

CONGREGATION  
**Kol Ami**  
VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

THE DATES ARE SET FOR...  
**CONGREGATION KOL AMI  
TRIPS TO ISRAEL IN 2014  
WITH RABBI HOLIN  
FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILY,  
AND FRIENDS –  
IN AND BEYOND THE  
CONGREGATION**

**FAMILY TRIP 2014:**

Sunday, August 17, through  
Thursday, August 28

**ADULT TRIP 2014:**

Sunday, October 19, through  
Thursday, October 30

To receive a complete itinerary,  
pricing, and information about flights,  
hotels, and meals, please contact  
Rabbi Holin at 215-635-4182.



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**RABBI HOLIN AND PETER ABELOW OF KESHET TOURS**

TO MEET WITH ADULTS INTERESTED IN THE OCTOBER 2014 ISRAEL TRIP

Join Rabbi Holin and Keshet's Managing Director Peter Abelow on Thursday, January 23, at 7:00 p.m. at the synagogue to hear more about our 2014 journey!

The new itinerary—call Rabbi Holin if you would like a copy—includes:

- Visiting one of Tel Aviv's "Start-Up Nation" enterprises to get a feel for the spirit of creativity and innovation through which modern Israel is making an impact all over the world in fields such as technology, science, and medicine.
- Meeting Aryeh Malkin, a World War II veteran who joined one of the clandestine boat crews bringing survivors to Israel and was interred with them in Atlit after their boat was captured by the British.
- Speaking with Elaine Hoter, a woman who lost a son to terrorism and responded by writing a children's book on loss and grief.
- Meeting Kabbalistic artist David Freedman, who will share with us insights into Jewish mysticism and how they find expression in his artwork.
- Touring with Ramzi Matar, a Christian Arab, who will guide us to the Church of the Annunciation and share his perspective on what it is like to be part of the Christian Arab minority in Israel.
- Visiting the Rachel Crossing point along the security wall where Palestinians cross into Israel daily and where Christian pilgrims cross into Bethlehem.
- Meeting with settler leader Eve Harow in her town of Efrat, part of the "consensus area" of settlement blocs that will remain in Israel in a negotiated two-state solution.
- Participating in a hands-on *Tikun Olam* project with Keren B'Kavod—the humanitarian aid program of the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC), the Reform Movement's response to the growing difficulty of many Israelis to provide themselves with basic necessities.
- Meeting with Sheldon Shulman, advisor to five prime ministers and negotiators on behalf of Israel in previous rounds of Peace Talks. ■

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**RABBI HOLIN AND ISRAEL TOUR CONNECTION**

TO MEET WITH FAMILIES INTERESTED IN THE AUGUST 2014 ISRAEL TRIP

Join Rabbi Holin and ITC's Larry Ritter—the program director from our wonderful 2007 Family Trip to Israel—on Sunday, February 23, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the chapel to hear more about our 2014 journey to Israel! ■

## **WORSHIP SERVICES**

**FRIDAY, December 6, 7:30 p.m.**

Musical *erev Shabbat* Service  
with our Adult Choir

**SATURDAY, December 7, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue

**FRIDAY, December 13, 8:00 p.m.**

"Second-Friday" *erev Shabbat* Service  
with birthday and anniversary  
blessings; preceded by a wine-and  
cheese social at 7:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, December 14, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue

**FRIDAY, December 20, 7:30 p.m.**

*erev Shabbat* Service

**SATURDAY, December 21, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue;  
followed by a potluck lunch

**FRIDAY, December 27, 7:30 p.m.**

*erev Shabbat* Service

**SATURDAY, December 28, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue ■

## **TORAH & HAFTARAH**

**December 7 - *Vayigash***

Genesis 44:18-47:27, Ezekiel 37:15-28

**December 14 - *Vayehi***

Genesis 47:28-50:26, IKings 2:1-12

**December 21 - *Sheymote***

Exodus 1:1-6:1, Isaiah 27:6-28

**December 28 - *Vaera***

Exodus 6:2-9:35

Ezekiel 28:25-29:21 ■

## **MAZAL TOV**

Congratulations to:

**Toni and Russell Montague** on the  
marriage of their son, Jeremy Cohen,  
to Meredith Galto on November 2.

**Kara Schilder**, daughter of Russell  
Schilder and Jodi Bloch Schilder, for  
being accepted to the Satell Teen  
Fellowship for Leadership and Social  
Activism. ■

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Over the last few months, I have been reinforcing the notion our Rabbi introduced two years ago: *Sh'lach'chaynee* - "Send me." As Jews, we are perhaps at our best when we are inspired to action: action of worship, of learning and studying *Torah*, actions that build community, and actions of *Tikun Olam*. As we head towards the end of 2013, it is natural to reflect on the good things we have done and create goals that inspire action in 2014. Allow me to suggest actions that can benefit Kol Ami and our community.

Julie Cohen and Robin Warsaw are leading our efforts at Membership and our campaign, Strive for 225. You can read more about our Membership efforts on page 4.

There is both brilliance and simplicity in their approach. Brilliance in that we can all be members of the Membership committee (more hands, lighter load); and simplicity in that you can be a treasured asset just by doing what in many ways comes naturally, such as inviting a friend to an activity that you are looking forward to doing yourself.

Our efforts to attract new members are based on a simple premise: We believe that to experience Kol Ami is to want to be a part of Kol Ami. We have a full calendar of activities each month that your unaffiliated friends might enjoy, and all you need to do is invite them to join you. For example, in December, bring a friend to the musical *erev Shabbat* service on the 6th or to the wine-and-cheese social on Friday the 13th. Bring a friend to hear and learn from Sally Eisenberg in our Member-to-Member Conversation on the 8th entitled "No More Deprivation...Giving Our Bodies What We Need." If you have a third grader, have him or her invite a friend to the Family Education program on Sunday the 15th, or sit in on a class. Many of you come to our now annual Chinese-Food-and-A-Movie night, which this year is on the 24th, so why not invite a friend to join you? In January, bring adult friends to Casino Night on Saturday the 11th, as it is a great opportunity to meet lots of Kol Ami'ers, have a rollicking good time, and maybe even win a cool gift basket.

