

CONGREGATION
Kol Ami
VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, January 2, at 7:30 p.m.
erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, January 3, at 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue

FRIDAY, January 9, at 7:30 p.m.
"Second-Friday" *erev Shabbat Service*
with birthday and anniversary blessings
and the voices of our Adult Choir

SATURDAY, January 10, at 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue

SUNDAY, January 11, at 1:00 p.m.
Healing Service

FRIDAY, January 16, at 7:30 p.m.
Interfaith Relationship Dialogue *erev Shabbat Service* to celebrate our interfaith couples/families who are an integral part of the Kol Ami community

SATURDAY, January 17
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue*

5:30 p.m. - Adult-Only Martini *Havdalah Service* with spices, schnapps, and songs (see page 14)

FRIDAY, January 23
6:00 p.m. - A special and joyful *erev Shabbat Service* for our children K-2 and their families
7:30 p.m. - Tonight we dedicate our beautiful *Yahrzeit* Wall and the memorial plaques

SATURDAY, January 24, at 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue; followed by a potluck lunch

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MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY "STOP HUNGER NOW" MEAL-PACKING PROGRAM MONDAY, JANUARY 19, AT 9:00 A.M.



Stop Hunger Now's mission is "to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-saving aid to the world's most vulnerable and by creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources." The meal-packing program was created in 2005 and perfected the assembly process that combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a flavoring mix including 21 essential vitamins and minerals into small meal packets. Each meal costs only 29 cents. The food stores easily, has a shelf-life of two years, and transports quickly. Stop Hunger Now works with international partners that ship and distribute the meals in-country.

Join our religious school children and their parents as we volunteer to make 10,000 meal packets. ■

SAVE THE DATE

**TIKUN OLAM HONOREE LUNCHEON
SUNDAY, MARCH 8, AT 3:00 P.M.**

Honoring Steven Scott Bradley of Bradley and Bradley Associates



We are thrilled to recognize Steven Scott Bradley for his outstanding contributions in supporting the non-profit and business communities. Steven is most worthy of this important recognition given his many years of dedicated service.

We encourage you to support this wonderful afternoon, and information for sponsorship is available by contacting Elaine Stevens.

Your invitation to the event will be e-mailed to you the end of January. ■

WORSHIP SERVICES (continued from page 1)

FRIDAY, January 30, at 7:30 p.m.

Our Fourth Annual Female-led
Shir Shabbat erev Shabbat Service
(see page 14)

SATURDAY, January 31, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue ■

TORAH & HAFTARAH

January 3 - *Vayehi*

Genesis 47:28-50:26, I Kings 2:1-12

January 10 - *Sheymote*

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

January 17 - *Vaera*

Exodus 6:2-9:33, Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

January 24 - *Bo*

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

January 30 - *Beshalach*

Exodus 13:17-17:16, Judges 4:4-5:31 ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Finance Committee

Monday, January 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Lisa Landau, 215-620-5226,
and Bart Weiner, 215-233-4712

Membership Committee

Monday, January 26, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Julie Cohen, 215-635-4716,
and Robin Warsaw, 215-635-5839

Religious School Committee

Tuesday, January 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Sheryl Cohen, 215-885-
2436, and Barbara Fink, 215-886-2297

Religious School PTO Committee

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

Co-chairs: Heather Pelletier, 215-855-
3216, and Deborah Poppel, 215-947-2252

Social Action Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Shelley Chamberlain, 215-635-
1738, and Jody Long, 215-635-4751

Spiritual Growth Group

Monday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Co-chairs: Janet Falon, 215-635-1698, and
Meryle Gurmankin, 215-464-2466 ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This month's bulletin features writings by your fellow members and guests who traveled to Israel this past October. I strongly urge you to read through and perhaps to even reach out to some of these members and learn more about what made their visit in Israel so remarkable. Last month I shared an overview of what made our trip so special and this month I want to highlight an aspect of Israeli society that we can be very proud of and connect that to the fantastic region-wide conference we hosted last month titled "Kindness Counts: Welcome and Inclusion of LGBTQ Jews and Their Loved Ones Into the *Mishkan*."

Look at any map of the Middle East and you quickly see how Israel is an island surrounded by countries that with rare exception are intolerant of people who are different than the majority. We have seen a huge exodus of Jews from Arab countries over the last 60 years and we read near-daily stories of how Christians are increasingly ostracized and persecuted. Being gay in almost every country in the Middle East other than Israel is treated as a crime. Yet Israel is not just an island in the Middle East, but an oasis. On our trip, I was overwhelmed to see how incredibly well LGBTQ people are treated in Israel. There are rights and there is respect. Not everywhere and not everyone acts this way, for sure, but any comparison to the societies around Israel reveals Israel to be an amazingly welcoming place.

Perhaps that welcoming approach is because Israel is a country whose laws and customs have roots in biblical and sacred texts, where the admonition to remember that you were once a stranger in a strange land drives attitudes and often laws and policies. Kol Ami's policies and way of being as a congregation is also so rooted. When we gathered over 80 participants from across the Delaware Valley on December 7th at our conference, we were challenged to think about what those sacred texts had to say about creating a truly welcoming *Mishkan*. Joanna Ware, our keynote speaker from *Keshet*, got us to think about how we welcome 'chosen families' and not just families by birth, and asked us to see people who are different as unique and yet able to be fully part of 'us' and not one of "them." A powerful prophetic line she quoted was "He who stoppeth hearing the cry of others will not have his cries heard."

At the conference we participated in workshops that challenged us to connect to children who are gay and to straight children of gay parents, to understand what it might be like if we were the parent of a gay child, and to appreciate the need for songs of gender liberation versus typical songs laden with judgments and "boxes." We learned about creating inclusive spaces in synagogues and weaving LGBTQ rituals into the congregation's spiritual life. We explored including transgender Jews and their families and welcoming LGBTQ elders. Some of us were lucky enough to study with Rabbi Rachel Kobrin, the new spiritual leader at Congregation Adath Jeshrun, as we looked at text and came to understand how law (*Halakha*) and story (*Aggadah*) can evolve together to enable us to welcome and celebrate LGBTQ Jews.

