

CONGREGATION  
**Kol Ami**  
VOICE OF MY PEOPLE  
Celebrating Our 18th Anniversary • 1994-2013

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**FRIDAY, January 4, 7:30 p.m.**

*erev Shabbat* Musical Service with  
our Adult Choir

**SATURDAY, January 5, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue;  
Bill Shapiro will chant from the  
*Torah* and Ellen Friedman will give  
the *dvar Torah*

**FRIDAY, January 11, 7:30 p.m.**

*erev Shabbat* Musical Service with  
our Student Choir

**SATURDAY, January 12, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue;  
Mindy Levy will chant from the  
*Torah* and Bill Shapiro will give the  
*dvar Torah*

**FRIDAY, January 18, 7:30 p.m.**

*erev Shabbat* Service and 'Third-  
Friday' anniversary and birthday  
blessings

**SATURDAY, January 19, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue;

**FRIDAY, January 25, 7:30 p.m.**

*Shir Shabbat* service on *erev Shabbat*  
led by the women of our congrega-  
tion (see page 13)

**SATURDAY, January 26, 10:00 a.m.**

*Bat Mitzvah* of Marina Lipschutz  
(see page 9)

**FRIDAY, February 1, 7:30 p.m.**

Tonight we honor the memory  
of our Founding President, Stuart  
D. Appel, at our 'First-Friday' *erev*  
*Shabbat* Service of birthday and an-  
niversary blessings and the voices of  
our Adult Choir (see page 13)

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## TIKUN OLAM CELEBRATION



On November 18, we honored Stewart and Sally Eisenberg at a brunch attended by 140 of their family, colleagues, and friends. David Hyman and Rabbi Holin were delighted to present them with the award. ■

**SATURDAY, February 2, 10:00 a.m.**

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue; our Grade 8 students will participate by sharing their written responses to questions about Jewish identity and patient rights ■

**TORAH & HAFTARAH**

**January 5** - *Sheymote*

Exodus 1:1-6:1, Isaiah 27:6-28:13

**January 12** - *Vaera*

Exodus 6:2-9:35, Isaiah 66:1-24

**January 19** - *Bo*

Exodus 10:1-13:16, Jeremiah 46:13-28

**January 26** - *Beshalach*

Exodus 13:17-17:16, Judges 4:4-5:31 ■

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Committee Meeting are held at the Synagogue, unless otherwise noted.

**Caring Congregants Committee**

Sunday, January 6, at 12:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Linda George, 215-782-1413, and Elaine Gershenson, 215-887-3994

**Finance Committee**

Thursday, January 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Marshall Schafer, 215-663-0228, and Bart Weiner, 215-233-4712

**Interfaith Relationship Dialogue**

Monday, January 28, at 7:30 p.m.

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

**Religious School Committee**

Tuesday, January 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Sherry Cohen, 215-885-2436, and Barb Fink 215-886-2297

**Religious School PTO**

Sunday, January 6, 10:00 a.m.

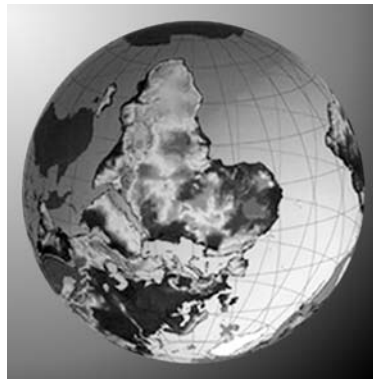
Co-chairs: Kenny Moss, 215-277-5335, and Heather Pelletier, 215-855-3216

**Social Action Committee**

Monday, January 7, at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Ronit Sugar 215-635-0390 ■

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Rockets launched from Gaza into Israel do not make leading news stories “because there is the sense that it happens so much. It is not seen as new news,” a national television news anchor acquaintance recently explained to me. Huh?!

Two hundred and thirty seven (237) rockets and mortars hit Israel in October 2012. This would certainly be a featured news story if the rockets were fired from Toronto into Buffalo, or if they were shot from Brussels into Dusseldorf or Kurdistan into Turkey. So when Israel is attacked, it is less newsworthy because it happens with such frequency.

Of course we all now know that once Israel made the decision to respond militarily, then we have a front-page-above-the-fold news story. And incredibly enough, that news story, frequently in the United State and almost always in the rest of the world, portrays Israel as the aggressor. Huh?!

The double standard is obvious: the higher the expectations, the greater the media scrutiny. Conversely, from those whom little is expected, the media sets the bar low. According to this upside-down world view, it is barely newsworthy that the Israeli Defense Force drops leaflets and sends text messages to forewarn Gaza's civilians of impending attacks on military targets.

Similarly we would not expect the mainstream media to lead with the story of Hamas's summary execution of “collaborators,” their corpses dragged by their feet through the streets. Try to imagine if the actors were reversed. That would take a very strong imagination.

This phenomenon is complemented by the fact that the media judges those it perceives as weak by a different standard than those viewed as strong. While the *Torah* requires that the law judge the rich and poor by one standard (Lev 19:15), the media evidences a bias of sympathy toward the perceived underdog. Clearly, Gaza is poor and militarily weak compared to Israel, the larger reality is that the one Jewish State is surrounded by 20 plus unfriendly Muslim countries. The underdog is in the eyes of the beholder.

As I draft these words for our January bulletin, I am reading that Nobel Peace Prize winners, artists, and activists have called for a boycott of Israel for its actions in Gaza.