By now you get the picture—just invite your friends to Kol Ami events. That's all you have to do to help us Strive for 225!

A second *Sh'lach'chaynee* "Send me" opportunity is to get involved in the many social action programs we do throughout the year. Over 80 of us were together on November 3 for our inspiring Stop Hunger Now program, where we packed 10,000 meals to feed hungry people. We will be packing food at Share on December 15 and Cooking for a Friend on January 20 as part of the MLK Weekend of Service. These are magical "two-for" events: two-for-one opportunities to do *Tikun Olam* and invite unaffiliated friends to experience and get involved in the good work we do at Kol Ami.

A third *Sh'lach'chaynee* "Send me" opportunity concerns visiting Israel in 2014. In addition to our August Family trip and our October Adult trip, you can now apply for the NFTY Israel trips this summer ([www.nftyisrael.org](http://www.nftyisrael.org)) for your teen who is at least 15 years old and entering 10th grade.

*continued page 4*

# Adult Learning Opportunities at Kol Ami

## Continuing Jewish Education

### Registration Instructions

To register for a workshop, contact Elaine Stevens at [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) or 215-635-3110 by the deadline shown. Non-member course fees are \$50 per course. Course fees can be applied to membership for the current year or forthcoming year.

### Superheroes and Judaism

**Instructor: Mr. David Monblatt**  
**Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.**  
**February 6, 13, 20 & 27 (4 sessions)**

This fun and engaging course will explore the fantastical world of superheroes and what their stories have in common with Judaism.

Over the years, the superhero genre has dealt with a vast array of topics, such as the nature of evil, atonement, remembrance, and the importance of social justice. Superheroes and Judaism will examine both the DC and Marvel pantheons, focusing on some of the best-known heroes, including Batman, Wolverine, Iron Man, and of course, The Man of Steel.

RSVP to the synagogue office by January 27. ■



### Ancestors and Ghosts, Spirit Guides, and Reincarnating Souls: Ancient Mystery and Contemporary Meaning of Afterlife in Jewish Traditions

**Instructor: Rabbi Simcha Raphael**  
**Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.**  
**December 2, 9 & 16**

This is an exploration of Jewish afterlife texts spanning three millennia of history. As travelers through time, we will enter the worlds of *Torah*, *Talmud*, *Midrash*, *Zohar*, and Hasidic tales investigating diverse ways Jews have understood the enigmatic mystery of death and the world beyond.

Searching for spiritual renewal of traditional teachings, we will use these texts for reflection and discussion, discovering practical guidelines for responding to the human encounter with death — personally, and in our families and communities.



ARTWORK BY JOSE MIGUEL SERRANO, 2010



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

(continued from page 2)

Lastly, don't miss the interview on page 5 with Irene Levy Baker, immediate past chair of the Membership Committee. This is the first in a series of interviews with members who consistently say *Sh'lach'chaynee* - "Send me"

Jeff Cohen

215-635-3232

president@kolamielkinspark.org ■

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolences in loving memory of:

**Ruth Carrick**

*grandmother of Sierra Elkins*

**Ottillie Halprin Danter**

*sister of Lucille Barrett*

*aunt of George [Deborah Neimeth] Barrett*

*aunt of Sarah Barrett*

**Abraham Kuller**

*father of Henry (Eileen) Kuller*

**Bernard Lubowitz**

*uncle of Karol (Guy) Appel*

May their memories forever be blessings in the midst of our People. ■

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### Operations Committee

Monday, December 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Guy Appel, 215-938-9330, and Jeremy Wintroub, 215-906-9063

### Religious School PTO

Sunday, December 8, at 10:15 a.m.

Co-chairs: Kenny Moss, 215-277-5335, and Heather Pelletier, 215-855-3216

### Social Action Committee

Tuesday, December 10, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Shelley Chamberlain, 215-635-1738, and Ronit Sugar, 215-635-0390

### Worship Enhancement Committee

Sunday, December 15, at 9:30 a.m.

Co-chairs: Mindy Levy, 215-885-6391, and Bill Shapiro, 215-517-8666 ■

## OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES: STRIVE FOR 225!

Excerpt of speech given by Julie Cohen,  
co-chair of the Membership Committee, on November 1

*Shabbat Shalom.*

Why are you here? In this sacred space, you might assume this question will lead to lofty, spiritual, existential reflection, and dialogue. Well, tonight, as co-chairs of the Membership Committee, Robin Warsaw and I want to ask you this question in a very concrete way: Why are you here at Congregation Kol Ami? Why did you choose to be part of this intimate and dynamic community?

This time last year, a new initiative was launched, Strive for 225!, which sought to bring new prospective members through our doors to experience Kol Ami with a six-month guest membership. This program was very successful—with six new member families joining after their guest membership ended, and many more who are continuing to stay in touch with us and considering membership in the future. Later in the service, you'll be hearing from two of our new members and they'll be sharing why they are here.

After thorough assessment by the Membership Committee, the Board of Trustees, and feedback from the community-wide Pulse Survey, we are in agreement that both the goal of Strive for 225! and the brand that was created should continue.

Tonight we are asking you to re-engage with us as we continue the Strive for 225! journey. Our goal for the new phase of this program is that each of you—every current member, whether you've been a member for six months, since the congregation's inception, or any length in between—will see yourself as part of the Membership Committee.

