

WORSHIP SERVICES

Friday *erev Shabbat* Services
on the Meadow:

July 6, 13, 20 & 27
August 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

5:45 p.m. - BYOD and blankets or
comfortable, soccer-style chairs

6:30 p.m. - Brief worship service
beneath the trees and evening sky

Special summer service themes

FRIDAY, July 13, at 6:30 p.m.

Second-Friday Birthday and
Anniversary Blessings

FRIDAY, August 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Three very special events take place
tonight, which include our:

- Annual Parents' Blessing of
College-Bound and Returning
Daughters and Sons
- Prospective Members *erev Shabbat*
Service; bring your friends and
neighbors who might enjoy meet-
ing us and becoming part of our
congregation!
- First-Friday Birthday and
Anniversary Blessings ■

TORAH & HAFTARAH

July 7 - *Balak*

Numbers 22:2-25:9, Micah 5:6-6:8

July 14 - *Pinchas*

Numbers 25:10-30:1, Jeremiah 1:1-2:3

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ANNUAL PARENTS' BLESSING OVER COLLEGE-BOUND AND RETURNING-TO-COLLEGE DAUGHTERS AND SONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, AT 6:30 PM; PRECEDED BY A "BYOD" AT 5:45 PM

This is a wonderful service to have your unaffiliated friends attend: a "taste of Kol Ami" with a bring-your-own dinner (BYOD) and a special service as well!

Every year, parents and their college-bound and returning-to-college children attend this special service. During our time of silent meditation, parents have the opportunity to quietly talk to their child/ren in front of the ark and to bless them with "words from the heart." This is especially meaningful for parents whose only or eldest child is commencing college studies or whose youngest is about to do so.

Rabbi Holin will provide texts of traditional blessings in Hebrew and English, which parents might choose to quietly recite over their child/ren, while acknowledging that the most powerful words are those privately shared between parents and children. If you would like to receive copies of the blessings in advance of the service, please call Rabbi Holin at 215-635-4182. ■

TWO PROSPECTIVE-MEMBER EREV SHABBATS

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS LOOKING FOR A SYNAGOGUE?
INVITE THEM TO OUR TWO PROSPECTIVE-MEMBER EREV SHABBATS!

With the Jewish New Year about to begin and the next school year quickly approaching, it's a good time to think about synagogue membership. In addition to High Holy Day services and religious-school enrollment, Congregation Kol Ami offers spiritual growth, adult and student choirs, community service, social events, an interfaith relationship group, holy day celebrations, plus the warmth of a small and dynamic community. Please invite friends, relatives, neighbors, and colleagues to join us for Prospective-Member *erev Shabbat* Services on **Friday, August 3**, and/or **Friday, September 7**. Get to know members and learn more about the synagogue.

Friday, August 3 - *erev Shabbat* Service on the Meadow: This is great for young families! Children may attend service, explore the meadow, or go to our pre-school playground.

5:45 p.m. - Bring your own dinner and blanket or sports chairs. If you can't be here by 5:45 p.m., you're still welcome to come for the *Shabbat* service.

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TORAH & HAFTARAH

(continued from page 1)

July 21 - *Mattote-Masay*

Numbers 30:2-36:13

Jeremiah 2:4-3:4

July 28 - *Devarim*

Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22

Isaiah 1:1-27

August 4 - *Va'etchnan*

Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

Isaiah 40:1-26

August 11 - *Ekev*

Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25

Isaiah 49:14-51:3

August 18 - *Re'eh*

Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17

Isaiah 28:9-15

August 25 - *Shofetim*

Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9

Isaiah 51:12-52:12 ■

CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolences in loving memory of:

Marco Besso

uncle of Orly (Gabriel) Maravankin

Melissa B. Chappell

niece of Elva (Ken) Davis

Morris Esenstad

uncle of Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein (Joel Fishbein)

Bud Feiner

step-father of Alan (Norka) Kagel

Michael Frishberg

cousin of Lucille (Herbert) Barrett

Mary Ann Miles

mother of John (Sheryl Cohen) Miles

grandmother of Lily and Emily

Jon Ross

nephew of Edis (Bernard) Hall

May their memories forever be blessings among our People. ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our Religious School's summer vacation began over a month ago, but our children's Jewish education remains at the forefront of our minds. As is our tradition, we celebrated this year's Confirmation Class on *Shavuot*. That same week, we announced David Monblatt as our new Director of Education. Planning for the Fall has begun so that our future Confirmation classes are prepared to speak knowledgeably from the *Bima*.

The Confirmation ceremony is one of the many inspiring annual moments on the Kol Ami calendar. *Kol HaKvode* to Rabbis Holin and Kalev. Their devotion to our students was apparent. The Service featured the students' Jewish knowledge regarding *Shavout*, G-d and their religious inheritance. We also learned about their personal journeys and values. The critical role of the students' religious education was manifest. While their knowledge base was very impressive, most impressive was the young people's poise and thoughtfulness.

These students serve as role models for the Congregation. They chose and continue to opt for continuing Jewish study. Our tradition holds no higher value. Through their Jewish studies, they have confronted many of life's important questions. They have matured. They are prepared to contribute. They are serious about their Judaism. They represent our future.