The world is upside down. And that is old news.

David Hyman

215-496-7224

President@KolAmiElkinsPark.org ■



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# FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin



When we dedicated our synagogue in September 2006, one of the first decisions that I needed to make was where I wanted my study to be. At first glance, close to the sanctuary made sense, but the thought of having it nestle amidst our nursery school students seemed to be intuitively correct. In addition to literally engaging the significance of *dor l'dor*—"from generation to generation"—it would also mean that the daylight hours would be enlivened by the sounds of children's voices and laughter. So I have been happily situated just a short walk down a long hall from the sanctuary, and just an open door from smiling faces and instant conversation outside my study or in their classrooms.

During one of their weekly Friday morning 'get ready for *Shabbat*' services, I asked the children to tell me about their favorite and happiest dreams. Most of them shared snippets of what they recalled—friendly animals, sunny days, and wonderful

trips—but one little girl's rendition was so replete with story lines, details, and the pure joy of talking about it that I was startled and delighted by this unanticipated gift. The memory of those moments has stayed with me, so much so that whenever we read about dream sequences in the *Torah*, I am reminded of those moments with the children in our chapel and her recollection in particular.

In a *Torah* Portion that we recently read as *Hanukkah* was about to begin, Jacob's son, Joseph, had dreams that he told to his brothers and then to his father. Just as his father's life and identity were shaped by dreams, so too would dreams and his ability to interpret them transform Joseph's life and that of our People.

As our journey through 5773 continues, and 2013 commences, it seems appropriate to ask if there are dreams that you recall with great clarity and, if so, why they are important to you.

Have you had dreams, or have you read about dreams in Biblical narratives or other sources, that have had a profound impact upon you? If so, please consider sharing them with me in conversation or through written reflections.

Dreams offer us tantalizing hints about our past, and possible insights about the future, subject to interpretation and then inspiration. The key to turning the lock that might reveal the meaning of messages within dreams is found in the word spoken by Joseph when his father told him to commence a journey to find his brothers: "Hineni, Here I am, ready to begin!"

The willingness to take the first step is what makes everything possible. It is what can turn our dreams into reality, and that seems to be a great resolution for the new year: allow for possibilities.

*Shalom u'vrachah,*  
Rabbi Elliot J. Holin ■

## WITH APPRECIATION

The Religious School PTO would like to thank one of our newer members, **Deborah Poppel**, for organizing and coordinating our recent “Dine-Around” at The White Elephant. Over \$200 was donated back to Congregation Kol Ami through Deborah’s Efforts. ■

## CONGREGATION KOL AMI SCRIP READILY AVAILABLE

Please help raise money for Congregation Kol Ami just by continuing to do your weekly shopping. Scrip cards are an excellent way to purchase your weekly groceries: Giant, Acme, Target, and Whole Foods are available for immediate purchase.

In addition, there are so many other stores and services available from which to order. Pick up a Scrip order form in the Religious School Office or the Executive Office to see the complete listing. There are over 600 retailers and services provided.



Each retailer has various valued Scrip cards available and have allocated a percentage (from 2 to 15 percent), which Kol Ami gets back from each order placed. Kol Ami’s Scrip program is available for **everyone** in the Congregation.

Questions can be directed to Elaine Stevens or Kenny Moss at [glatter.moss@comcast.net](mailto:glatter.moss@comcast.net) (co-chair of the Religious School PTO). ■

## CELEBRATE TU B’SHVAT AT KOL AMI SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, FROM 6:00-8:00 P.M.

**“Rabbi Hillel says that the fifteenth of Shevat shall be the new year for the tree”**  
— Mishnah, Rosh Hashanah 1:1



*Tu B’Sivat*, the fifteenth day of the Hebrew month of *Shevat*, is the Jewish holiday that marks the “New Year of the Trees.”

*Tu B’Sivat* has become the Jewish Earth Day and a time to reflect on our earth, our food sources, the environmental issues, and our connection with our surroundings. Customs include planting trees; eating from the seven species of fruits, vegetables, and grains indigenous to Israeli soil (pomegranates, barley, wheat, olives, figs, grapes, and dates); and performing a ritualized *seder* complete with four cups of wine and symbolic fruits and nuts.

Honoring *Tu B’Sivat* by creating a *seder* is a modern way to renew ancient traditions and bring more joy to your life! Come join our Fifth Annual *Tu B’Sivat Seder* on **Sunday, January 27, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**, sponsored by the *Hazon* Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. Examine how food connects us to Jewish tradition, to the earth, to other people, and to ourselves. Learn, be inspired, sing, eat a delicious soup-and-salad dinner and some fruits and nuts, and drink four cups of wine as we celebrate the holiday of the trees.

There is no charge for *Tuv Ha’Aretz* CSA members; \$5 for non-CSA members. Registration is required. RSVP by Sunday, January 20 to Elaine Stevens at (215) 635-3110 or [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) with the number of adults. ■

The *Hazon* CSA program at Kol Ami is a seasonal farm-share program linking local organic family farms and the Jewish community, for their mutual benefit.