This means sharing your Kol Ami story with people you know and inviting them to join you at a Kol Ami event. The new Strive for 225! program will look a little different from last year. Starting in January, we are asking every current member to bring a friend to Kol Ami events during the first half of 2014. Every time you bring a guest, you'll complete a "guest pass," which will enter you in a raffle for an exciting prize. You can bring a different guest to many events, or you can bring the same guest to multiple events. Each guest you bring to each event gives you one raffle ticket. At next year's Annual Meeting, we will draw the winning ticket for an iPad Mini.

Although a cool Apple product is the prize, the bigger picture of Strive for 225! is even more exciting—creating a more sustainable Kol Ami with

*continued page 15*

# SH'LAH'CHAYNEE ("SEND ME")

by Barry Boise

This is the first in a series of interviews with our members who have epitomized the *Sh'lah'chaynee* (Send me) ideals of which Rabbi Holin speaks often.



We start with **Irene Levy Baker**, our longtime Membership Committee chair. Robin Warsaw and Julie Cohen have enthusiastically agreed to take over the reigns as co-chairs of this committee. When discussing their new assignment, Robin and Julie both marveled at how many people Irene managed to connect with, and the important task of continuing and building on her efforts. We decided to interview Irene and learn more about her membership role.

**Q: Irene, thanks for taking the time for this interview. Robin and Julie were wondering how you managed to accomplish all that you did and reach so many people. Any advice?**

A: I was the most visible chair, but I had a lot of help. I would start with acknowledging my wonderful co-chairs, including Karin Kaplan, Ellen Matz, and Ronit Sugar. There are many others who served on the Committee over the years—who made phone calls, sent e-mail, planned events, and made people feel welcome. The fact that our whole congregation is always warm and welcoming made my job easier. That's one reason Strive for 225 was so successful. My advice is to remember that we are all ambassadors for Kol Ami. If you don't recognize someone, introduce yourself. It doesn't matter if they're a prospective member, new member, or current member—getting to know each other is what makes Kol Ami a community.

**Q: I can't even remember when you started as a committee chair. First, thank you. Your service to our community was incredible. Second, how were you able to maintain your passion for so long?**

A: I love Kol Ami. I am not sure we could have raised our family as we did without Kol Ami. I truly felt I was bringing a gift to people by introducing them to the community at Kol Ami. I take great pride in looking around the room on High Holidays or Casino Nights and seeing how many people, including those currently serving on the Board, who I introduced to our Congregation and Community. Being on the Committee also helped me with work-life balance. I work alone from a home office, so I have no work community, which can be tough for an extrovert like me. Being chair of the Membership Committee gave me the opportunity to interact with people throughout the day when I'd otherwise be alone; it greatly expanded my circle of friends at the synagogue and gave my life some nice balance. Frankly, this position probably helped me keep my sanity.

**Q: What is next for you in service to Kol Ami, or is too soon to ask?**

A: I am looking for the right opportunity to use my passion for Kol Ami and contribute. After six years on the Board and chairing the Membership Committee for so long, I was admittedly ready for a breather. I have a few ideas.

If you have ideas on how we can improve our membership efforts or are willing to say *Sh'lah'chaynee* "Send me" for any type of program or initiative that will make our community stronger, please let us know. ■

## SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

**Main Office**

215-635-3110

**Rabbi Elliot J. Holin**

215-635-4182

**Jeffrey Cohen, President**

215-635-3232

**Ellen Asam, Vice President**

215-635-5598

**Barry Boise, Vice President**

215-635-9042

**Jeremy Wintroub, Secretary**

215-906-9063

**Bart Weiner, Treasurer**

215-233-4712

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**IN RESPECT OF SHABBAT, THE OFFICE  
CLOSES AT 3:00 P.M. ON FRIDAYS.**

**Elaine Stevens, Executive Director**

215-635-3110

**David Monblatt,  
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](http://www.kolamielkinspark.org)  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark>

## BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the fifth of the previous month (for example, by December 5 for the January issue) to **Janet Falon** at [jfalton@english.upenn.edu](mailto:jfalton@english.upenn.edu). 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. ■

# Kol Ami Events

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## FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT



**NATAL** (*nah'tahl*), the Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War, addresses post-traumatic stress disorder of combat veterans and former prisoners of war, as well as those who have lost loved ones in battle or suicide bombings, and anyone who suffers the sustained emotional and mental pressure of living with the fear and uncertainty that war and the threat of war bring. In addition,

**NATAL** reaches out to families and relatives of victims and bereaved families through on-site counseling, a national hotline, and free or subsidized psychological assistance and treatment by highly trained professionals. Forthcoming fast days on behalf of **NATAL** will be on **Tuesday, December 3**, and **Tuesday, January 7**.

**Phast for Philadelphia** 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. Forthcoming **Phast for Philadelphia** fast days will be on and **Thursday, December 19**, and **Thursday, January 23**.

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:

### American Friends of NATAL

1120 Avenue of the Americas, Fourth Floor  
New York, NY 10036

### 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”)

## LOCA GET-TOGETHER

Friday, December 6, at 5:45 p.m.

(before the Musical *erev Shabbat* Service)

The LOCA group is planning to meet for dinner at Marco Polo in Elkins Park at 5:45 p.m. Come schmooze with us and get to know other “Ladies of a Certain Age.” Some

of their husbands will be dining at Marco Polo at the same time, so bring your hubby too! Please RSVP by Sunday, December 1 to Phyllis Harrison at either 215-822-3155 or at [mommomenp@aol.com](mailto:mommomenp@aol.com) about who will be attending.

## “ISH” GAME NIGHT

Saturday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m.

Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen

Have a good laugh playing games with your friends, everything from Pictionary to Charades—guaranteed to be fun! Please bring your favorite game (if you have one) and hors d’oeuvres or dessert to share. BYOB. Contact Sherry Cohen at 215-885-2436 or [shcohen361@verizon.net](mailto:shcohen361@verizon.net).



## “NO MORE DEPRIVATION... GIVING OUR BODIES WHAT WE NEED”

Sunday, December 8, at 11:00 a.m.

Presented by Sally Eisenberg

### *Nourish Ur Life: A holistic approach*

Sally practices a holistic approach to nutrition, which means that she looks at how all areas of your life are connected. Does stress at your job or in your relationship cause you to overeat? Does lack of sleep or low energy prevent you from exercising? As she works together with her clients, she looks at how all parts of her client’s life affect the whole.

When athletes want a competitive edge, they hire a private coach to track their progress. According to Dr. Andrew Weil, “when it comes to your health, using the athlete/coach mind-set could also be beneficial. Health coaches are increasingly being hired by corporations to help employees stay healthy and by individuals seeking to improve well-being. In some ways, the health coach picks up where your physician leaves off, helping you to implement wellness strategies suggested after a check-up or diagnosis.”

### *No one diet works for everyone*

The concept of bio-individuality is that each person has their own nutritional needs. So, when the experts say, “dairy is good for you” or “fat is unhealthy,” it’s

*continued next page*



## MEMBER-TO-MEMBER CONVERSATION

(continued from page 6)

too much of a generalization. One person's food is another person's poison, and that's why fad diets don't work in the long run. Sally will look at your age, health, activity level, blood type, metabolic rate, and personal preferences to determine your dietary needs.

### *Everything is food*

Healthy relationships, a fulfilling career, regular physical activity, and a spiritual practice are essential forms of nourishment. When these "primary foods" are balanced, what you eat becomes secondary.

**ENDNOTE:** Recently dubbed the "Queen of Quinoa," by writer Sally Friedman of the Philadelphia Inquirer, Sally Eisenberg is a certified holistic health coach and founder of Nourish Ur Life—a nutrition/healthy-lifestyle practice located in Center City Philadelphia. As a multi-media artist, Sally has always been passionate about food and healthy living and integrating nutritional counseling with her artistic vision.

In addition to working with private clients, Sally offers cooking classes out of her home, empowering her attendees to cook healthfully in their OWN kitchens. Her classes bring out the FUN and DELICIOUSNESS in "healthy," while creating community among her participants.

You can also find Nourish Ur Life on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NourishUrLife](http://www.facebook.com/NourishUrLife) and follow her on Twitter @NourishUrLife.

## "SECOND-FRIDAY" EREV SHABBAT SERVICE for December Birthday & Anniversary Blessings Friday, December 13, at 8:00 p.m.



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in December, please join us at our special *erev Shabbat* service. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with a 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*.

## Tuesday, December 24

Please join us for...  
**Chinese Dinner  
and a Movie**

Chinese Buffet - 6:00 p.m.

Movie - 7:00 p.m.

(see movie details below)

Our selected movie for the evening is  
**"Crossing Delancey"** a 1988 romantic-comedy  
film starring Amy Irving and Peter Riegert;  
directed by Joan Micklin Silver. It's rated PG.

SAVE-THE-DATE

**TU B'SHVAT SEDER**

Sunday, January 26, at 6:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars now to join the Elkins Park Hazon CSA community for our Sixth Annual *Tu B'Shvat Seder* at Congregation Kol Ami. Learn, be inspired, sing, taste symbolic fruits and nuts, drink four cups of wine, and eat a delicious vegetarian soup-and-salad dinner as we celebrate the "New Year of the Trees."

Watch for more information in the January bulletin. In the meantime, start gathering your own reusable or biocompostable place settings—plate, soup bowl, spoon, fork, drinking cup, wine glass, dessert plate—and napkin for the event!

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## THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING GOING ON AT THE KOL AMI NURSERY SCHOOL...

Monday is music day!



Tuesday is fitness day!



And sometimes its just an extra special Funday!



## HANUKKAH CONCERT

**Kehillah of Old York Road and the Old York Road Cantors and Music Professionals present ... Six13! - The World-Famous Jewish A Cappella Group**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**AT THE GRATZ COLLEGE AUDITORIUM  
7605 OLD YORK ROAD, MELROSE PARK**

Please join us for our community's annual *Hanukkah* celebration! For the eighth year, the cantors and music professionals of the Old York Road congregations have joined together to produce our annual musical celebration of *Hanukkah*.

This year, we are thrilled to present **Six13**, the internationally famous, six-man Jewish a cappella vocal group. The music of Six13 always excites and inspires audiences wherever they sing! Six13 is driven by a mission to connect Jews around the globe with their heritage through music, fueled by a strong, Jewish identity and anchored by thumping beatbox, intricate arrangements, and soulful harmonies. Six13 brings an unprecedented style of Jewish music to the stage, with songs ranging from hip-hop dance tracks to rock anthems. The members of the New York-based group sound like a full band while using nothing but their voices.

The *Hanukkah* program also brings together all of the Children's and Adult Choirs of the Old York Road Kehillah, including Adath Jeshurun, Beth Sholom Congregation, Camp Ramah, Congregation Kol Ami, Gratz College, Keneseth Israel, Old York Road Temple-Beth Am, and Young Israel of Elkins Park. The combined choirs, over 150 singers from 7-years old to over 80, will sing a set of their own music and will join together with Six13 for their original version of "Al Hanissim," written in the thumping and infectious beatbox a cappella style!

Seating is limited in the Gratz auditorium. Reservations are available at the cost of \$10 per person in advance or \$12 at the door. Children 8 and younger are FREE. To make a reservation (recommended as we expect this to sell out quickly), please contact Rebecca Schwartz at [rebeccasongs@verizon.net](mailto:rebeccasongs@verizon.net) or 215-572-6094. Make checks payable to "Keneseth Israel."