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FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

I asked my fellow travelers on our congregation's Adult Trip to Israel (October 19-30, 2014) to reflect upon their experiences in the hope that their words will motivate you, your families, and friends to visit Israel in the near future.

Shalom u'vrachab,

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin



STEWART EISENBERG

I have been to Israel many times, but the journey in October with my wife, friends, and acquaintances from Kol Ami was nothing short of extraordinary. There are not many times in our lives when we can truly say we've been blessed. Travelling with the group this year allowed for spiritual and intellectual growth on many levels.

We spent time in Tel Aviv, learning about Israel's high-tech industry, visiting the old town of Jaffa, as well as focusing on the symbols of peace in Israel's history; standing on the spot where Yitzhak Rabin was murdered and seeing Shimon Peres, being interviewed by a film crew, in the same square, right after experiencing the Peres Center for Peace. We felt what it was like to be blind and deaf when we were served dinner and saw a show performed by individuals who could neither hear nor see. We then travelled to the Golan Heights and heard a mother describe the effects of losing her son to a terrorist attack when he was age 16. Nothing can replace her son, but she has coped in a meaningful and productive way to hopefully help others in similar situations.

We arrived in Jerusalem to celebrate *Shabbat*, and there is nowhere in the world where that day can be experienced with as much meaning. From that point forward, my admiration and respect for those who call Israel their home grew in leaps and bounds. We were fortunate to speak with an amazing woman who told us her story of escaping from Ethiopia by sheer heroic determination and undying faith. By seeing the settlements surrounding Jerusalem up close, visiting

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MAZAL TOV

Congratulations to **Abby Binder** and **Jane Tausig** on their November 28, 2014 wedding. ■

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory of:

Gladys Krieger Bloch

aunt of Jennifer (Erik) Streitwieser

Charles Brown

*father of Greg (Sara Reiter) Brown
grandfather of Evan and Abby*

Randy Dyen

brother of Jim (Natalie) Dyen

Virginia "Ginger" Stern Kaufman

wife of David Kaufman

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

SOCIAL ACTION

JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY

Sunday, January 18

from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

**10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia
(215-281-1101)**

Please come out to help us sort, pack, and deliver food to needy families at the Jewish Relief Agency (JRA) Food Distribution Center. 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 at their warehouse in Northeast Philadelphia (directions can be found at www.jewishrelief.org). Volunteers package kosher, nonperishable food in boxes and deliver the food packages to recipients according to predetermined delivery routes, complete with driving directions and maps. Most delivery routes take between 30 to 60 minutes to complete. ■

YEDIDAY KOL AMI

We greatly appreciate the support of the following members of *Yediday* Kol Ami, which raises funds to support our synagogue:

Ira and Robin Adelman
Anonymous
Bruce and Ellen Asam
David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Barry and Allison Boise
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Suzanne Feld
Benham and June Fuhrman
Arthur Gordon
Ray and Sis Grenald
David Hyman
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Eric and Adena Johnston
David and Patty Ann Long
John Michel and Jane Finkle
Craig and Sharon Myers
Stuart and Deborah Poppel
Robert Schiowitz and Ronit Sugar
Gary Sender
William and Betty Shapiro
Stanley and Rita Siegel
Michael Silverman and Robin Rifkin
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser
Mark Tino and Elaine Lotto
Bart Weiner and Nadine Liez-Weiner

For more information about *Yediday* Kol Ami, please contact Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110. ■

BLOOD DRIVE A SUCCESS



Congratulations to us! Our blood drive on November 3 yielded 32 pints. Thanks to all the donors and to all

the volunteers who held hands—literally and figuratively—and supported the donors. ■

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY: ADULT TRIP TO ISRAEL REFLECTIONS

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neighborhoods that resemble many suburban communities in the U.S., and speaking to passionate people who want to live in peace, we learned to appreciate the need for security and protection in a land no bigger than the state of New Jersey. Jerusalem is always the highlight of any trip to Israel for me, and this one did not disappoint. There was overwhelming joy in the faces of our fellow travelers as well as a sense of belonging and a true sense of purpose throughout the five days we spent in the Holy City. We prayed at both a Reform and Modern Orthodox synagogue, walked down ancient pathways in the Old City, and shopped in modern boutiques and artists' galleries in the Cardo. Visiting the Western Wall at sundown, we experienced the awesome power that exists in that small piece of land that is held sacred by so many. We were also able to spend a day learning more about Israeli politics and its laws by touring the Knesset and speaking to a former Justice of the Supreme Court.

Beyond the sites and tours, this trip expanded my sphere of knowledge and emotional connection to a land that many of us feel is our spiritual and historic home, but have only limited opportunities to visit. This experience was one of those rare and precious moments that I will cherish for life.

CORY F. NEWMAN

In reflecting on the personal impact of our group visit to Israel, the phrase that immediately comes to mind is: "My cup runneth over." On so many occasions during this phenomenal trip, my emotions were close to the surface, and then overflowing. Whether it was being in the Golan Heights living room of a woman whose beloved son was murdered by terrorists, talking about his life and legacy; or sitting in a Judean community center listening to the story of an Ethiopian Jewish woman who risked everything to come to Israel and who miraculously survived and thrived; or leaning my forehead against the ancient stones of the Western Wall, trying to fathom what it means to be the sole representative of my family's return to this holy place after nearly 2,000 years (and many other awe-inspiring instances), words can only go so far in explaining the depth of the experience of being in *eretz Yisrael*.

