will be repeating this weekend next year—so mark your calendars for October 29 and 30, 2011.

The craft show was a success thanks to the creative efforts of everyone involved. Special thanks to our *Chai-ly* Spirited Sponsors, Joshua's of Jenkintown, Sweetwatts by Lori Levitt, David Zee (Zweiback), "Dos Guys" Greg Brown and Ron Chmar, and Cheltenham High School's premiere a capella groups "Up the Octave" and "Sons of Pitch" for their musical entertainment, and Elaine Stevens and the Craft & Fine Arts Show @ Kol Ami committee members.

see page 4 for more photos and page 11 for a list of our sponsors

WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued from page 1)

FRIDAY, December 24, 7:30 p.m.
erev Shabbat Musical Service

SATURDAY, December 25
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue*
7:00 p.m. - Musical *Havdalah* Service (see page 9)

FRIDAY, December 31, 6:00 p.m.
erev Shabbat Service; join us at this early service and then continue on to celebrate the New Year!

SATURDAY, January 1, 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service ■

TORAH & HAFTARAH

December 4 - *Miketz*
Genesis 41:1-44:17, Zechariah 1:14-4:7

December 11 - *Vayigash*
Genesis 44:18-47:27, Ezekiel 37:15-28

December 18 - *Vayehi*
Genesis 47:28-50:26, I Kings 2:1-12

December 25 - *Shemote*
Exodus 1:1-6:1, Isaiah 27:6-28:13 ■

CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolences in loving memory of:

Shirley Ettinger

Mother of Stephen (Jean) Ettinger
Grandmother of Leigh and Meryl

Joseph Harris

Uncle of Barry (Michele) Steinbrecher

Susan Stone Macdonald

Mother of Sheryl Cohen (John Miles)
Grandmother of Lily and Emily

May their memories forever be blessings among our People. ■



LIGHTING THE CANDLES AND SAYING THE BLESSINGS OVER THE HANUKKIAH

FIRST NIGHT OF HANUKKAH (WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1)

The *shamash*, or serving candle, is lit first and is used to light the other candles every evening. The *shamash* is noticeable because it is situated higher than, or in front of, the other candles. Each night of *Hanukkah*, the candles are placed in the *hanukkiah* from right to left (the same way in which Hebrew is read) but are lit from left to right.

ON THE FIRST NIGHT ONLY, the *Sheb'heb'chiyanu* is recited or sung:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam
Sheb'heb'chiyanu v'ki'y'manu v'hig'yanu
lazmahn hazeh

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who has given us life, sustained us, and brought us to this time.

ON EACH NIGHT, the following blessings are recited or sung:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam
asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik neir
shel Hanukkah

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who sanctifies us through *mitzvot* and commands us to kindle
the candles of *Hanukkah*.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam
Sheb'asah neisim l'avo'taynu ba'yameem ha'hame
bahz'mahn hazeh

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days,
as at this time. ■

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

Hanukkah arrives on Wednesday evening, December 1, and then (*dayenu!*) on Sunday, December 12, you are invited to our congregation's very special celebration of another momentous event in our young history: the kick-off of our Capital Campaign drive that expresses our 'Faith in Our Future.'

This will be a morning of celebration for all ages and all families: short on speeches, long on the expression of *simcha*, a terrific opportunity in the spirit of *Hanukkah* to ***dedicate ourselves to our future.***

This is what we mean when we say *dor l'dor*, "from generation to generation." We do everything we can to enable the next generation to experience what we have and cherish.

In ancient times, the rabbis framed the story of *Hanukkah* in the context of the purification and re-dedication of the Temple, emphasizing the meaning of miracle—the oil that burned for eight days, not just one!—rather than military exploits. Modern liberal Jews focused on the meaning of religious freedom. Over time, this minor holy day became associated with gifts and then, in response to calls to conscience, to the greater merit of giving of oneself so that others might benefit.

Think of the community and culture that together we have created! Kol Ami—"The Voice of My People—an intimate and dynamic community."

Let us rejoice in what we have.

Let us pledge to perpetuate it.