Please reserve December 4, the eighth night of *Hanukkah*, and invite your family and friends for an unforgettable evening of music featuring our very own Adult and Student Choirs! ■



Presented by  
The Kehillah of Old York Road  
and the Cantors and  
Music Professionals  
of Old York Road

# Community Hanukkah Concert

Wednesday, December 4 • 7:00 PM • Gratz College  
7605 Old York Road, Melrose Park, PA

## Featuring Six13

The Internationally Famous Jewish a Cappella Group  
and the combined Children's and Adult Choirs of Beth Sholom Congregation,  
Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Congregation Kol Ami, Keneseth Israel, and  
Old York Road Temple-Beth Am

Six13 will excite and inspire you with  
Jewish music ranging from soulful  
harmonies to hip-hop beats and rock.  
Don't miss this viral Internet sensation!



\$10 in advance; \$12 at the door; children 8 years and under are free.

Purchase at Beth Sholom Congregation, Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Congregation Kol Ami, Gratz College, Keneseth Israel, or Old York Road Temple-Beth Am. Please make checks payable to *Keneseth Israel*. Other participating organizations: Camp Ramah, Jewish Learning Venture and Young Israel of Elkins Park.



# DENIM & *Diamonds*

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

*Saturday, January 11, 2014*  
*7pm - 11pm*  
*Congregation Kol Ami קול עמי*

WINNINGS PROVIDED AS RAFFLE TICKETS  
FOR FANTASTIC PRIZES!

\$30/person in advance

\$40 at the door

Tickets include \$25 in gaming chips, open bar, light fare and dessert

**FOR TICKETS:**

Send your check to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road,  
Elkins Park, PA 19027 with "Casino Night" on the memo line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Sharon Myers at 215-460-0602 or [sharonmyers381@gmail.com](mailto:sharonmyers381@gmail.com)





## SHIR SHABBAT

**"And the women dancing with  
their timbrels followed Miriam  
as she sang her song..."**

—Debbie Friedman

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, AT 7:30 P.M.**

Please join us at our third annual *Shir Shabbat* (Song of Shabbat) service led by the women of our congregation in gratitude to the women who led us in song through the Sea of Reeds (that week's Torah Portion) on our way from Egypt to Mount Sinai. This service will also feature music by female composers.

Contact Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz ([rebeccasongs@verizon.net](mailto:rebeccasongs@verizon.net) or 215-572-6094) no later than Wednesday, December 18, if you would like to participate in this wonderful service by leading us in English or Hebrew readings. Mothers and daughters are encouraged to participate together.

P.S. Men in the Congregation are welcome and encouraged to join us!

## KOL AMI RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Red Cross Blood drive held at Kol Ami on October 28, 2013.

We reached our goal of 35 productive pints! This would not have happened without the help of our volunteers—Natalie Dyen, Linda George, Elaine Gershenson Sharon Myers, and Merle Salkin—who made numerous phone calls and sent many e-mails to get donors. They also "womanned" the canteen and sign-in tables at the drive.

As soon as we have our date for next fall's blood drive, we will let you know so you can save your blood for Kol Ami.

Remember that you can only give every 56 days!

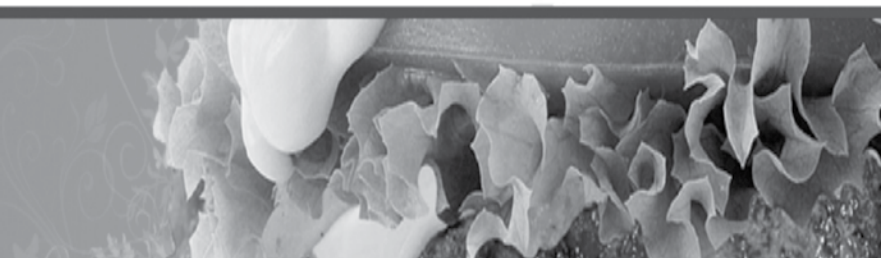
The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give blood.



**American  
Red Cross**







*8120 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027  
(215) 758-2311*

*(Between Old York Rd & Church Rd)*

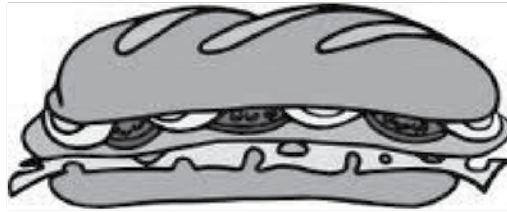
**Friends & families of Congregation Kol Ami  
Looking for a delightful lunch or dinner suggestion:  
Stop by between the hours of  
12:00noon -8:00 pm**

***Tuesday, December 10, 2013***

**Bring a copy of this flyer to Burger.Org and 10% of your order total will be generously donated back to Congregation Kol Ami. This quaint restaurant with a cozy dinning area has wonderful Kosher food: specialty burgers, salads, sandwiches, kabobs... Stop in for lunch, dinner or take-out your order & bring it back home. [www.burgerorg.com](http://www.burgerorg.com)**

Congregation Kol Ami 8201 High School Road Elkins Park, PA 19027 | Phone: 215.635.3110

# Congregation Kol Ami Super Bowl Sunday 2014 Hoagie Sale



**Planning to host a Super Bowl party or  
just tired of cooking?  
We can help!**

Members and friends of Congregation Kol Ami are invited to order hoagies provided by Heritage Hoagies in Huntingdon Valley. The 10" hoagies can be picked up in the lobby of Kol Ami on Sunday, February 2, at 12:00 p.m. All profits from the sale will be used to support the Congregation.