In addition to connecting to the wonderful, interesting, and inspiring people of Israel (including our super-competent tour personnel), as well as connecting to the beautiful and rich land, its history, and its present gifts and challenges, I was very happy to have the chance to connect with my fellow travelers, congregants and guests alike. From the routine events of sharing stories and jokes on the bus, as well as the sense of camaraderie and community over our many delicious meals, to more profound moments such as singing together, holding hands in a circle around the spot where Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated, I felt more closely bonded with people who I should have gotten to know better, sooner, but this trip was as good a time as any (and probably better) to feel closer not only to Israel, but to Kol Ami and its special people as well.

ELLEN FRIEDMAN

Words and feelings swirl through my head and body as I reflect on this trip. We traveled up, down, and across the beautiful country. We, Kol Ami, the voice of

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our people, heard directly from Kol Yisrael, the voices of Israel. Hearing from a mother whose 17-year-old son was murdered by terrorists, and meeting her husband, humbled me; their grace, dedication, and fortitude filled my heart. Hearing from a woman who, with her husband and two small children, walked across Ethiopia to Sudan; robbed of everything along the way, denied entry into Sudan, confined in a refugee camp for a year before making it to Israel, she never lost her faith in God. Her faith and determination humbled me. Taking a side trip with Jeff to the Negev and experiencing the majesty of Makhtesh at Mitzpe Ramon reminded me that I am a mere speck in the universe. Hearing from a settler in the occupied territories challenged me to consider a different perspective. Listening to an advisor to Prime Ministers and other high-level officials had me on the edge of my seat. Among many things he spoke of was the reality that as a Westerner, no matter how much I read and study, I will never fully understand the Middle East. Visiting holy sites and battle sites in Jerusalem underscored the valiance and sacrifice of those who fought to open the city and continue to stand guard over it. Meeting with artists in their studios was a joy. Hearing from an artist about the influence of *Kabbalah* in his work and life drew me in. This trip was unlike any other I have ever taken.

MINDY LEVY

I was on the fence in a big way as we moved closer to making the financial commitment to travel to Israel with our Kol Ami friends...seriously on the fence. I was fearful of the reported “danger” in Israel following the rocket attacks, and family members were clearly telling us not to travel. But as the days in early October passed, everything came together, and I knew I had to go. Little did I know that the voices of Israel, the emotional and visual landscapes, would release a sense of “Jewish spirit” that I have never quite felt in this way.

Trying to encapsulate my experiences into two paragraphs is impossible. What I can say is that I am finishing up an art journal that depicts the essence of my journey with my Kol Ami family. It is filled with colorful paintings, writings, and mementos gathered during the trip, filled with stories, smiles, and tears. For yes, I was tearful on several occasions during the trip. The power of this experience is wordless for me, as the kinship I felt with Israel—the land and her people—has filled my heart. I met so many wonderful people, brave individuals, who continue to work together towards peace. There were families who shared their losses with us as a result of the current war and others who talked about thriving in creative venues. I saw boundaries and borders, soldiers and weapons, and even heard gunshots fired—and yet I long to return.

As I write this, I have goose bumps, my “telltale” that I’m on the mark. I loved every minute of being in Israel. It is not the most exotic place that I have ever traveled to, but by far, the most spiritually awakening. Who knows? Maybe someday I may actually make *aliyah*!

JOHN F. HARTZEL

More than just a “trip” and certainly more than a “vacation,” my journey to Israel can best be described as an “experience.” After a few days, it became obvious to me that the itinerary for our trip must have taken many thoughtful hours of

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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

Julie Cohen, Vice President

215-635-4716

Jeffrey Margasak, Secretary

215-635-9332

Lisa Landau, Treasurer

215-635-9996

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

Early Learning Center Director

215-635-4180

Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist

215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:

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

Web site: www.kolamielkinspark.org

Facebook: <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 jfaloon@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. ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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Israel has been journeying toward LGBTQ equality for many years. It took systemic change in Israeli society and institutions to achieve the existing level of equality—from the Knesset, judicial system, healthcare, and civil and social services systems. Importantly, the journey took time.

Similarly, on a micro level, we at Kol Ami know we are a friendly and welcoming congregation. At the conference, we learned about the importance of and need for a deeper level of personal and communal awareness and sensitivity about what LGBTQ Jews need to feel welcome. Like in Israel where LGBTQ people serve in the government and other social institutions, LGBTQ people here want to contribute to and see themselves in our programming, rituals, and leadership positions. Being LGBTQ-friendly means, among other things, asking people what pronoun they prefer (e.g., he, she, queer, no pronoun, or something else), recognizing and celebrating difference, and having a culture of “us” vs. looking at LGBTQ people as different and therefore “them.” Culture change takes time and effort and we at Kol Ami are on our way.

At the wrap up of the conference, we went around and asked each of the workshop leaders to share one interesting next step that any of us could take to make our synagogues more welcoming. With those ideas as a springboard, that is the work we will do at Kol Ami, too, led by Barry Boise and Joel Fishbein, our co-chairs of the Inclusion Committee. We will look at our policies, our forms, and our by-laws and ensure that Kol Ami is as welcoming to LGBTQ Jews and their loved ones as we can possibly be. It is part of what makes us so special: what we are and

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FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY: ADULT TRIP TO ISRAEL REFLECTIONS

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effort in order to result in such a meaningful and in-depth interaction between our group and the people and pulse of Israel today. The few instances of ancient ruins we were shown did what it did by disclosing a foundation for the richness and depth of the Jewish community of centuries before. However, what I found even more impressive was the majority of our time in Israel spent hearing the voices, receiving the testimony, and witnessing the passion that everyday Israelis with whom we met have for their land, their faith, and their culture. I may consider myself a patriotic American, but I was humbled more that once by the stories told by ordinary people of the extraordinary dedication, loyalty, love, and passion they all share for Israel. I feel privileged and certainly blessed that I have been given the opportunity to “experience” not only the land, but this time, the people and voices of Israel, so intimately. I also believe our experience would not have been as enriching had we not shared this journey with our group from Congregation Kol Ami. We could not have asked to be with a group of travelers who were more friendly, welcoming, and heartfelt than were our fellow travelers from Kol Ami. Thank you all for making Donna and me feel at home with you.