### CONTINUING JEWISH EDUCATION FOR ADULTS AT KOL AMI

## STAR TREK AND JUDAISM

**Instructor:** David Monblatt, Kol Ami Director of Education

**Day/Time:** Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

January 31, February 7, 14 & 21 (4 sessions)

This course will boldly explore Jewish values and ethics implanted throughout the *Star Trek* series. Over the years, the successful franchise has confronted such topics as the nature of evil, atonement, and remembrance, while spotlighting the value of education, the dignity of the individual, and the importance of social justice. The course will examine episodes from *Star Trek* (the original television series), *Next Generation*, *Star Trek Deep Space Nine*, and selected scenes from the films. Please RSVP to the synagogue office (215-635-3110) by January 24. ■



# “MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: STRIVE FOR 225”

At our *erev Shabbat* service on November 2, we officially commenced a new program called “Membership Drive: Strive for 225.” The program gives each congregant the opportunity to present guest memberships to unaffiliated individuals and families who might be interested in our intimate and dynamic community.

Over the next few months, we will share with you excerpts of the speeches from three of our congregants who spoke that evening about their love for Congregation Kol Ami.

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## FROM ROBIN WARSAW

“My family and I came to Kol Ami when my daughter started pre-school. My son had been in pre-school elsewhere, but we were looking for a place that would better fit the personalities of our children. There are many wonderful pre-schools, but none as special as Kol Ami. It is a place like no other.

“While our daughter was in pre-school, we were introduced to the broader community of Kol Ami. We were so warmly welcomed by Rabbi Holin, Elaine Stevens (Executive Director), and many others, and we felt so comfortable here.

“Rebecca Schwartz’s (Cantorial Soloist) beautiful voice and joyful presence was one of the first things we loved about Kol Ami and is something we continue to love. I am delighted that my children enjoy learning and singing Jewish songs as part of Kol Ami’s student choir and that their Jewish identity is nurtured through song.

“Kol Ami offers a casual environment where we can focus on observances without being concerned about appearances. We love the people we have met here—it is the kind of community where you meet people who feel like friends from the first hello.

“I love Kol Ami and it inspires me to share what I love about it with you and with people who are looking to belong to a place as unique and wonderful as this. I look forward to watching our community become even more vibrant through efforts such as Strive for 225.”

We encourage you to “gift” guest memberships to friends, family members, coworkers, and neighbors. It entitles them to free membership at Congregation Kol

Ami from January through June 2013—including the opportunity to attend *Shabbat* and High Holy Day services and celebrations, speakers, interfaith relationship dialogue gatherings, social events such as Casino Night, and our golf outing and more—with the sole exception of religious school.

For more information on Strive for 225 and how you can win a free iPad, contact Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org). ■

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## WELCOME OUR GUEST MEMBERS

Kol Ami welcomes these guest members. We encourage guest members to attend services, social events, adult education classes and speakers and more to get a “taste” of our warm and dynamic community through June 30, 2013. We hope that guest members will choose to stay even longer!

Carol Baron  
Alan Berg and Audrey Bookspan-Berg  
Sheila Berland  
Glenn and Jill Bronson  
Ben and Sylvia Fishbein  
Tim and Jennifer Giordano  
Lonnie Golden  
Mary LaRue and Gail Garin  
Gene and Fran Miglio  
Marcia Moore  
Jose and Rachel Nieves  
Sandra Orr  
Jeremy and Catherin Rothman  
Len and Ina Schmidt  
David and Laura Stone

Please be on the lookout for new faces at services, *onegs*, and events. If you see someone you don’t know, please say hello and introduce yourself. If you know someone who might enjoy getting a taste of Kol Ami with a free six-month guest membership, please contact Elaine at [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org). ■

## **MAZAL TOV**

We extend congratulations to:

**David Hyman**, who will be honored on January 10 with the Operation Understanding's "George M. Ross Award for Service and Leadership"

**Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz**, who will be singing at the Fifth Annual Music Concert at Temple Israel of Greater Miami on January 18 at 8:00 p.m. The concert will air live on JLTv. ■

## **YEDIDAY KOL AMI**

The *Yediday* Kol Ami succeeds the Kol Ami Foundation and raises funds to support our Synagogue.

We greatly appreciate the support of the following members of *Yediday* Kol Ami:

Bruce and Ellen Asam  
David Baker and Irene Levy Baker  
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen  
Barry and Allison Boise  
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman  
Arthur and Joanne Gordon  
Ray and Sis Grenald  
David Hyman  
William Hyman and Janine Pratt  
Eric and Adena Johnston  
David and Patricia Long  
The Poppel Family  
Robert Schiowitz and Ronit Sugar  
The Sender Family  
Michael Silverman and Robin Rifkin  
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser  
Elaine Stevens  
Bart Weiner and Nadine Liez-Weiner

It is not too late to join Yediday Kol Ami and be included in special programming.

For more information, please contact Elaine Stevens, executive director, at [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) or 215-635-3110. ■

## **TIKUN OLAM SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS**

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the following sponsors and contributors to the *Tikun Olam* event honoring Stewart and Sally Eisenberg:

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Brian Hall and Celia Chen

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(continued from previous page)

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215-635-4182

**David Hyman, President**  
215-496-7224

**Barry Boise, Vice President**  
215-635-9042

**Jeff Cohen, Vice President**  
215-635-3232

**Ellen Asam, Secretary**  
215-635-5598

**Bart Weiner, Treasurer**  
215-233-4712

## **PROFESSIONAL STAFF**

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

**Main Office**  
**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

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**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark>

## **BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS**

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

## A NEW YEAR: A FRESH START

Tired of the same old New Year's resolutions? Looking for a way to help members of our Kol Ami community during tough times? If you enjoy cooking, driving, or helping people in general, Kol Ami's Caring Congregant Committee would love to welcome you in 2013! Come to our next meeting on **Sunday, January 6, at 12:30 p.m.** at Kol Ami. Lunch will be provided. For details, call Linda George, 215-782-1413, or Elaine Gershenson, 215-887-3994.



## FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT

Rabbi Holin's **Nothing But Nets** fast this month—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 **Tuesday, January 15.**

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, January 24.**

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')

### 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')

## 'THIRD-FRIDAY' EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

for January Birthday and Anniversary Blessings  
Friday, January 18, at 7:30 p.m.

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



## "YOU'RE IN THE (ISRAELI) ARMY NOW"

Sunday, January 13, at 11:00 a.m.

presented by Bart and Nadine Weiner

Come hear fellow congregants Bart and Nadine Weiner share their experience of spending two weeks volunteering in the Israeli Defense Force. Bart and Nadine participated in the Volunteers for Israel (VFI) program last March, living and working side by side with young Israeli soldiers on an Army base in the north of Israel.

In this Kol Ami Member-to-Member program, you will hear about the excitement, challenges, and deep meaning of a truly immersive experience in the land of Israel. You will also learn about the history and scope of the VFI program; how you might participate, if interested; and what to expect if you do choose to volunteer. Join us for this interesting and informative discussion.

RESCHEDULED, DUE TO HURRICANE SANDY!

## THE LIFE AND WORDS OF REB NACHMAN OF BRESLOVE

Thursday, January 24, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Presented by Carol Nemeroff

We welcome Ms. Nemeroff under the auspices of our Congregation's Spiritual Growth Group to speak about

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## BAT MITZVAH OF MARINA LIPSHUTZ: SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, AT 10:00 A.M.

Marina is in the seventh grade at Cedarbrook Middle School. Her favorite subjects are Social Studies and English. At school, she is involved in Robotics, and her extra-curricular interests include photography, singing, and skiing. She devotes volunteer time to the Jewish Relief Agency as well as the Philadelphia Folk Fest.

She says, "I enjoy being Jewish because of the friends that I have made at the synagogue.

"My favorite prayers are the *Avote v'Imahote* and the blessings over the *Torah*. The *Avote* talks about kindness, love, and redemption. God has

been with us throughout the generations, and He gives us love and kindness and offers us the chance for redemption for anything we have done wrong. This prayer reminds us that being Jewish is not just about rules, structure, and discipline, but also to remember to be nice and loving to others.

"The blessings over the *Torah* talk about how God gave us the *Torah* and is a way of thanking Him. Reciting this blessing is a way that we express our gratitude to God and is part of our tradition that goes back generations. In a similar way, it reminds me to be thankful for

everything that has been given to me in my lifetime.

"I chose to read specific verses from my *Torah* Portion (Exodus 13:17-22 and 14:26-31) because of their message, that we can accomplish almost anything we set out to do, and they show how strong and brave we were.

"The narrative about how we crossed through the Sea of Reeds as we fled Egypt is a lesson that we can hopefully solve almost any issues in our lives."

We congratulate Marina's parents, David and Michelle. ■



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: SELKIRK FAMILY

Kol Ami happily welcomes new associate members Morgan and Jack Selkirk, their young son, Jack Jr., and their new baby girl, Harper (born August 21). The Selkirk family has lived in the area for five years, and they joined Kol Ami as associate members as Jack Jr. has just entered our Nursery School.

Morgan and Jack both were born and raised in New York—Morgan in Manhattan and Jack in Buffalo. Morgan also spent some time in California before returning to the Big

Apple. They met when Jack moved down state, and then moved to the Philadelphia area to help take care of Morgan's ailing grandfather, who was given only a year to live. As Morgan notes, five years later, her grandfather is still here (*keinahora*), and so are they!

Morgan is a photographer and the owner of ML2 Photography. Jack is the senior project manager of Interactive New Media at the national home office of the American Cancer Society.

During non-work hours, Morgan has had a lifelong involvement in the performing arts, saying that she was a child actor/singer and it never left her system, and that she is still in love with anything Broadway. Morgan was a Visual Arts major in college, and she has served on the Board of Directors of the Purchase College Alumni Association since 2005.

While still in New York, Morgan was very involved in advocating for the

lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community, working with local organizations on various political initiatives. She describes herself as a proud New Yorker who is adapting to life in the Philadelphia area, though New York City is a major part of her heart and soul.

Jack is a loyal Buffalo Bills fan and an avid Yankees fan as well. He also used to be a weight-lifting enthusiast and hopes to get back into it. For now, he loves being kept on his toes as a father and his number one interest is his family. Their little boy, Jack Jr., is fascinated by the solar system and Spiderman; and Harper is a healthy baby, who eats and sleeps and makes her parents happy as a full-time activity.

The Selkirk family is looking forward to getting to know more members of Kol Ami; likewise, we are looking forward to getting to know them. Welcome to our congregation! ■



# DENIM & *Diamonds*

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

*Saturday, January 12, 2013*

*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 fair and dessert

**FOR TICKETS, CONTACT:**

Bill England at 215-635-0920 or [bilengland@yahoo.com](mailto:bilengland@yahoo.com) or  
Sharon Myers at 215-460-0602 or [sharonmyers381@gmail.com](mailto:sharonmyers381@gmail.com)  
Send your check to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road,  
Elkins Park, PA 19027 with "Casino Night" on the memo line.