Shalom u'vrachah,
Rabbi Elliot J. Holin ■

MAZAL TOV

Congratulations go to:

- **Taylor Appel** (daughter of Guy and Karol Appel) and **Julie Cutler** (daughter of Jon and Sheri Cutler) for receiving the Congressional Award for community service from Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz.
- **Paige Davis** (daughter of Debra Share and stepdaughter of Richard Gitlen) for being accepted into the National Honor Society at Wissahickon High School.
- **Rabbi Elliot Holin** for the publication of excerpts of his *Rosh Hashanah* sermon "When Is A Jew?" in the November edition of the "Jewish Social Policy Action Network" newsletter. ■

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office

215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

215-635-4182

Ilene Schafer, President

215-663-0228

Guy Appel, Vice President

215-938-9330

Barry Boise, Vice President

215-635-9042

Ellen Asam, Secretary

215-635-5598

Bart Weiner, Treasurer

215-233-4712

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Elaine Stevens, Executive Director

215-635-3110

Rabbi Selilah Kalev

Director of Education

215-635-7106

Sheri Cutler

Nursery School Director

215-635-4180

Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist

215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:

Congregation Kol Ami

8201 High School Road

Elkins Park, PA 19027

Web site: www.kolamielkinspark.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the 5th of the previous month (e.g., by December 5 for the January issue) to Debra Share, copy editor, at debra_share@merck.com. Articles may be edited as needed. Photographs/images to be included should be at least 2x3" in size and 300 DPI resolution to ensure good reproduction. ■

HAPPY CRAFT SHOPPERS, TALENTED YOUNG SINGERS & ALL KINDS OF GOODIES



CHELTENHAM HIGH SCHOOL'S "SONS OF PITCH" A CAPELLA GROUP



CHELTENHAM HIGH SCHOOL'S "UP THE OCTAVE" A CAPELLA GROUP



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

THE FUTURE IS NOW!

I am excited and thrilled to announce the public kickoff of Congregation Kol Ami's "Faith in our Future" Capital Campaign. On Sunday, December 12, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, our sanctuary will be filled with music, dancing, food, and guest speakers, and everyone is invited. Come eat some bagels and lox, listen to delightful live Klezmer music, learn an Israeli dance or two, and be part of our community. This event is the public launch of a campaign that has already made significant progress toward our goal of addressing the needs of our congregation.



At this celebration, we will update you on our progress. No one will be solicited. Just enjoy the FREE party, thanks to generous underwriting by members of our Kol Ami family. As we enjoy the season of *Hanukkah*, let's come together and celebrate the gifts we give and the gifts we receive here. We are a unique community, and we all have "Faith in our Future." We believe that our congregation is essential, important, relevant, and cherished.

Don't miss the fun as we all join together on December 12 to celebrate all we are and all we will be. Look for your invitation, and RSVP to kolamifaithinourfuture@gmail.com. See you there!

Ilene Schafer
215-663-0228, president@kolamielkinspark.org ■

FOR ALL KOL AMI MEMBER ADULTS:

Sunday, December 12, at 10:00 a.m.

A *Hanukkah* Present for Kol Ami & a Great Breakfast for All!

RSVP to kolamifaithinourfuture@gmail.com.



ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

One of the benefits of our Web site is the ability to present our monthly bulletin electronically. This not only saves us money and time, but advances our desire to be "green." Starting with the January 2011 issue, we will discontinue the bulletin's mass mailing and encourage our members to read it online at www.kolamielkinspark.org. If you still wish to receive a hard copy, contact Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110. ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Adult Education Committee

Thursday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Michael Chernoff, 215-677-8896, and Alan Gershenson, 215-887-3994

Caring Congregants Committee

Sunday, December 5, at 1:00 p.m.

Co-chairs: Elaine Gershenson, 215-887-3994, and Mindy Levy, 215-885-3672

Craft Show Committee

Tuesday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Chair: Ellen Matz, 215-635-5426

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue

Tuesday, December 14, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen, 215-635-4716

Operations Committee

Thursday, December 16, at 6:00 p.m.

Co-chairs: Guy Appel, 215-938-9330, or Ben Long, 215-635-4751

Social Action Committee

Monday, December 13, at 7:15 p.m.

Chair: Ronit Sugar, 215-635-0390

Spiritual Growth Group

Thursday, December 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Natalie Dyen, 215-657-4124, and Janet Falon, 215-635-1698

Sustainability/Green Committee

Wednesday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Mark Kaplan, 215-635-2920 ■

Kol Ami Contest - Win a \$36 Barnes & Noble Gift card!

Open to all religious school **students!**

DUE DATE 12/31/2010



**Contact Mindy Levy if
you have any questions
artb4words@verizon.net**

**Drop all handmade
cards off to Elaine
Stevens, and she will
pass them on to the
CC Committee.**

**The Caring Congregants Com-
mittee wants YOU to create the
front of our new “birthday card!”
The winner’s card will be printed
and sent out to each Kol Ami
child under the age of thirteen
[13], on his/her birthday!**

**Have fun and let your creativity
flow, using any art supplies you
wish and 8.5” x 11” white paper.
Please include the words...**

**“Happy Birthday” on the front of
the card.**

Have fun, and we hope...