RONIT SUGAR AND BERT SCHIOWITZ

Our trip to Israel with Congregation Kol Ami was one of the best experiences we have ever had. It was the perfect combination of a well-planned itinerary, a truly wonderful group of fellow travelers, and an outstanding tour guide (and, of course, ISRAEL!). We have been to Israel several times in the past, but we both felt that this visit really gave us a feeling of love and connection to the land unlike any previous experience. At the end of the trip, we were connected to the land, the people, and to each other in ways we never expected. We cannot wait to go back!

LYNN SCOVILL

There wasn't one stop we made, or person to whom we spoke, that didn't teach me something new about the country or make me want to continue to learn more on my own. Every person we met and the many founders we heard about were so inspirational. I am still processing and absorbing my Israel experience and will continue to do so for some time to come.

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ROZ HOLTZMAN

I came home from Israel with a sheaf of notes on hotel notepads—scribbled Hebrew phrases (“*balagan*”—a big crazy mess), a sketch of the features of the Temple Mount as it was in biblical times, a drawing of a stick figure representing a map of the land of Israel (southern city Eilat as a toe, Jerusalem as the navel), and facts, comments, and opinions that inspired me while challenging me to reflect on all I knew—and did not know—about Israel. I came home determined to continue to read, learn, discuss, and understand more about Israel, her people, achievements, wonders, issues, and challenges. I came home inspired to improve and expand my Hebrew skills. And arcing above all that I packed into my mental suitcase to bring back, I came home with a renewed and deepened sense of “we”—we, the Jewish people, a people rooted in a homeland both ancient and modern, a people with a shared identity despite our myriad Diaspora roots, our religious divides and quarrels, our political differences.

Ne’ot Kedumim—our first stop, fresh from an early morning landing at Ben Gurion airport—a biblical nature reserve where a wandering young camel stood behind me long enough for a photo. Here I learned about the intimate connection of the land of Israel and the Jewish religion: how the seasons, the agricultural cycles, the plants and their products, the times of dew and rainfall are all inextricably woven into Jewish holidays, practices, and blessings as the past and present coalesce.

In Jerusalem, I came away with a far greater understanding of the layout of the Temple Mount and the spiritual power of the site. For the past two years, I’ve taught Hebrew school fifth graders about the building, destruction, and rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem. Here I saw for myself the scorched rubble that remains from the Temple’s destruction, the immense hewn stones now jumbled. I learned that the steps ascending from the Huldah gates, the most common entry to the biblical Temple Mount, were of varying depth, some narrower, some wider, so that those ascending them would have to watch their step—attentive, with head bowed, a sign of humility, until their footsteps brought them from the semi-dark of the stairway into the light of the Temple Mount and the sight of the Temple itself. And later, at the foot of the *Kotel*, amidst a press of women, my splayed hands pressed into the wall as tears came and I stood there, eyes closed, crying—and then I felt arms encircle me from behind. It was my daughter, Celia, my traveling companion on this trip. The sweetness of that moment cannot be expressed.

ARNON SUGAR

I’ve been on educational tours, but never before have I experienced such a depth, breadth, and quality of speakers and guides. From the personal to the political, from inspirational to insightful, the “voices of Israel” we heard told compelling stories of faith, perseverance, justice, compassion, resolve, and strength. I recommend this trip or one like it to anyone who seeks a deeper understanding of the situation in Israel and the greater Middle East, or anyone who thinks he or she understands these issues, but is willing to broaden his or her perspective.

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PRESIDENT’S LETTER

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what we strive to be, for all of us. Please consider joining the conference Facebook page where the dialogue will continue. https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kulanu-All-of-Us-The-LGBTQ-Dialogue-Continues/1581987392021188?ref=br_tf

Kol Hakavod to Jane Tausig and her hard-working committee including Abby Binder, Barry Boise, Julie Cohen, Gail Garin, Rabbi Holin, Mary LaRue, Jeff Margasak, David Monblatt, Morgan Selkirk, Lorie Slass and Elaine Stevens.

Jeff Cohen, 215-635-3232

president@kolamielkinspark.org ■



DOES THE SNOW MAKE YOUR NERVOUS?

WE’LL GET YOU THERE!

Is the thought of driving in winter keeping you homebound? Would you like to attend services, an event, or a committee meeting at Kol Ami, but are nervous about 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 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. ■



Serving your community in Pennsylvania,
Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and New York

SOCIAL ACTION EVENT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
FROM 1:00-3:00 P.M.

**Help Philadelphia Families
This Winter Season by Packing
Food Boxes for Those in Need**

**at SHARE Food Program
2901 W. Hunting Park Avenue
Philadelphia**

SHARE provides food to over
20,000 low-income families
each month. This is a great
activity for the whole family,
ages 8 and up.

MAP:

[http://sharefoodprogram.org/
contact](http://sharefoodprogram.org/contact)

DIRECTIONS TO SHARE:

Take Route 1 South to Fox Street
exit. At top of the exit, turn left
onto Fox Street. Follow Fox
Street to Hunting Park Avenue
(about 3 lights), then turn right.
Take Hunting Park Avenue to
29th Street. Turn right into the
SHARE parking lot.