Questions? Contact Robin Warsaw at 215-635-5839 or [rkwarshaw@comcast.net](mailto:rkwarshaw@comcast.net)



Please fill out and return the form below by  
**Wednesday, January 29, 2014**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

All Hoagies come with Lettuce, Tomato, and Onion **unless otherwise specified**. Please specify mayo or oil and hot or sweet peppers.

		Lettuce/Tomato/Onion	Mayo or Oil	Hot or Sweet
# of Turkey Hoagies:				
# of Tuna Hoagies:				
# of Cheese Hoagies: (American, Provolone & Swiss)				

Total # of hoagies: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$6.00 = Total Payment \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Congregation Kol Ami.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBER: LONNIE GOLDEN

Kol Ami would like to give a hearty welcome to new member Lonnie Golden, who joined our congregation this summer and immediately became a regular on our softball team.

Lonnie is a professor of Economics and Labor Studies at Penn State Abington, and he has lived in the Philadelphia area since 1989, currently in Glenside. He grew up in Evanston, Illinois; and prior to coming to our area, he lived in Chicago, Arizona, Wisconsin, and Ohio.

Lonnie is the proud father of two daughters, Carla (a recent graduate of Penn State with a degree in Biology-Neuroscience and two minors) and Talia (a sophomore at Penn State Berks who plans to major in Psychology with a minor or two at University Park campus).

Lonnie states that he is happy to join our “nice community of friendly and fascinating folks.” In his spare time, he enjoys sports (such as our softball team and cycling), the outdoors, and his work. He is also a guitarist who is a devotee of live music and WXPB genre. We are happy to have Lonnie in the fold! ■

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH: MONIQUE KENDIKIAN-SARKESSIAN NOVEMBER 26 TO JANUARY 6

Much of Monique’s inspiration is found in gardens, including her own, which bursts with many colorful and fragrant flowers and fruits. As all of creation started in a garden, her creative endeavors also start there. When she paints outside, she sees life with a brand new sense of joy and wonder, where many symbols are woven together to create dream landscapes.

Her work is characterized as expressionist with the use of vibrant colors, bold brush strokes, and expressive lines which seek to recreate the emotion she felt when she was inspired by her subjects. Her exhibit at Congregation Kol Ami will include many works done en plein air (painted outside on site).

Monique earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting at Temple University’s Tyler School of Art. In continuing studies, she has studied 18th Century European furniture painting, art education, and traditional icon painting with a Russian master iconographer. In 2003, Monique received her teaching certification for art.

Her work received awards at numerous exhibitions across the country: in the New York, New Jersey, Los Angeles, Boston, Delaware, and Philadelphia areas. Most recently, she was awarded second place for painting out of 84 painters in the inaugural Plein



Air Brandywine Valley Art Competition, third place in Plein Air Brandywine Valley 2013, and Honorable mention for Best Color in Chester County Art Association’s “Water” Juried exhibition and Artist Equity’s Art Spirits Juried Exhibition.

According to Monique: “Artistic expression to me is a symbolic representation of the redemptive power of God. In my paintings, I seek to express the truth and beauty of creation and the Divine handiwork of God.” Visit [www.MoniqueKendikianSarkessian.com](http://www.MoniqueKendikianSarkessian.com) to see all of her “expressions.” Also join us at her open house on **Sunday, December 8, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

The Kol Ami 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. Also, all of Monique’s works are for sale, and a portion of the proceeds are donated to the synagogue. See Elaine Stevens if interested in purchasing a piece. ■



**OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES: STRIVE  
FOR 225!** (continued from page 4)

a robust membership that further enhances this place that we all hold so dearly.

So what do we need from you as new participants in the Membership Committee? Just a few things. Start thinking about unaffiliated friends, family, or colleagues who you can bring to any Kol Ami-sponsored event. Make a commitment to come through our doors more often, with a friend, in 2014. Also, we want to know your answer to: "Why Are You Here [at Kol Ami]?"

After tonight's service, Robin and I will be at a table in the back during the *Oneg* and want you to take a few minutes to write down your answer. We believe the reason you chose to take the leap and join the Congregation

is as unique as you are, and by sharing all of our Kol Ami stories, we'll engage others in choosing to be here at Kol Ami. ■

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## **SOME "WHY ARE YOU HERE?" RESPONSES**

As mentioned earlier, we are collecting stories from all Kol Ami members answering the question: "Why Are You Here?" to capture the many reasons each of us has chosen to join our intimate and dynamic community.

Here are just a few responses. Look for more in each Bulletin through June 2014. If you haven't shared your story yet, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Membership Committee co-chairs Robin Warsaw (rkwarsaw@comcast.net) or Julie Cohen (julie@juliecohencoaching.com).

"Kol Ami feels like home. It is warm, welcoming, comfortable, and full of people who care." – *Barry Boise*