## **Congregation Kol Ami Fundraiser**

Dine-Around Evening

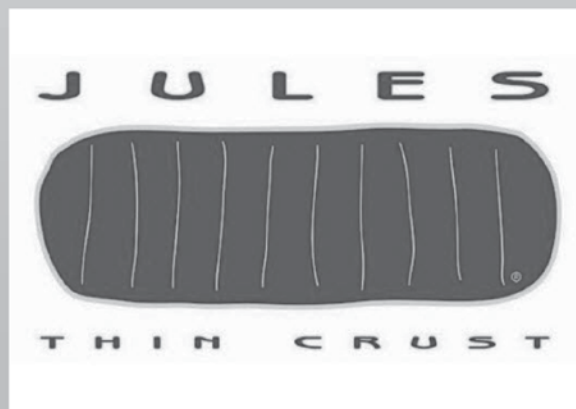
TWO Great Locations - One Great Evening!

**Wednesday, January 16, 2013**

**4:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

### **Jules Thin Crust**

817 Old York Road, Jenkintown, PA 19096 (around back)



When placing your order, please mention that you're with Congregation Kol Ami and 15% of your order total will be donated back to the Congregation.

### **U-Swirl**

817 Old York Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046



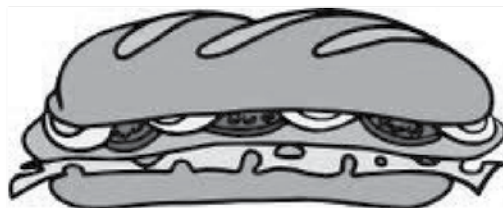
817 Old York Rd. Jenkintown • 215-572-8100

Please present this flyer/voucher when you place your order and 20% of your total purchase will be donated back to the Congregation.

Congregation Kol Ami Fundraiser  
January 16, 2013 4:00-8:00 p.m.



# Congregation Kol Ami Super Bowl Sunday 2013 Hoagie Sale



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

Members and friends of 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 3, at noon. All profits from the sale will be used to support the congregation.

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



Please fill out and return the form below by  
**Wednesday, January 30.**



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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

All hoagies come with lettuce, tomato, and onion **unless otherwise specified**. Please specify mayo or oil, 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.

## KOL AMI EVENTS

(continued from page 8)

Reb Nachman, a great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov and founder of the Breslov Hasidic movement.

Ms. Nemeroff studied at the Lev Shomea program in Jewish spiritual direction. She has shared similar programs at Congregation Beit Tikvah in Baltimore. She has also been a special education teacher and principal of a Jewish day school as well as elementary and middle public schools. She spent a year as an AmeriCorps volunteer and as a consultant in Washington, DC, schools.

Join us to learn about a Hasidic master as Ms. Nemeroff shares his writings and discusses their relevance today.

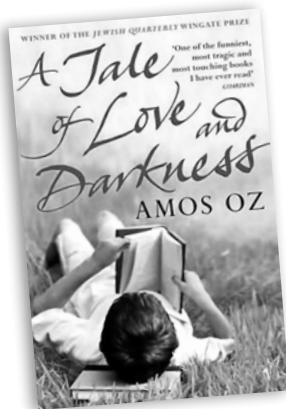


### SECOND ANNUAL SHIR SHABBAT SERVICE LED BY THE WOMEN OF OUR CONGREGATION

Friday, January 25,  
at 7:30 p.m. at our  
erev Shabbat Service

This special service, led by women, is in gratitude to women who led us in song through the Sea of Reeds (this week's *Torah* Portion) on our way from Egypt to Mount Sinai.

Please call cantorial soloist Rebecca Schwartz (215-572-6094) if you would like to participate in this service by leading us in Hebrew or English readings.



### "A TALE OF LOVE AND DARKNESS" BY AMOS OZ

Sunday, January 27, 11:00 a.m.

Another Great Book to be  
Discussed at Lou Barrett's  
Book Group

Tragic, comic, and utterly honest, this extraordinary memoir is at once a great family saga and a magical self-portrait of a writer

who witnessed the birth of a nation and lives through its turbulent history.

This is the story of a boy growing up in the war-torn Jerusalem of the 1940s and 1950s, in a small apartment crowded with books in 12 languages and relatives speaking nearly as many, his mother and father, both wonderful people, were ill-suited to each other.

When Oz was twelve-and-a-half years old, a tragedy changed his life. A rebellious adolescent, the boy leaves the constraints of the family and the community of dreamers, scholars, and failed businessmen. He joins a *kibbutz*, changes his name, marries, has children, and finally becomes an esteemed writer as well as a leader in Peace Now, an active agent in the political and literary life of Israel.

## IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF FOUNDING PRESIDENT STUART D. APPEL

erev Shabbat Service, February 1, at 7:30 p.m.  
'First-Friday' Blessings and our Adult Choir



We gather tonight to sing his praise. Our gratitude to Stuart Appel for his vision, inspiration, and leadership as our Founding President is immense and everlasting.

When Congregation Kol Ami commenced in July 1994, he said, "We want to create a place where children are welcome at all times, a place where everyone knows each other, a place that is a sanctuary in the literal sense."

## REMINDER: WE'RE STILL GOING GREEN!

Congregation Kol Ami is continuing to save the following: empty Honest & Capri Sun pouches, used/damaged cell phones and smartphones, empty ink cartridges (home or office), keyboards, and computer mice.