RSVP TO ROBIN RIFKIN

at robinrifkin@comcast.net
or 215-635-4326

**The warehouse is often chilly,
so dress appropriately!**

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY: ADULT TRIP TO ISRAEL REFLECTIONS

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SALLY EISENBERG

I loved being a part of such a dynamic and inclusive community. Our group was diverse with regards to age, prior Israel experiences, gender, and religious affiliations, and vocations. It felt so nice getting to know one another on a much deeper level; leaving the group at the end wasn't easy. It almost felt like leaving summer-camp friends at the end of the summer and having to come back home after sharing such an intense experience together. We all grew together during this trip. The entire trip was a call to our "home." I feel beyond blessed to have had this experience and can't wait to return soon.



DONNA HARTZEL

The "Voices of Israel" tour was an incredibly transforming experience that continues to resonate in my life. As a thrown stone creates reverberating waves in a pond, so has this journey deepened my appreciation and empathy for the people of Israel. We heard first-person accounts of triumphant personal struggles that touched our hearts. We visited museums, cultural centers, and beautiful art galleries that expressed the passion and connection of the Jewish people to the Land. Each day, unique and educational experiences awaited us, and I was eager for each new day to arrive.

BETTY SHAPIRO

I arrived at Ben Gurion International Airport, sleepy but overjoyed, with a profound sense of coming home. I experienced this feeling of "return" only three other times in my life. Once was when I visited the Czech Republic, the country of both my maternal and paternal heritage. Everyone there seemed to have my features, so how could I not feel like I had come home? My family left the Czech Republic in the mid 1800s, and with the knowledge of the evils of the holocaust in the Czech Republic, I have no desire to return. The other two times I experienced this sense of returning home was on two previous trips to Israel. This is my Land and my People; it is my history and my future. The people do not necessarily look like me. They are from widely diverse places such as Russia, Ethiopia,

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Yemen, and China. Appearance doesn't matter. Language doesn't matter. We are bonded in our Jewish peoplehood.

I met up with an Israeli friend who has Parkinsons Disease (PD) and teaches tai chi to others with PD. My friend picked me up at the Inbal Hotel, and we went to the beautiful Gan HaShoshanim (Rose Garden) in Jerusalem. Here I was with my Jewish People, but a subset of Jews—those who had PD. I was home in Israel with people who were experiencing what I was experiencing. If one knows the symptoms of what to look for, we looked alike, despite different gender, ages, and countries of origin. We did not necessarily have a common native language, but we had a common vocabulary. We had an interest in each other's well-being and offered support, as one does in a family.

I can hardly wait to return to Israel. Meanwhile, there is more Hebrew singing in my apartment, more chopping of raw vegetables for Israeli salad, and more reading of "The Jerusalem Post" and "No Camels / Israeli Innovation News." Articles regarding Israel flurry in and out of my e-mail. My reading list related to Israel has expanded.

I went to Israel as part of a couple and came home bonded to 26 people who shared, laughed, cried, and supported each other. I am a very blessed person.

CAROL BARON

The entire trip was emotional and educational, pleasing and disturbing, happy and sad, and altogether inspiring. Exhausting and invigorating, hopeful and hopeless—all these things at the same time.

PAUL LEVY

While I found our entire Israel experience remarkable, there are two things that stood out for me. First and foremost, I achieved a much greater understanding of the creation of Israel, including the travails of the people who created the great state and those who have worked to keep it growing and prosperous. The story is one you can only best appreciate by visiting the museums and sights along with the perspective of a well-educated guide. Nothing hit home like the vignette our guide described to us. A Jewish cadet at West Point asked one of his instructors why strategy/tactics of the Six Day and *Yom Kippur* Wars were taught, but there was no mention of the War of Independence. The instructor replied: "We don't teach miracles here." That says it all. Amazing how an undermanned and underarmed collection of people can overcome extreme adversity. Not only does

the State of Israel exist against overwhelming odds, but it has prospered beyond any reasonable expectation. (The Rabin Museum provided an insightful time line of the Israel's brief history and helped put a lot in perspective.) They have done so while being probably the most moral society in the world: their concern for their fellow man exceeds all others.

The second thing that really moved me was the performance of "Not By Bread Alone" at Nalaga't Theater in Jaffa by actors without sight, speech, and hearing. It forced me to think about all the *mazal*/I have in life. Even though the performance was not specifically Israeli or Jewish in nature, I came away from it with the strong belief that Israel takes care of its own (in addition to taking care of those who may be deemed enemies, as exemplified by a Israeli hospital treating the daughter of the Hamas leader).

KAREN GURMANKIN

The Kol Ami Israel trip for me is not yet finished...and I prefer the word journey...it lingers. I am not there geographically, but a part of my spirit doesn't want to and may never leave the experience. The people who guided us, those we met and spoke with along the way, the places rich with history and spirituality, the foods and wine of the region, they have all changed me in ways I cannot yet articulate. But the journey continues. I'm inspired to learn more about Israel, its history, politics, and Jewish heritage. Unlike other places I've travelled, the link to heritage made this one even more special. I am so glad that I overcame my fears of travelling to Israel at this time.

MERLE SALKIN

As visitors, we may feel that Israel exhales history and inhales hope, but Israel also exhales hope for the future, and it was that breath I felt in October 2014. It is impossible to ignore the history of the region; it's on display at every turn. On previous visits, I tried to imagine whose footsteps I might be walking in. King David? Moshe Dyan? Golda Meir? Unnamed brave pioneers and citizens? Would I have had the courage to live in this place in those times?

On this trip to Israel, after my 12-year absence, it was not the footsteps of the ancestors that I found compelling. It was the footsteps of the Israelis who go about their daily lives. Footsteps of people in the marketplace and restaurants. Footsteps of people living in Efrat and on the Golan Heights. Footsteps of soldiers, very young soldiers, dancing near the *Kotel*. Footsteps of those who made *aliyah* at great personal risk. I am awestruck by the people who live with uncertainty every day. The fact that Israelis don't give up on their right "to be" is the very hope they exhale. ■

Continuing Jewish Education

Psychoanalysis and the Bible

Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
January 21 & 28; February 4 & 11 (4 sessions)
Instructor: Neal Beatus



Myths, fables, and stories often capture important truths about our lives. That's why the greatest ones lasted and were passed down from generation to generation. The same can be said of Bible stories.