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

The article below is brought to you by an incredible source of learning and fun, babaganewz.com.

Happy *Hanukkah*,
Rabbi Selilah Kalev



HOW TO PLAY DREIDEL

Solve any dreidel-rule argument right here. All the rules you need to know...and then some.

What would *Hanukkah* be without an exhilarating game of dreidel? Grab your friends, your family, your dreidel, and the tokens of your choice; roll up your sleeves; and get ready for some dreidel fun!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Tokens - pennies, raisins, candy, or peanuts, for example
- A flat playing surface - floor or table
- A dreidel - the dreidel has a *Hebrew* letter on each of its four sides. Each letter stands for a word in the phrase '*Nes Gadol Hayah Sham*,' but they also stand for Yiddish words denoting game instructions as follows:
 - *Nun* (*Nisht*) - Player does nothing.
 - *Gimmel* (*Gantz*) - Player takes all of the tokens in the pot.
 - *Hay* (*Halb*) - Player takes half of the tokens in the pot.
 - *Shin* (*Shtetl*) - Players add one token to the pot.

HERE'S HOW TO PLAY

1. Sit around the table or in a circle on the floor.
2. Everyone starts with the same number of tokens.
3. Each player puts one token in the center of the playing area (the pot).
Note: When there are fewer than two tokens in the pot, each player puts one more token in the pot.
4. Players take turns spinning the dreidel.
5. Play continues until someone has all the tokens.

BACKGROUND

The dreidel reminds us of the miracle of *Hanukkah*, when a few drops of oil miraculously burned for eight days and nights after the Holy Temple was recaptured in 165 BCE. The letters on the dreidel stand for the Hebrew words '*Nes Gadol Hayah Sham*' (a great miracle happened there). In Israel, the dreidel has a *Pay* instead of a *Shin* for '*Nes Gadol Hayah Po*' (a great miracle happened here). ■

KOL AMI TEMPLE YOUTH & SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

by Allison Savett, Youth Group Director

KATY (GRADES 9-12)

Last month, KATY members got together on a Saturday night for Chinese food and the movie "Due Date," which replaced our original event, Jew-a-thon Movies. It was a big hit, and we had a blast!

We're now gearing up for our *Hanukkah* party on December 5 at 12:30 p.m., where we'll have our first annual Pollyannas. Although none of our members went to the first North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) event, we have some kids really interested in the NFTY 2011 Annual Convention in Dallas.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP (GRADES 6-8)

Following in the shoes of the Wii Tournament, the Senior Youth Group's bowling event had a huge turnout (with help from KATY members) and was a giant hit! We enjoyed pizza, along with two hours of knocking down pins at Thunderbird Lanes in Willow Grove. In the next month, we will journey out to lunch and a movie after Hebrew school. ■

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

by Rosalind Holtzman
Junior Youth Group Director (Grades 4-5)

Fourth- and fifth-graders, get ready for an all-*Hanukkah* Sunday! On December 5, start off with Kol Ami religious school's *Hanukkah* Bash (Color War! *Torah* Bowl!), followed by the annual Fry Fest at 1:00 p.m. We'll be frying up crispy golden batches of delicious latkes—potato latkes, corn latkes, and who knows what other kinds of latkes? Join us for *Hanukkah* food, fun, and games. Parent helpers are needed. Mark your calendar and watch for a flyer being sent home from religious school. ■

Kol Ami Events

FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT



Rabbi Holin's **Fast for Darfur**—which supports rescue efforts in Darfur—and **Nothing But Nets** fast—which supports URJ's project to purchase, distribute, and educate about the proper use of insecticide-treated family bed nets to prevent the spread of malaria in Africa—will be on **Friday, December 3**, and **Thursday, January 6**.

His **Phast for Philadelphia**—which is on behalf of unemployed workers in Philadelphia who are struggling to make ends meet by helping them pay their mortgages, address health care needs, and pay electric bills—will be on **Thursday, December 16**, and **Wednesday, January 19**.

Join our rabbi in a fast—or virtual fast—no matter where you are by sending funds that you would have spent on food to help people in need:

Commission on Social Action

Union for Reform Judaism
633 Third Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10017
(make check payable to the URJ with a memo note 'Nothing But Nets')

Save Darfur Coalition

3246 Solutions Center, Lockbox #773246
Chicago, IL 60677

Unemployment Information Center

112 N. Broad Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(make check payable to Unemployment Information Center with a memo note 'Philadelphia Unemployment Office')

FIRST-FRIDAY EREV SHABBAT SERVICE for December Birthday & Anniversary Blessings Friday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m.