Please bring these used products to Kol Ami and deposit them in the appropriate containers located in the hallway of the Religious School. Our synagogue receives money back for each unit collected, and the funds raised directly supports our Congregation.

*continued page 15*

Come see the best of the East Coast Hockey League

## Jewish Heritage Night

Saturday, February 9, 2013 @ 7:35 PM  
Sun National Bank Center  
81 Hamilton Avenue  
Trenton, New Jersey

Join your friends from Congregation Kol Ami  
as the *Trenton Titans* take on the *Kalamazoo Wings*

Tickets are only \$15  
*with part of the proceeds going towards our synagogue!*

Please send your check payable to  
"Congregation Kol Ami" to the office

Please respond by January 17.



Questions? Call Gary Sender 215-661-1980





## **WE'LL GET YOU THERE!**



Is transportation keeping you homebound? Would you like to attend services, an event, or a committee meeting at Kol Ami, but don't have a means of getting there?

The Worship Enhancement Committee has developed a system for connecting riders with potential drivers. Just contact Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) no later than the Thursday before the event that you'd like to attend. You'll need to provide your name and phone number or e-mail address and the desired event's date and time. Then Elaine will send an "in-search-of" e-mail to Kol Ami congregants regarding your need. Hopefully a congregant who plans to attend that event will call or e-mail you directly.

We'd love to see you at the wonderful programs that we offer and are happy to help you get there! ■

## **KOL AMI EVENTS**

(continued from page 13)

### **AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE**

**Sunday, March 3 through Tuesday 5, 2013**

**Walter E. Washington Conv. Center, Washington, DC**



Join Rabbi and Susan Holin, Stewart Eisenberg, Jan Felgoise, and Becca Leifer (daughter of Stewart and Sally Eisenberg and a Kol Ami *Bat Mitzvah*/Confirmant and now college freshman at Tulane University) at the 2013 American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference.

Following the incessant rocket attacks on homes and population centers in Israel, and the IDF's bombardment of Gaza in response, your presence and voice at this year's AIPAC Policy Conference is vital to ensure America's on-going support of Israel during these changing and perilous times.

Be there with us as we hear from scholars, journalists, and military and political analysts as you choose from literally hundreds of think-tank discussions on vital issues. In the words of Stewart Eisenberg: "At this critical time, the AIPAC Conference is a unique opportunity to hear from experts on all topics related to events unfolding in the entire Middle East as they affect Israel. It is so important to attend if you want to also learn about the most up-to-date information on the relationship between the United States and Israel, and how you can make a difference in Washington." As Kol Ami member Jan Felgoise wrote after last year's conference: "It's a life-transforming experience!"

We will gather with almost 10,000 participants and student activists to learn and then lobby members of Congress on Israel's behalf.

To register for the conference, visit [www.aipac.org](http://www.aipac.org) or contact Rabbi Holin (215-635-4182) if you are interested in attending this important event. ■



## **Great Food makes for Great Family Fun!**

- ★ Kosher Style Gourmet Cuisine
- ★ Bar & Bat Mitzvahs
- ★ Weddings
- ★ Party Planning to Perfection!

**Elkins Park is a NO CHORE ZONE.**

*Savor the meal, not the prep and clean-up.*



**FRESH from PROVENCE**

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(215)635-2400 (610)539-8330

# Prayers from the Prayer-Writing Workshop

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The prayer-writing workshop led by Janet Falon in November produced some lovely writing. “Prayer” was defined as talking to God or, for people who don’t believe in God, as talking with some large force or energy. Also, prayer isn’t something that only takes place in a synagogue, nor does it have to deal with cosmic life issues. Here are some poems from the workshop.

## **BREATHING PRAYER**

by Betty Shapiro

To the One, to the One I am Thankful For,  
I am breathing in and out, calmly.  
In and out, repetitively.  
This is not to be taken for granted,  
and right now it is a holy thing.

I hear an owl outside with his quick “whoow-whoow”  
sounds,  
and he (or she), too, is breathing,  
and we are joined in this act;  
he (or she) outside and me comfortably indoors.  
Breathing—such a simple, essential act.  
Praises to You, One, that I am breathing.  
And this owl, too.  
May I hold on to this appreciation  
and know how special it is.

## **PRAYER**

by Natalie Dyen

Dear God, thank you for making me a writer. Thank you for the inspiration that strikes at the oddest moments—on the treadmill, at the hairdresser, in supermarket lines. Thank you for the challenges—the characters who sometimes take off on their own, the storylines that twist, just as my own life has taken unexpected turns. Thank you for helping me fill mind-numbing hours waiting in doctors’ offices and traffic jams. Thank you for the writer’s block that brings such joy in the unblocking. And thank you for the rejections that make acceptance even more precious.

As author of this world (or so many believe) do you feel the same? Do you get tired of the endless rewrites? Do you

get frustrated when they misunderstand your meaning and reject your work? Writer-to-writer, I’d love to hear your take on the creative process.