We will look at several Biblical narratives as works of art/myths to see what truths they convey. Sigmund Freud once said: "Everywhere I go, I find a poet has been there before me." We will examine the following stories: the creation story; Garden of Eden; Noah and the flood; the binding of Isaac; Jacob's wrestling with an angel and dream of the ladder; the Israelites' exodus from Egypt; and Jonah and the whale.

RSVP by January 15.

Hebrew for Parents

Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
February 12, 19 & 26; March 5 & 12 (5 sessions)
Instructor: David Monblatt



This is a beginner-level Hebrew course. If you never learned to read Hebrew, if you could use a review, or if it has been so long that you just plain forgot how, this course might be for you. For religious school parents, "Hebrew for Parents" will offer a variety of learning methodologies, activities, and pointers to help you help your children. By the end of this course, students will be able to identify all Hebrew letters and vowels, recognize the sounds of all letters and vowels, and read with proficiency. RSVP by January 15.

Laughter and Tears in Nathan Englander's Short Stories

Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
February 23; March 2 & 9 (3 sessions)
Instructor: Vivian Rosenberg



Nathan Englander is an American-Jewish writer whose work has been called "extraordinary," "insightful," "fascinating," "hilarious"—as well as "outrageous" and "insulting."

In this course, we will read "For the Relief of Unbearable Urges," Englander's first-prize-winning collection of short stories and see for ourselves why his writings have provoked such strong and diverse reactions.

Please bring a copy of the book to each class meeting.
RSVP by February 15. ■

Kol Ami Events

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.

“For some children, the color red is not just a color.”

During Operation Protective Edge, **NATAL** answered thousands of calls every day and night from children and adults. Clinical staff and highly trained volunteers were enlisted to respond to this increased need. Working with Israel's media, millions of people received information about when, where, and how to get help. **NATAL's** emergency kits consist of information about trauma and methods of staying calm, as well as therapeutic tools to aid in managing tension. There is still a strong demand for thousands of these kits to be distributed to individuals, schools, and communities throughout Israel.

Forthcoming fast days on behalf of **NATAL** will be on **Wednesday, January 7**, and **Wednesday, February 4**.

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 **Thursday, January 29**, and **Thursday, February 26**.

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”)

“SECOND-FRIDAY” EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

for January Birthday and Anniversary Blessings
Friday, January 9, 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 a January *simcha* in front of the *Torah* Reading Table. 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*.

“A TASTE OF SHABBAT”

Sunday, January 11, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Join this informal gathering in our chapel for an innovative approach to experiencing the meaning and joy of *Shabbat* when it's not *Shabbat* and dialogues about “what matters, when and why”



This is an invitation to religious school parents and all adults to join us for “A Taste of *Shabbat*” through song, guided by Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz's selection of songs that we enjoy on *Shabbat* mornings, and

with Rabbi Holin to talk about how prayer and meditation can bring clarity and reduce stress. Discussion topics will vary every month and will be determined in advance by participants.

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DENIM & *Diamonds*

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Saturday, January 10, 2015

7pm - 11pm

Congregation Kol Ami קול עמי

WINNINGS PROVIDED AS RAFFLE TICKETS
FOR FANTASTIC PRIZES!

\$35/person in advance

\$45 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.

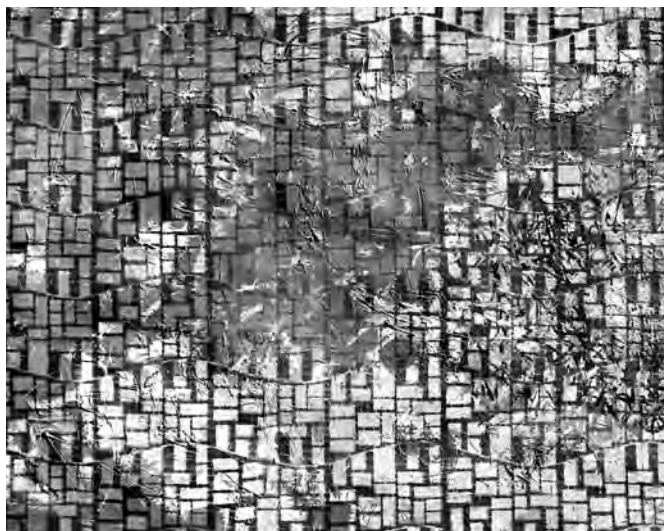
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sharon Myers at 215-460-0602 or sharonmyers381@gmail.com



ARTIST OF THE MONTH: TRACEY SCHIAVELLO - NOW UNTIL JANUARY 12

Tracey Schiavello is a local girl. She was born in Abington, Pennsylvania, in 1960 and grew up in Bucks County. She received her BFA in Communication Design from Kutztown University in 1982. After completing a number of internships her senior year, Tracey was hired by Rodale Press and worked as a junior photographer and studio assistant. Tracey continued her education at West Chester University where she served as graduate assistant. During this time, she had the opportunity to create promotional and educational tools for the university, including admissions materials, television commercials and film. As a part-time gig, she was hired by NFL Films to record Philadelphia Eagle Football Games to be used by the team for training purposes.



In 1983, Tracey received her Masters of Science in Instructional Media and went on to work as VP, Director of Marketing for Merrill Lynch Realty-Eastern PA and NJ, and Grubb and Ellis-California. After 10 years, developing innovative client contact and promotional materials, Tracey was blessed with the birth of her daughters, Cristine and Tess. As a stay-at-home mom, Tracey was never far from the creative world—she co-chaired the Chadds Ford Elementary Art Show's 50th Anniversary Celebration where she met such artists as Jamie Wyeth and Rick Bollinger. Rick and his wife, Pat, continue to inspire Tracey in faith and art.