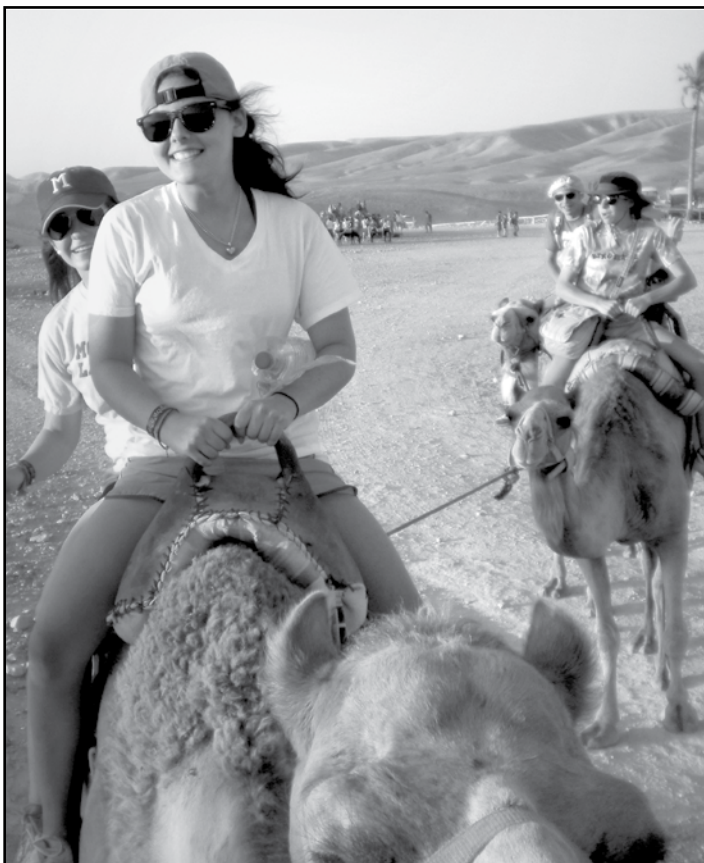
"I joined because I already had friends here. I stayed because it became my home." – *Ilene Schafer*

"Kol Ami is easily the most welcoming Jewish community we have encountered. As an interfaith family, when visiting other congregations, we were turned off by the amount of "of course we accept you, but..." At Kol Ami, there never is a "but." All are welcome." – *Larry Mass*

"My late husband, Arthur Havsy, and I joined because dear friends Wilma and Dick Moore asked us to visit. We fell in love with the warm spirituality of the environment induced by Rabbi Holin. Friday [even] *Shabbat* Services offer a peace I have not found anywhere else!" – *Jan Felgoise* ■



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped "Cook for a Friend" on Sunday, November 10. The group made 175 servings of delicious, nutritious vegetable bean soup, which were picked up by the Klein JCC and delivered to home-bound seniors in Philadelphia.



## Congregation Kol Ami Jewish Summer Camp Scholarships

If your son or daughter plans to attend a Jewish summer camp in 2014, our Congregation is pleased to award needs-based scholarships through the Youth Fund. Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of requests received.

If your child plans to participate in a trip to Israel through a peer-led organization, we are pleased to offer incentive scholarships depending on the length of the trip. The Discover Israel Fund exists through the generosity of Steward and Sally Eisenberg.

Application forms are available by contacting our executive director, Elaine Stevens, at 215-635-3110 or [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org). ■



**THEY SEE  
TOTAL BLAST.  
YOU SEE  
TRADITION.**

### WE SEE ONE HAPPY CAMPER.

Start your child's "summer of a lifetime" at Jewish overnight camp. From ziplines to waterskiing to singing under the stars, at camp your child can discover who they are while having a total blast. Find your perfect Jewish camp today and you might be eligible for **\$1000 off** when you enroll.

[OneHappyCamper.org](http://OneHappyCamper.org)



NEUBAUER FAMILY FOUNDATION



# KOL AMI DECEMBER 2013 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>No Religious School - Hanukkah</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Raphael</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>3</b> <b>Nursery School Fitness</b> 9:30 a.m.	<b>4</b> <b>Nursery School Jewish Programming</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Religious School No Classes Hanukkah Concert at Gratz College</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>5</b> <b>Nursery School Olive Oil Press Program</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Continuing Adult Jewish Education with David Monblatt</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>6</b> <b>Nursery School erev Shabbat Service with Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>LOCA Dinner at Marco Polo</b> 5:45 p.m. <b>Musical erev Shabbat Service - 7:30 p.m.</b> Adult Choir participation	<b>7</b> <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>"ISH" Game Night</b> Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen 7:00 p.m.
<b>8</b> <b>Student Trope Class</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon</b> 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <b>Religious School PTO Meeting</b> 10:15 a.m. <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 10:25 a.m. <b>Member-to-Member Conversation</b> with Sally Eisenberg 11:00 a.m. <b>Artist Open House</b> Monique Kendikian-Sarkessian - 2:00 p.m.	<b>9</b> <b>Nursery School Music</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Raphael</b> 7:30 p.m. <b>Operations Committee Meeting</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>10</b> <b>Nursery School Fitness</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Social Action Committee Meeting</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>11</b> <b>Nursery School Jewish Programming</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Religious School 4:00 p.m. &amp; 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Continuing Adult Jewish Education with David Monblatt</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>13</b> <b>Nursery School erev Shabbat Service</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>"Second-Friday" erev Shabbat Service</b> 8:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Wine-and-Cheese Social	<b>14</b> <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m.