## **PRAYER FOR ME IN RELATION TO MY ELDERLY MOTHER**

by Janet Falon

Fortify me, Compassionate One, as I help my elderly mother make life-altering changes. Teach me patience as I support her in keeping true to herself. Help me make my contact with her loving and clear in spite of complications we’ve had in the past. Be there with me as I hold her hand as she moves forward, and given her age, support me in trying to make each communication with her end with loving words. And please, help me balance the needs of my mother with the needs of my daughter, and nourish me with a bottomless well of courage and stamina. Amen. ■





## ARTIST OF THE MONTH: LORRAINE GLESSNER (JANUARY 8-FEBRUARY 19)



Lorraine Glessner received an MFA in Fibers from Temple University, at the Tyler School of Art, where she is currently an assistant professor in the Fibers and Material Studies Department. Lorraine also holds a BS in Textile Design from Philadelphia University and an Associate's degree in Computer Graphics from Moore College of Art and Design.

Recent awards include: two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Individual Creative Artist Fellowship Grant in Crafts; the Anne K. Allison Award, Woodmere Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and the Yvonne Kelly Memorial Award for Mixed Media, Abington, Pennsylvania. Recent exhibitions include: solo shows at R&F Paints, Kingston, New York; Abington Art Center, Abington, Pennsylvania; and Lake George Arts Project, Lake George, New York and group exhibitions at Parlor Gallery, Asbury Park, New Jersey; Artspace, Richmond, Virginia; and Gallery One, Nashville, Tennessee.

Her work is included in the recently released "Encaustic with a Textile Sensibility" by Daniella Woolf and "Encaustic Art: The Complete Guide to Creating Fine Art with Wax" by Lissa Rankin. Lorraine lectures, teaches, exhibits her work nationally, and maintains a studio in Philadelphia. See her complete CV and work at: [www.lorraineglessner.net](http://www.lorraineglessner.net) or [www.lorraineglessner.blogspot.com](http://www.lorraineglessner.blogspot.com).

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. Also, all of Lorraine's works are for sale, and a portion of the proceeds are donated to the synagogue. See Elaine Stevens for a price list if interested in purchasing a piece. ■





# December Nursery School Activities



ABOVE: The Nursery School children prepare for *Hanukkah* by crafting an oversized *Menorah*; BELOW: Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz lead the youngsters and their parents and grandparents in a *Hanukkah* Sing-a-long!



SAVE  
THE  
DATE



## Fighting the Forces of Fat and Fatigue!

at Congregation Kol Ami  
Thursday, March 7, at 10:00 a.m.

PERFORMED BY THE WALNUT STREET  
THEATRE TOURING OUTREACH COMPANY

"You are what you eat"... or so the saying goes. If it's true, are we slowly turning into sedentary lumps of malnourished, inactive, out-of-shape protoplasm? What are we to do? Who will save the world from an increasingly tubby tomorrow? Call Nick Nutrition and his dog Fiber! By day, an average boy and his dog, but, after school, they become an intrepid pair of superheroes dedicated to improving the minds and bodies of their fair city. Each day offers choices and poses challenges. This new play offers a fun and entertaining introduction to good eating habits and the importance of daily activity, while providing students with a head start to a healthy future. With Nick's courage and Fiber's intelligence, students are empowered to take control of their health!

For grades K-6

## MITZVAH OPPORTUNITIES: DON'T MISS THESE TWO!

Below are a couple opportunities to reach out and enrich the lives of others who struggle daily. For more information about or to RSVP for these events, contact Ronit Sugar, Social Action Committee chair, at 215-208-7027 or [ronitsugar@gmail.com](mailto:ronitsugar@gmail.com).

### RUBY'S KIDS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Come join us on Sunday, January 20 (Martin Luther King Weekend), from 12:00-3:00 p.m., as we host a birthday party for children at the Stenton Family Manor, a homeless shelter in north Philadelphia.

To sign up for this fun, feel-good activity, contact Ronit by Wednesday, January 16. No experience is needed. Sorry, this activity is only appropriate for adults and children over 16. Hosting birthday parties for kids in shelters is just one of the many things that Ruby's Kids does. For more information, visit [www.rubyeskids.org](http://www.rubyeskids.org).

### JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY

Come out and help sort, pack, and deliver food to needy families on Sunday, January 20 and/or February 17, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Jewish Relief Agency Food Distribution Center

The Jewish Relief Agency is a dynamic, volunteer-driven organization whose goal is to help Jews in need. Since its founding in 2000, JRA has been bringing together individuals of all means, ages, and backgrounds each month in a spirit of community and *tikun olam*. Through the efforts of JRA's community of more than 10,000 volunteers, monthly food relief packages are provided to 2,750 low-income families in the Greater Philadelphia area.

JRA food distributions take place one Sunday each month throughout the year 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/directions.asp>. See you there! ■

# Senior/Junior Youth Group Activities

RIGHT: Kol Ami's Junior Youth Group (Grades 4 & 5) had enjoyed a meet and greet of donuts and milk prior to Sunday religious school

BELOW: Kol Ami's Senior Youth Group (Grades 6-8) participated in an afternoon of laser tag on December 2 at the Ultrazone in Bensalem. Mr. Monblatt and his 13 fellow taggers got a thorough work out!