If you talk to Tracey about her decision to become an art teacher, her eyes will sparkle, she will laugh and shake her head. "It was the most unusual set of circumstances," she will say. "I thought I was heading for elementary ed.! I was offered a 7-week substitute Art teacher position at Westtown-Thornbury Elementary and that was it! I was hooked! From the very first day that I walked into that classroom, I knew I was going to love being an art teacher! I am forever grateful to Karol Appel for her mentoring and Dennis Brown for his unwavering support." Tracey interviewed and was accepted into Moore College of Art and Designs' Art Education program. "It was one of the most educationally enriching times in my life. Under the direction of Lynne Horoschak, Moore now offers the only art education program in the United States to focus on training art teachers to enrich the lives of all students, including those with special needs." Tracey taught at Moore's YAW and Special Needs Workshops and graduated in 2005.

Tracey is now a tenured teacher at Owen J. Roberts High School and teaches drawing, painting, sculpture, AP and studio art. She serves as adjunct professor at MCCC through the high school Dual-Enrollment program, consults on special projects, is active with Friends of the Arts, Philabundance, and other community programs.

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 also closed. All of Tracy'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. ■

ADULT-ONLY MARTINI HAVDALAH SERVICE AND SPICES

Saturday, January 17, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.



We'll supply the hors d'oeuvres and you supply the mixing devices, hard liquor, and mixers (beer, wine, etc.). Casual attire is appropriate for this service.

5:30 p.m. - Martinis and hors d'oeuvres

6:15 p.m. - Singing and *Havdalah* service

7:00 p.m. - Group dinner (details below)

Do you want to join us for dinner after the Martini *Havdalah*?

You're invited to join us for dinner after the *Havdalah* service. We have a 7:00 p.m. reservation in a private room at Park Plates restaurant in Elkins Park. Space is limited to 16, so sign up for the dinner by contacting Mindy Levy at artb4words@verizon.net. Mindy will confirm receiving your reservation. The restaurant is a BYOB, and the cumulative cost of the meal will be divided amongst us. This should be a wonderful way to extend the joy of the service by spending the evening together.

LOCAs AND MOCAs: EREV SHABBAT DINNER AND SERVICE

Friday, February 6, at 5:15 p.m.

Would you like to meet for dinner before the February 6 *erev Shabbat* service? We'll meet at a restaurant (TBD) and then head over to the synagogue. The choir is singing that night, which is an added treat. MOCAs (Men of a Certain Age, i.e., husbands and partners) are welcome. The LOCAs and MOCAs will each have their own tables. If you'd like to join us, please contact Natalie Dyen by e-mail (nat.dyen@verizon.net) or phone (215-657-4124) so she can make reservations.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER ANNUAL EREV SHABBAT DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Friday, February 27, at 6:45 p.m.

We need your help with this ELC-sponsored event. Here's how: 1) donate items to be auctioned or raffled, e.g., gift certificates, museum tickets, art items, etc.; 2) buy and help sell tickets for the raffle portion of the evening; and/or 3) attend the auction and bid on baskets. We would love to see you attend and support our event. Please contact Sheri Cutler at 215-635-4180 to purchase raffle tickets. ■



SHIR SHABBAT

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

—Debbie Friedman

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

Please join us at our fourth 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 or 215-572-6094) no later than Wednesday, January 7, 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.



THE EIGHTH ANNUAL HAZON CSA COMMUNITY TU B'SHVAT SEDER AT KOL AMI

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2015

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.

THE HAZON TU B'SHVAT HAGGADAH

Designed to help you think about your responsibility towards the natural world on four different levels: physical space, community, world, and spirituality. Each section of the *Haggadah* offers texts, questions, and activities to spark conversation around our *Seder* table related to one of these four levels of responsibility.

This year's special theme is the current *shmita* (sabbatical year). What can we learn from this ancient tradition about our selves and our earth?

OPEN TO ALL!!! – INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY

- \$5 for 2014 Elkins Park Hazon CSA members
- \$10 for non-CSA members.
- Space is limited and registration is required. RSVP with number of adults and children to hazonCSA@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110 by Monday, February 2.
- Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; the *Seder* starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. at Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park.
- Bring your own reusable or biocompostable place settings: plate, soup bowl, spoon, fork, drinking cup, wine glass, dessert plate, and napkin.
- Bring wine to share with your table—white and red will be needed for the *Seder*.
- Grape juice will be provided.
- Please let us know if you would like to help in preparation—sign up to make a finger-food cookie or bar-type dessert with a fruit/nut theme and/or to help with kitchen prep on the day of the event.



Our Early Learning Center children enjoyed a Thanksgiving Feast in November (above), and the afternoon class had fun with our animal masks in December (below).



KOL AMI JANUARY 2015 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Early Learning Center CLOSED	2 Early Learning Center erev <i>Shabbat Service</i> 11:00 a.m. erev <i>Shabbat Service</i> 7:30 p.m.	3 <i>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</i> 10:00 a.m.
4 No Religious School	5 Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	6 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Religious School Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	7 Early Learning Center Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	8	9 Early Learning Center erev <i>Shabbat Service</i> with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. "Second-Friday" erev <i>Shabbat Service</i> with Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	10 <i>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</i> 10:00 a.m. Casino Night 7:00 p.m.