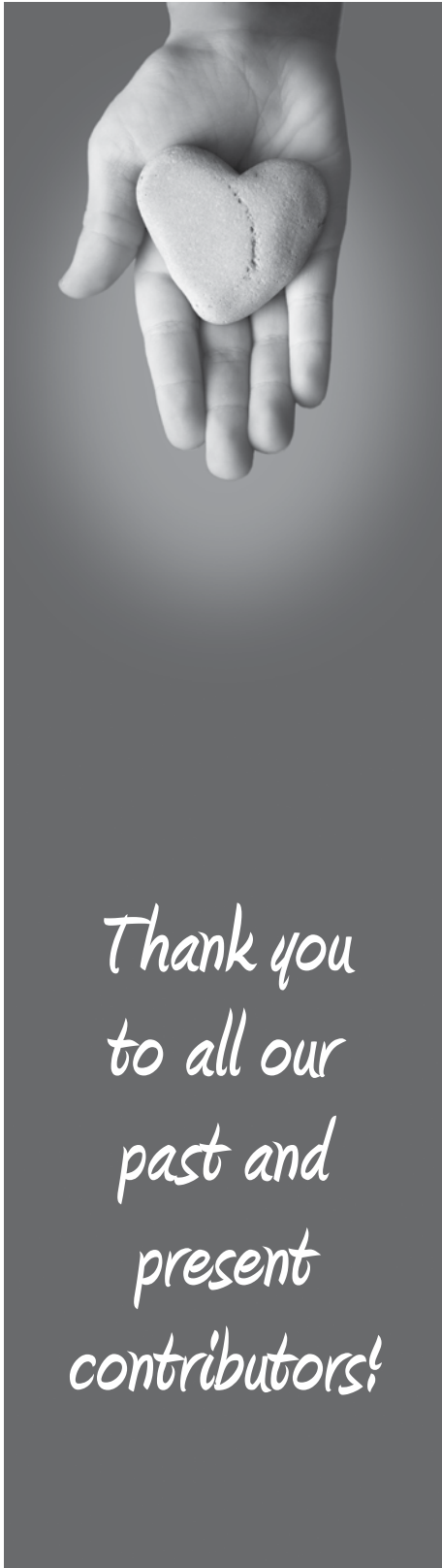


# KOL AMI DECEMBER 2013 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>15</b> Worship Enhancement Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> <b>10:00 a.m. to Noon</b> 10:00 p.m. - Grade 3 Family Educational Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 10:25 a.m.	<b>16</b> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Raphael 7:30 p.m.	<b>17</b> Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.	<b>18</b> Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> <b>4:00 p.m. &amp; 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>19</b> Nursery School Nature Jack 1:30 p.m. Continuing Adult Jewish Education with David Monblatt 7:00 p.m.	<b>20</b> Nursery School erev <b>Shabbat</b> Service with Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev <b>Shabbat</b> Service 7:30 p.m.	<b>21</b> <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m. Followed by a potluck lunch
<b>22</b> No Religious School Winter Break	<b>23</b> No Nursery School Winter Break	<b>24</b> No Nursery School Winter Break Chinese Dinner and a Movie 6:00 p.m.	<b>25</b> No Nursery School Winter Break No Religious School Winter Break	<b>26</b> No Nursery School Winter Break	<b>27</b> No Nursery School Winter Break erev <b>Shabbat</b> Service 7:30 p.m.	<b>28</b> <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m.
<b>29</b> No Religious School Winter Break	<b>30</b> No Nursery School Winter Break	<b>31</b> No Nursery School Winter Break				

# 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.



Thank you  
to all our  
past and  
present  
contributors!

## ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

**Bat Mitzvah of Sierra Elkins**  
*Joel and Rebecca Schwartz*

## ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

**Bat Mitzvah of my granddaughter, Sierra**  
*Sue Elkins*

**Special birthday of William Hyman**  
*William Hyman and Janine Pratt*

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

**Jeff Cohen, on becoming the next Kol Ami president**  
*Ellen Horowitz Matz and Michael Matz*

**Janet Felgoise on the occasion of her special birthday**  
*Julius and Elaine Ellison*

**David Hyman, with appreciation for a tremendous presidency**  
*Ellen Horowitz Matz and Michael Matz*

**Joshua Matz on his graduation**  
*Ellen Horowitz Matz and Michael Matz*

**Our 25th anniversary**  
*Ellen Horowitz Matz and Michael Matz*

In Memory of:

**Flora Harrison**  
*David and Phyllis Harrison*

**Fred Harrison**  
*David and Phyllis Harrison*

**Ethel Hutkin**  
*Robert and Susan Seltzer*

**Reba Rosenblatt**  
*David and Phyllis Harrison*

**Jerry Schwartz**  
*Marsha Schwartz*

## SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

**Special birthday of Irene Levy Baker**  
*Alan and Elaine Gershenson*  
*Craig and Sharon Myers*  
*Elaine Stevens*

**Jeffrey Cohen**  
*Robert and Ruth Cohen*

**Bat Mitzvah of Sierra Elkins**  
*Elaine Stevens*

**Special birthday of Janet Felgoise**  
*Alan and Elaine Gershenson*

In Memory of:

**Lelia Besso**  
*Gabriel and Orly Maravankin*

**Ottile Halprin Danter**  
*Elaine Stevens*

**Bernard Lubowitz**  
*Elaine Stevens*

**Jerome Schwartz**  
*Michael and Sara Chernoff*  
*Elaine Stevens*

**Edward Sickles, III**  
*Ann Sickles*

## TZEDAKAH FUND

In Honor of:

**Benjamin and Jody Long**  
*David and Patricia Long*

## YOUTH FUND

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Holin, Rebecca Schwartz, and Elaine Stevens for all their wonderful support for the Bat Mitzvah of our daughter, Becca**  
*Charles Langman and Laurie Jubelirer*  
*Langman* ■



Congregation Kol Ami  
8201 High School Road  
Elkins Park, PA 19027

TO:



# Social Action Opportunities

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## **JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY** ([www.jewishrelief.org](http://www.jewishrelief.org))

**Sunday, December 15 and January 19, at 10:00 a.m.**

**10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, PA**

**Help sort, pack, and deliver food to needy families**

JRA food distributions take place one Sunday each month at their warehouse in Northeast Philadelphia. Volunteers work together to package kosher, non-perishable food in boxes. After packing, volunteers load their cars and deliver the food packages to each of the recipient families according to pre-determined delivery routes, complete with driving directions and maps. Most delivery routes take between 30 to 60 minutes to complete.

If you're interested, directions to the JRA Distribution Center can be found at <http://www.jewishrelief.org/philadelphia/directions/>.

**Questions:** Contact Shelley Chamberlain at 215-635-1738 or Ronit Sugar at 215-635-0390. ■

## **SHARE FOOD PROGRAM**

**Sunday, December 15, at 1:00 p.m.**

**2901 West Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia**

Help Philadelphia families enjoy a holiday meal by packing holiday food boxes. This is a great activity for the whole family, ages 8 and up. ■