If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in December, please join us for a special First-Friday *erev Shabbat* service. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with an December *simcha* under a *tallit* in front of the ark. Watch for your invitation for this special *Shabbat simcha*.

Rabbi Holin will continue to send personal letters to everyone celebrating a significant birthday or anniversary ending with 0 or 5 (for example, 40, 45). If you have a special 0 or 5 birthday or anniversary, you will be invited to participate in

any Friday service in "your" month by blessing the candles or *challah*, or reciting the *Kiddush*, or at any Saturday service that month by carrying or blessing the *Torah*.

NASHES FOR NURTURANCE

Making Chicken Soup? A Casserole? Your Favorite Dessert? Cook One; Freeze One!



The Caring Congregants Committee is gathering names of individuals willing to make anything from a single dish to a full meal for members who are sitting *Shiva* or who are ill. If you enjoy cooking and wish to help others, add your name

to our "meal-makers" list! Please contact Linda George (LindaSGeorge@gmail.com) to let her know of your interest. We will be discussing this further at our December 5 meeting at 1:00 p.m., so feel free to join us then as well!

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

We are collecting new and gently used, clean coats, jackets, sweaters, gloves, scarves, hats, and blankets. These will be distributed to homeless people in Philadelphia. Please drop off your donations at the synagogue. This collection will continue through February.

MARTIN LUTHER AND THE QUEST FOR CERTAINTY IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

**Friday, December 17 at our
erev Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.
Speaker: Dr. Vivian M. Rosenberg**



Martin Luther, the father of the Protestant Reformation, was a deeply religious man, a loving father and husband, a leader of his people, and virulently anti-Semitic. This talk will highlight some of the reasons and will explore ways in which Luther's life story might help us understand problems in our own turbulent times.

Dr. Vivian M. Rosenberg majored in Philosophy at Wellesley College and received her MA and PhD in the History of Ideas from Brandeis University. She taught History of Ideas at Drexel University for 35 years and was a recipient of the Lindback Award for Excellence in Teaching.

THIRD TUESDAY WITH RABBI HOLIN

December 21 at 8:30 a.m.

at the West Avenue Grille in Jenkintown



Join Rabbi Holin and other members of the congregation at this delightfully informal, hour-long breakfast as we chat about current events in the Jewish and secular world, new movies or books, or transitions in our lives. Please call Rabbi Holin (215-635-4182) by December 19 to reserve your seat at our table.

Saturday, December 25 Musical Havdalah Service with Dinner & a Movie

Chinese Buffet Dinner - 5:30 p.m.

Sing-a-long - 6:30 p.m.

Havdalah Service - 7:00 p.m.

Movie - 7:30 p.m.

Adult - \$5.00

Child (8 & under) - \$2.50

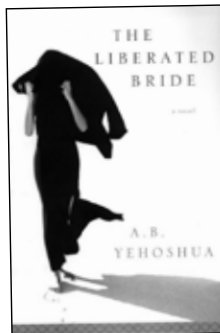
Nonmember - \$10.00

Please send in your check made payable to
'Congregation Kol Ami' by December 20.

Questions about the event should be
directed to Elaine Stevens, 215-635-3110.

THE KOL AMI CONTEMPORARY JEWISH WRITERS BOOK GROUP

Sunday, January 9, 11:00 to Noon at the Synagogue,
discussing "The Liberated Bride" by A.B. Yehoshua



Join award-winning poet and Kol Ami member Lou Barrett as she leads us in discussion about acclaimed writer and fourth-generation Israeli author A.B. Yehoshua's narrative about a morally inquisitive and often naïve Professor Yochanan Rivlin, of Haifa University. His wife, Hagit, a judge, is tolerant of almost everything, except her husband's flaws. When one of Rivlin's students, an Arab bride from a village in the Galilee, is assigned to help him in his research, a two-pronged mystery develops. As they probe the causes of the Algerian civil war, Professor Rivlin becomes obsessed with his son's failed marriage and his young student bride's activities.

Rivlin's search leads to some improbable events. At once serious and entertaining, Yehoshua brilliantly portrays characters from disparate sectors of Israeli life, all whom share the very human desire for, and fear of, the truth in politics and life. Rivlin's own journey reveals rifts that divide families and nations, and the lives of his secret-sharers: the Arabs. This engaging novel reveals what is inescapable in human nature and in our modern world.

LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI HOLIN

'Mishnah and More'

Tuesday, January 11, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

BYOL: 'Jewish Nutrition' and refreshments will be provided as well

What wisdom did rabbis in the second century of the Common Era offer about life, faith and the sanctity of relationships? Join Rabbi Holin as we explore selections of *Mishnah* — *Pirkei Avot* ("Chapters of the Fathers / Ancestors") to discuss what prompted specific writings and how they speak to us now.

Call Rabbi Holin (215-635-4182) by January 2 so that he can send you the material that will be discussed in advance of the 'Lunch and Learn.'

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REFLECTIONS

Sunday, January 30, from 11:00 a.m.-Noon

Instructor: Dr. Herb Barrett

Join your fellow members as we discuss our personal connections to Judaism. In what ways does Jewishness shape our experiences, relationships, goals, choices, and beliefs?

Dr. Barrett, who is a member of our congregation, is a licensed psychologist and certified psychoanalyst. He was the psychologist for Harvard University's Education Development Center and the education director of MIT's Bridgeport Project. He was also the founding Education Director of Temple Israel Religious School in Westport, Connecticut.

Free to members; non-member registration is \$50.



JOIN RABBI HOLIN AT THE 2011 AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE

Sunday, May 22 - Tuesday, May 24 in Washington, DC

In the months ahead, Iran will most likely continue to develop its nuclear program. The Islamic Republic will continue its efforts to smuggle weapons to its proxies, Hizballah and Hamas, adding to the weapons that already threaten Israel on two of its borders. At the same time, new members of Congress will be casting their first votes on issues that directly affect the U.S.-Israel relationship.

This three-day event gives us the unique opportunity to hear from Middle East scholars, as well as leading analysts and journalists from around the world, and to lobby members of Congress.

To learn more or to register for the conference, visit www.aipac.org/PC2011 or contact Rabbi Holin (215/635-4182) if you are interested in joining him at this important time on behalf of Israel. ■

SAVE THE DATES FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

All events are open to EVERYONE in the congregation.

Bake Sales: December 5, January 20 & February 27

Family Game Night (open to all ages): February 5

Hoagie Sale: February 6 on Superbowl Sunday

Passover Candy Sale: Order forms available in early March

Questions: Kenny Moss (215-277-5335) or Heather Pelletier (215-855-3216), co-chairs of the Religious School Activities Working Group

COMMUNITY EVENT

Thursday, December 2, at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Kehillah of Old York Road *Hanukkah* Concert in Celebration of Hazzan David F. Tilman's Retirement with 36 Years of Cantoring at Beth Sholom Congregation

*Hosted by Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel
8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA*

Presenting "The Josh Nelson Project," Delaware Valley's Debut Performance of this dynamic singer, performer, and composer, whose high-energy music has captured the hearts of the American Jewish Community.

Joining together with 200 singers will be members of Kol Ami's Adult and Student Choirs. ■

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



JOHN ADEN ALBRIGHT had a fascination for light and shadow. He likes to observe shadow falling over objects, defining forms and volumes. He likes textures and patinas, surfaces that look old, worn, eroded, and distressed. From this came an interest in *trompe l'oeil* and the challenge of tricking the eye. To do this, he paints the subjects life size, in life-size settings. He further maintains the illusion by avoiding a picture frame and leaving the canvas to appear as an artifact.

He also likes to evoke a sense of mystery in his painting by making the subject timeless. He does this by trying to avoid

giving clues that would tell the viewer when the scene is taking place. Is it ancient Pompeii or Miami Beach? Who put those objects in that place and why? He would like the viewers to imagine their own narrative to answer these questions.

John's art will be on exhibit in the Kol Ami lobby from November 30 through February 7. All of the artist's works are for sale, and a portion of the proceeds are donated to the synagogue. If you are interested in purchasing a piece of art, the price list is available in the Executive Office. The gallery hours are Wednesday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. If the religious school is closed on those days, the gallery is closed as well. ■



THANKS TO OUR CHAI-LY SPIRITED SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE 2010 KOL AMI CRAFT AND FINE ARTS SHOW

Guy and Karol Appel
David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Arlene Cohen
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Gregory Brown and Sara Reiter
David and Shelley Chamberlain
Michael and Sara Chernoff
Howard and Nancy Cohen
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Steve and Sandy Cohen
Ken and Elva Davis
James and Natalie Dyen
Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry
Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ezekiel-
Fishbein
Audrey Freedman
Joseph Friedman