# KOL AMI JANUARY 2013 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Winter Break	2 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Teacher In-service	3 Nursery School Nature with Jack 10:00 a.m.	4 Nursery School <i>erev Shabbat</i> with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m.  <i>erev Shabbat</i> Musical Service 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Participation	5 <i>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</i> 10:00 a.m. Bill Shapiro will chant from the <i>Torah</i> and Ellen Friedman will give the <i>dvar Torah</i>
6 <b>Trope Class</b> - 9:00 a.m. <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:50 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> 10:00 a.m. to Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <b>Religious School PTO Meeting</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Caring Congregants Committee Meeting</b> 12:30 p.m.	7 <b>Nursery School</b> Music 9:30 a.m. <b>Social Action Committee Meeting</b> 7:00 p.m.	8 <b>Nursery School</b> Fitness 9:30 a.m. <b>Religious School Committee Meeting</b> 7:30 p.m.	9 <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	10	11 <b>Nursery School</b> <i>erev Shabbat</i> 11:00 a.m.  <i>erev Shabbat</i> Musical Service 7:30 p.m. Student Choir participation	12 <i>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</i> 10:00 a.m. Mindy Levy will chant from the <i>Torah</i> and Bill Shapiro will give the <i>dvar Torah</i>  <b>Casino Night</b> 7:00 p.m.
13 <b>Trope Class</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:50 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> 10:00 a.m. to Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <b>Member-to-Member Conversations</b> 11:00 a.m.	14 <b>Nursery School</b> Yoga 9:30 a.m.	15 <b>Nursery School</b> Fitness 9:30 a.m.	16 <b>Nursery School</b> Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	17	18 <b>Nursery School</b> <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> 11:00 a.m.  <i>'Third-Friday' erev Shabbat Service</i> 7:30 p.m.	19 <i>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</i> 10:00 a.m.

# KOL AMI JANUARY 2013 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>20</b> <b>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> <b>Martin Luther King</b> <b>Weekend</b>  <b>Ruby's Kids</b> 12:00 p.m.	<b>21</b> <b>NO NURSERY SCHOOL</b> <b>Martin Luther King</b> <b>Weekend</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Nursery School</b> <b>Fitness</b> 9:30 a.m.	<b>23</b> <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	<b>24</b> <b>Spiritual Growth Group</b> presents Carol Nemeroff 7:00 p.m.  <b>Finance Committee</b> <b>Meeting</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>25</b> <b>Nursery School</b> <b>erev Shabbat Service</b> <b>with Cantorial Soloist,</b> <b>Rebecca Schwartz</b> 11:00 a.m.  <b>Shir Shabbat Service</b> <b>on erev Shabbat</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>26</b> <b>Bat Mitzvah of</b> <b>Marina Lipshutz</b> 10:00 a.m.
<b>27</b> <b>BAKE SALE</b> <b>Trope Class - 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:50 a.m.  <b>Religious School</b> 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Gr 6 & 7 Family Education Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal  <b>Lou Barrett</b> <b>Contemporary Book</b> <b>Group - 11:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Junior Youth Group</b> <b>Tu B'Shvat Seder</b> 1:00 p.m.  <b>Tu B'Shvat Seder</b> 6:00 p.m.	<b>28</b> <b>Nursery School</b> <b>Music</b> 9:30 a.m.  <b>Interfaith Relationship</b> <b>Dialogue</b> 7:30 p.m. Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen	<b>29</b> <b>Nursery School</b> <b>Fitness</b> 9:30 a.m.	<b>30</b> <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	<b>31</b> <b>Continuing Adult</b> <b>Jewish Education with</b> <b>Mr. David Monblatt</b> 7:30 p.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.

Below is a list of the available Kol Ami funds:

**ADULT EDUCATION FUND:** Enables us to invite scholars, authors, and artists to speak about: Jewish history and contemporary issues; their motivation for writing about specific themes; and their interpretation through art and music about Jewish life in the past and present.

**ARTS AND CULTURE FUND:** Enables us to provide funding for cultural programs, including music and arts, the preservation and maintenance of artwork within the synagogue, and the beautification of the meditation garden.

**BAR/BAT MITZVAH AND CONFIRMATION FUND:** Enables us to provide appropriate gifts (books, *kiddush* cups, and *Shabbat* candlesticks) when our young adults celebrate their *Bar/Bat Mitzvahs* and Confirmations.

**'DISCOVER ISRAEL' FUND:** Enables us to provide scholarships to enable children of our members to participate in approved peer-group trips to Israel.

**FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND FUND:** Enables us to underwrite the cost of Family Camp Weekend programs and to welcome specialists on a "weekend away" to explore a Jewish theme with our rabbi.

**FAMILY EDUCATION FUND:** Enables us to underwrite the cost for our programs and to welcome guest speakers to special events.

**LIBRARY FUND:** Enables us to purchase books for the education and enjoyment of our children, youth, and adults.

**ONEG SHABBAT FUND:** Enables us to provide refreshments following *Shabbat* services.

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:** Enables Rabbi Holin to perform *mitzvot* for those in need, in the name of the Congregation.

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND:** Enables us to provide resources and programs for the benefit of our children in the religious school.

**SYNAGOGUE FUND:** Enables us to provide for the general well-being of the Congregation.

**YOUTH FUND:** Enables us to provide scholarships to enable children of our members to participate in Jewish enrichment experiences at camps, youth enclaves, and other programs. ■

## ARTS & CULTURE FUND

*Trina Brand*

## ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Memory of:

**Steven Isaacman**  
*Marshall and Ilene Schafer*

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Holin officiating at the  
Naming Ceremony of our  
daughter, Katie**  
*Christopher Lundeen and Cindy Marselis*

In Memory of:

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

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

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

## SYNAGOGUE FUND

*David and Patricia Ann Long*

In Memory of:

**Gadol Barrett**  
*Herbert and Lucille Barrett* ■



*Thank you to all our past  
and present contributors!*





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

**TO:**