KOL AMI JANUARY 2015 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal "A Taste of Shabbat" with Rabbi Holin 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 p.m. Religious School PTO Committee Meeting 11:00 a.m. Healing Service 1:00 p.m. Social Action Committee SHARE Food Program 1:00 p.m.	12 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Spiritual Growth Group with Carol Nemeroff 7:00 p.m.	13 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	14 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	15 Social Action Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	16 Early Learning Center erav <i>Shabbat Service</i> with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. Interfaith Relationship Dialogue erav <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m.	17 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Adult-Only Martini Havdalah Service 5:30 p.m.
18 No Religious School	19 Early Learning Center CLOSED Martin Luther King Day "Stop Hunger Now" Meal-Packaging Program 9:00 a.m.	20	21 Early Learning Center Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Neal Beatus 7:30 p.m.	22	23 Early Learning Center erav <i>Shabbat Service</i> 11:00 a.m. erav <i>Shabbat Service</i> with Grades K-2 participation 6:00 p.m. erav <i>Shabbat Service</i> with dedication of Yahrzeit Wall 7:30 p.m.	24 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. followed by a potluck lunch
25 BAKE SALE Trope Class 9:00 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 p.m.	26 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Membership Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	27 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	28 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Neal Beatus 7:30 p.m.	29	30 Early Learning Center erav <i>Shabbat Service</i> with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. Female-led Shir Shabbat erav <i>Shabbat Service</i> 7:30 p.m.	31 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.

Kol Ami Contributions

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

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In Honor of:

**Marriage of Abby Binder
and Jane Tausig**
Bobbi Binder

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Kovnat
Joel and Rebecca Schwartz

**Rebecca Schwartz for all she
did preparing Sarah for her
Bat Mitzvah**
William England and Lorie Slass

In Memory of:

Charles Brown
Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein

Randy Dyen
James and Natalie Dyen

DISCOVER ISRAEL FUND

In Memory of:

Randy Dyen
Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

Bat Mitzvah of our daughter, Sarah
William England and Lorie Slass

Special birthday of Jean Ettinger
Stephen and Jean Ettinger

Our Special Anniversary
Raymond and Elizabeth Grenald

Bar Mitzvah of our son, Ethan
Paul and Ellen Kovnat

In Memory of:

Steven Isaacman
Marshall and Ilene Schafer

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sheila Berland

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Holin, for studying with our
daughter, Sarah, and preparing her
to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah**
William England and Lorie Slass

**Rabbi Holin, for studying with our
son, Ethan, and preparing him for
his Bar Mitzvah**
Paul and Ellen Kovnat

**Rabbi Holin, for studying with our
grandson, Evan Pelletier, and pre-
paring him for his Bar Mitzvah**
David and Phyllis Harrison

In Memory of:

Randy Dyen
Steve and Jean Ettinger
Harold and Ellen Stern

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

In Honor of:

Bat Mitzvah of Sarah England
Craig and Sharon Myers

Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Kovnat
Craig and Sharon Myers

SYNAGOGUE FUND

Marsha Schwartz
Gary Sender

In Honor of:

**Wedding of Abby Binder
and Jane Tausig**
Elaine Stevens

**Special Anniversary of
Raymond and Elizabeth Grenald**
Jane Greer

Stanton and Merle Salkin
Lillian Shoyer
Elaine Stevens

**Special Anniversary of
Craig and Sharon Myers**
Stanton and Merle Salkin

Bar Mitzvah of Evan Pelletier
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

**Jane Tausig and the amazing work
on the LGBTQ Conference**
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen

In Memory of:

Dudley Backup
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

Alan Berger
Jensen Toth

Bobby Berger
Jensen Toth

Gladys Krieger Bloch
Elaine Stevens

Charles Brown
Elaine Stevens

Randy Dyen
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

Richard Ira Lidy
Carol Baron ■



NOW



LATER



JANUARY 2015

- **TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee Meeting
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, at 7:30 p.m.**
“Second Friday” *erev Shabbat* Service with Adult Choir
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, at 7:00 p.m.**
Casino Night
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 11**
10:00 a.m. - “A Taste of *Shabbat*” with Rabbi Holin
11:00 a.m. - Religious School PTO Meeting
1:00 p.m. - Healing Service
1:00 p.m. - Social Action: SHARE Food Program
- **MONDAY, JANUARY 12, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group with Carol Nemeroff
- **THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, at 7:00 p.m.**
Social Action Committee Meeting
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, at 7:30 p.m.**
Interfaith Family *erev Shabbat* Service
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, at 5:30 p.m.**
Adult-Only Martini *Havdalah* Service
- **MONDAY, JANUARY 19, at 9:00 a.m.**
Martin Luther King Day “Stop Hunger Now”
Meal-Packaging Program
- **WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 21 & 28, at 7:30 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults
with Neal Beatus
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 23**
6:00 p.m. - *erev Shabbat* Service with Grades K-2
participation
7:30 p.m. - *erev Shabbat* Service and the dedication
of *Yahrzeit* Wall
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, at 10:00 a.m.**
Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue followed by
potluck lunch
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**
Religious School Bake Sale
- **MONDAY, JANUARY 26, at 7:30 p.m.**
Membership Committee Meeting
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, at 7:30 p.m.**
Female-led *Shir Shabbat erev Shabbat* Service

FEBRUARY 2015

- **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 & 11, at 7:30 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults
with Neal Beatus
- **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, at 5:15 p.m.**
5:15 p.m. - LOCA *Shabbat* dinner (restaurant TBD)
7:30 p.m. - “First-Friday” *erev Shabbat* Service with
Adult Choir
- **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, at 6:00 p.m.**
Tu B'Shvat Seder
- **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, at 9:30 a.m.**
Worship Enhancement Committee Meeting
- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group with Carol Nemeroff
- **THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 12, 19 & 26, at 7:00 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults
with David Monblatt
- **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee
- **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, at 7:30 p.m.**
erev Shabbat Service with Grade 6 participation
- **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, at 10:00 a.m.**
Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue followed by a
potluck lunch
- **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, at 11:00 a.m.**
Religious School PTO Committee Meeting
- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, at 7:30 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults
with Vivian Rosenberg
- **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, at 6:00 p.m.**
Caring Congregants Committee Meeting
- **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, at 6:45 p.m.**
Early Learning Center Annual *erev Shabbat* Dinner
and Silent Auction ■