Alan and Elaine Gershenson
Arthur and Meryle Gurmankin
Karen Gurmankin
Stephen and Debra Harris
David and Phyllis Harrison
Adam Hoffman and Lisa Landau
Rabbi Elliot and Susan Holin
David Hyman and Farah Jimenez
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Andrew and Shari Johnson
Eric and Adena Johnston
Mark and Karin Kaplan
Ted and Wendy Kapnek
Josh Kershenbaum and Cindy
Rosenfeld
Charles and Laurie Langman
Paul and Mindy Levy

Gabriel and Orly Maravankin
Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz
Matz
John Miles and Sheryl Cohen
Craig and Sharon Myers
Eric and Heather Pelletier
Marshall and Ilene Schafer
Russell Schilder and Jodi Bloch
Schilder
Robert Schiowitz and Ronit Sugar
Stephen and Ruth Shaffer
Stanley and Rita Siegel
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser
Mark Tino and Elaine Lotto
Morton and Marcia Wolpert ■

FUN, FOOD & PRIZES - BINGO FAMILY NIGHT @ KOL AMI ON NOVEMBER 6



THANKS TO JANINE PRATT, THE BINGO COMMITTEE, AND BINGO CALLER ADAM LEVITT FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN!

High Holy Day Appeal

Thank you to the following individuals for their generosity during our High Holy Day Appeal:

Guy and Karol Appel
Bruce and Ellen Asam
David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Steven and Laura Bell
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Barry and Allison Boise
Gregory Brown and Sara Reiter
David and Shelley Chamberlain
Michael and Sara Chernoff
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
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Thank You, Kol Ami!

from Susan A. Hoffman, Site Director, Klein & Stiffel JCCs

On behalf of the participants of the JCCs Stiffel Senior Center, I would like to thank you so very much for the plentiful produce from your *Hazon* CSA. Your weekly donation of organic vegetables and fruit make a profound difference in the lives of the elders we serve.

The Stiffel Center provides programs and services to older adults as well as a hot, nutritious lunch Monday through Friday. Shopping can be very difficult for older adults, many of whom have limited incomes, and the donated produce has meant so much to them.

Thanks so much for your continued kindness! ■

You Made a Difference!

from Deirdre Mulligan, *Mitzvah* Food Project Associate, CSR

On behalf of our recipients, we extend our sincerest appreciation to your synagogue and congregation for your participation in the 2010 High Holiday Food Drive and collecting approximately 600 pounds of canned vegetables! Your efforts were an integral part of this year's successful food drive and will directly benefit recipients of the Federation's *Mitzvah* Food Project.

With your support, approximately 50 synagogues were able to collect a total of approximately 40,000 pounds of food that will be distributed through our 6 pantry sites over the next few months, and we could not have done this without you. ■

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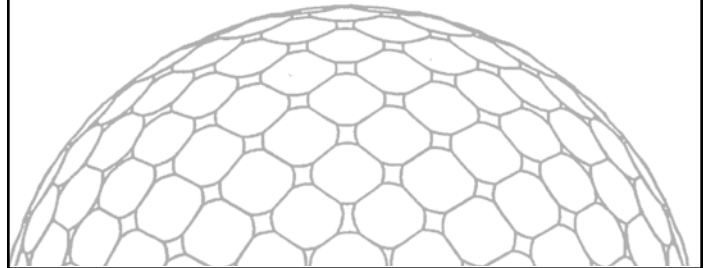
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ATTENTION ALL CRAFT & FINE ARTS ENTHUSIASTS!

If you are interested in joining
the Committee to put together the
2011 Craft & Fine Arts Show @ Kol Ami,
please contact Ellen Horowitz Matz
at ehmmatz@comcast.net.

COULD KOL AMI ADOPT YOUR SOCIAL-ACTION PASSION?



What is your local passion when it comes to social action? Does the idea of getting the Kol Ami community behind your passion sound intriguing?

Part of Kol Ami's mission is *Tikun Olam*, and our Social Action Committee is looking to make a few matches between our member's local passions and our congregation's actions. If you believe that our members could help, and you are willing to help us help you and your cause, please send an e-mail by December 15 to Ronit Sugar (ronitsugar@gmail.com), our chairperson, with the following information:

1. **The name of your cause and its location and mission** (e.g., Cradles to Crayons, *Mitzvah* Food Pantry).

2. **How our congregant's could help** (e.g., collecting items, doing work at a food warehouse, etc.)

3. **Any minimum requirements involved for participation** (e.g., requires a monthly commitment, needs at least 20 people, etc.)

4. **Any limitations that may be placed on congregant involvement** (e.g., kids only, involves physical labor, a 30-minute drive, etc.)

We will collect the ideas and identify one to three projects that, with your help, we can take on over the course of this year. Help us make your passion our *mitzvah*. ■

Kol Ami Scrip is up and running!

Raise money for Kol Ami with no selling.

Scrip cards can be used for more than just a gift to family or friends; they can be purchased in addition to your weekly grocery shopping excursions. With the winter holidays approaching, here are just a few of the various gas/auto, travel, or other services available to everyone:

Acme, Amazon.com, American Airlines, Avis, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Best Western, Budget Rental Car, Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Courtyard Marriott, Dick's Sporting Goods, GameStop, Gap, Giant Foods, Home Depot, iTunes, Lowe's, Marshalls, Old Navy, Panera

Bread, PetSmart, Regal Entertainment, Sears, T.J. Maxx, Visa

Kol Ami receives a percentage (from 2 to 15 percent) back from each order placed. Each retailer has various valued Scrip cards available and have allocated a percentage we would receive back from ordered cards.

Kol Ami's Scrip program is for **everyone** in the congregation. There are over 600 additional retailers and services available.

The steps are simple:

Select which retailers from whom you wish to order scrip cards.

Fill out the Kol Ami Scrip form. Order forms will be available either

in the religious school office or from Elaine Stevens during the week.

Forms will be collected each week on Sunday in the religious school or may be dropped off to Elaine Stevens during the week.

Orders will be processed and the scrip cards will be made available the following week for pickup.

It's very simple and a GREAT way to help Kol Ami from the convenience of your own shopping cart.

Any questions can be directed to Elaine Stevens or Kenny Moss and Heather Pelletier, co-chairs of the Religious School Activities Working Group. ■

JANUARY 30, 2011

Super Sunday

ONE PEOPLE
ONE COMMUNITY
ONE CAMPAIGN



On Super Sunday, Federation will once again bring together the Greater Philadelphia Jewish community to make and take calls that raise vital funds for Federation's Annual Campaign – the largest local campaign that provides critical funds to support Jews in need here, in Israel and in the Former Soviet Union.

**Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy at the Schwartz Campus of
the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia in Bryn Mawr, PA**

Two shifts: 9 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 8 pm

**Super Sunday 2011 Co-chairs:
Michele & Robert Levin, Bryna & Fred Berman**

Super Sunday will provide a full day of philanthropy and fun, including children's programming provided by Jewish Family & Children's Services, LimmudPhilly learning sessions and an agency fair.

Together, we can be the difference.
jewishphilly.org/superweeks

**For more information or to register call the
Super Sunday hotline ► 215.832.0630.**

***Super Sunday Snow Date: February 27, 2011**



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KOL AMI DECEMBER 2010 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Bake Sale Torah Chanting 9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - <i>Torah Bowl</i> and <i>Hanukkah Party</i> KATY Pollyanna 12:30 p.m. Caring Congregants Committee Meeting 1:00 p.m. Junior Youth Group "Latke Fest" 1:00 p.m.	6 Nursery School Book Fest Begins Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga	7 Nursery School 9:00 a.m. - Fitness Nursery School Pajama Party 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy to the Stagecrafters 7:00 p.m. "The Last Night of Ballyhoo" Craft Show Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	1 First Night of Hanukkah Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	2 CSA Food Distribution 5:00 p.m. Adult Education Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. Kehillah of Old York Road Hanukkah Concert 7:00 p.m. Keneseth Israel	3 Nursery School erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. First-Friday erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	4 Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m. with Grade 8-9 Student Participation
5 Bake Sale Torah Chanting 9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - <i>Torah Bowl</i> and <i>Hanukkah Party</i> KATY Pollyanna 12:30 p.m. Caring Congregants Committee Meeting 1:00 p.m. Junior Youth Group "Latke Fest" 1:00 p.m.	6 Nursery School Book Fest Begins Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga	7 Nursery School 9:00 a.m. - Fitness Nursery School Pajama Party 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy to the Stagecrafters 7:00 p.m. "The Last Night of Ballyhoo" Craft Show Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	8 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming Religious School 4:00 p.m.	9 CSA Food Distribution 5:00 p.m. Continuing Adult Education w/Rabbi Holin "Exploring Four Significant Torah Narratives through Midrash and Jewish Mysticism" 7:30 p.m.	10 Nursery School erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat 7:30 p.m. Adult and Student Choir Participation	11 "Touch Torah" Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.

KOL AMI DECEMBER 2010 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

KOL AMI DECEMBER 2010 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)									
Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
12 Religious School Staff Meeting 8:30 a.m. Torah Chanting 9:00 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	13 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga Social Action Committee Meeting 7:15 p.m.	14 Nursery School 9:00 a.m. - Fitness Interfaith Relationship Dialogue 7:30 p.m.	15 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Sustainability / Green Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16 CSA Food Distribution 5:00 p.m. Operations Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Spiritual Growth Group Meeting 7:30 p.m.	17 Nursery School <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> 7:30 p.m. Guest Speaker, Professor Vivian M. Rosenberg, "Martin Luther and the Quest for Certainty in an Uncertain World"	18 Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m. with Grade 8-9 Student Participation			
19 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Winter Break	20 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga CSA Food Distribution 5:00 p.m.	21 Third Tuesday with Rabbi Holin 8:30 a.m. West Avenue Grille Jenkintown Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Fitness	22 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Winter Break	23 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break	24 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break <i>erev Shabbat Musical Service</i> 7:30 p.m.	25 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Musical Havdalah Service 5:30 p.m. – Chinese Buffet Dinner 6:30 p.m. – Sing-a-long 7:00 p.m. – Musical <i>Havdalah Service</i> 7:30 p.m. - Movie			
26 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Winter Break	27 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break	28 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break	29 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Winter Break	30 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break	31 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> 6:00 p.m.	JAN 1 Shabbat Service 10:00 a.m.			

KOL AMI CONTRIBUTIONS

We thank the following individuals for their generous donations to Kol Ami funds. If you would like to make a donation, send it to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027, and indicate to which fund it should be applied.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In Memory of:

Dr. Morris Gershenson
Stephen and Ruth Shaffer

Lillian Strikowsky
Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

**Rebecca Schwartz and the
Kol Ami Adult Choir**
Karen Gurmankin

In Memory of:

Stuart Hample
William Hyman and Janine Pratt

BAR/BAT MITZVAH CONFIRMATION FUND

In Memory of:

Stuart Hample
Rosalind Hauser

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

Special Birthday of Ellen Fischer
Robert and Ellen Fischer

**Special Birthday of
Jerome Schwartz**
Jerome and Marsha Schwartz

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of:

Morton H. Baker
*Shelley, David, Michael and
Brian Chamberlain*

Stuart Hample
Harold and Ellen Stern

Fred Harrison
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*Meryle and Art Gurmankin, Jeff and
Andi Strikowsky, Stuart and Stephanie
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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Memory of:

Susan Stone Macdonald
Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

Special Birthday of Ellen Fischer
Elaine Stevens

**Rebecca Schwartz, for the beautiful
ceremony she provided at the un-
veiling for our mother, Minnie Stein**
*Rhoda Frankel, Michele Jaffe, and Ruth
Schoen*

**Marriage of Stacey Smith
and Brad Slobotkin**
Craig and Sharon Myers

Special Birthday of Meryle Twersky
Elaine Stevens

**The birth of our grand-niece,
Lillian Elizabeth Wittenberg**
David and Meryle Twersky

In Memory of:

Esther Engel
Byron Schader

George Friedman
Michael Levin and Marjorie Backup

Miriam Hallparn
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TO:



AN EASY WAY FOR YOU TO SUPPORT THE KOL AMI NURSERY SCHOOL!

Federation Early Learning Services (FELS), our preschool partner, has been successful over the past several years raising additional dollars via the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania's Donor Option program.

Many of you are already contributing to the United Way individually or through your workplace campaign. FELS would like to expand their donor option outreach to members of Congregation Kol Ami. The funds would be used to support the preschool program to more fully develop enrichment programs (Early Literacy, Music, Sign Language, etc.) or to offset deficits that may be incurred. Promoting the Donor Option program benefits the bottom line of both of our organizations.



We have confirmed with United Way that individual synagogues are not eligible to participate in the Donor Option program. Involvement in FELS United Way campaign is an ideal way for the congregation to show our support of the nursery school without undermining any of our fund-raising campaigns.

We hope you will designate **Federation Early Learning Services** as your UNITED WAY donor choice. Your tax-deductible contribution, in any amount, will help all of our children.

FELS' donor option numbers are:

Local.....#44
 State.....#4101-0089
 Federal.....#16951

If you have any questions about this initiative, please contact Jessica Brookstein, FELS Development Director, at 215-676-7550 ext. 108 or by email at jbrookstein@FelsKids.org.

Help us help your children. Please give today! ■