Next year, it will be David Monblatt who will join Rabbi Holin to honor the new Confirmation class. After an extensive search, our Committee recommended David to the Board to succeed Rabbi Kalev. *Toda raba* to our Religious School Chair, Sherry Cohen, and Search Committee members: Jodi Bloch, Barb Fink, Bill Hyman, Ilene Schafer, Elaine Stevens, and Robin Warsaw. We are excited by our choice. While we are all impressed with David's credentials, we are particularly delighted by his passion, creativity, and attitude toward Jewish education.

Hopefully, you had the opportunity to read the June 2012 bulletin, which included both a description of David's background and his own passionate words about Jewish education and his decision to join our Kol Ami community. We want you to meet him soon so that he can integrate into our community as soon as possible. He will be a great educational resource not only for our children, but also for our entire community. We have already begun conversations about Continuing Adult Jewish Education classes that David will teach.

I hope you are enjoying your summer and that it includes Friday nights on the meadow at Kol Ami. *Toda raba*.

David Hyman

215-496-7224

president@kolamielkinspark.org ■

WE'RE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE KOL AMI CHOIRS' MUSIC CD

JOIN US AT OUR EREV SHABBAT SERVICE ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7



To celebrate Kol Ami's 18th *Chai* Anniversary, we are planning to begin a year of celebrations with the release of our second *Shabbat* Music CD compilation. This CD will include the beautiful sounds and

voices of Rebecca Schwartz and our Adult and Student Choirs, which are such an exquisite part of the Kol Ami experience in worship and ritual. Rebecca, the Kol Ami choirs, and Cory Newman have all completed their recording sessions, and the CD is now in the mixing stage.

This celebratory treasure will be given to all members to celebrate our special anniversary and to commemorate the founding of our synagogue. We will also share it with prospective member families, as it will give them a sense of the warmth we have on *Shabbat*.

The Worship Enhancement Committee is reaching out to you, the most enthusiastic fans of our music, to help us with the CD production costs. We are offering sponsorships in various amounts as detailed below. Each sponsor can be recognized in the CD booklet and event materials for being a supporter in its creation.

Please contact Richard Goldstone (rgoldstone.pa@gmail.com) or Elaine Stevens (execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) for more information on how you can contribute to this special project and the celebration our *Chai* Anniversary. ■

TO PLACE AN AD, you can provide either:

- A finished ad that we can reproduce in black and white or color. Use the exact dimensions below.

- Instructions for us to design your ad.

NOTE: If you have an idea, a rough mock-up would be helpful. Let us know exactly what you want it to say and the relative importance if you want the font size to vary. We will typeset it for you and send you a draft for your approval. If providing a picture, submit a high-resolution .JPG file.

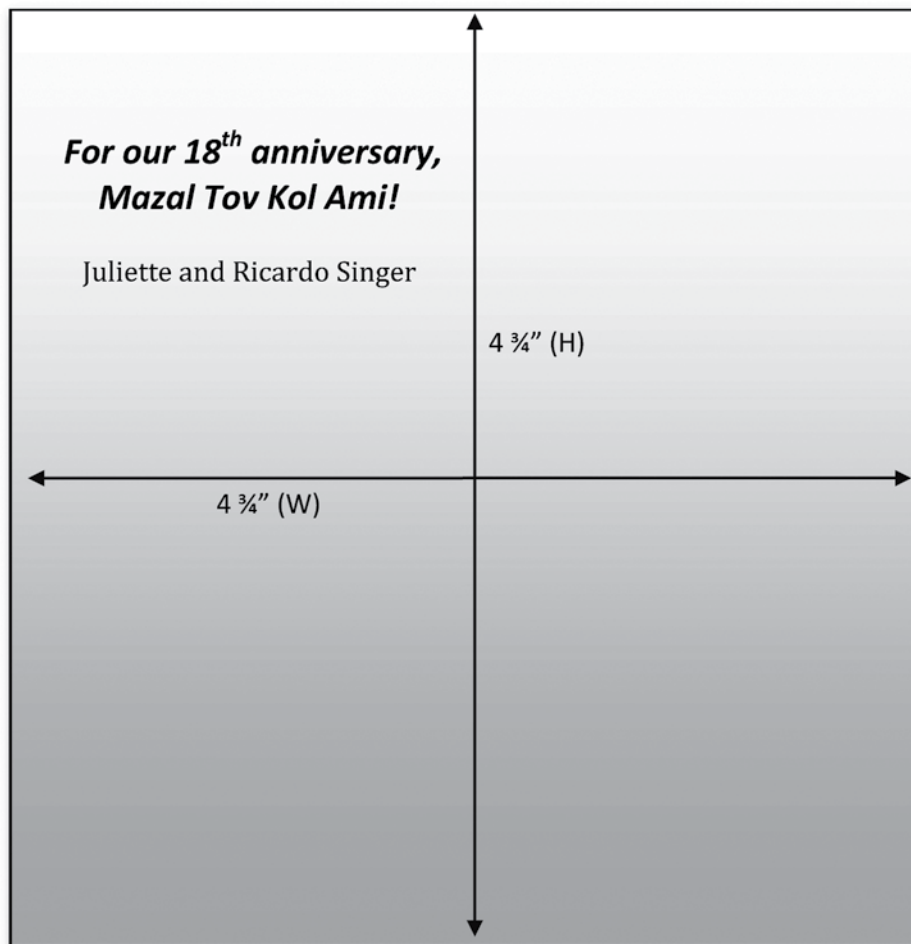
AVAILABLE AD DIMENSIONS

- Full page: 4¾" W by 4¾" H
- Half page: Can be positioned two ways, horizontally or vertically
 - 4¾" W by 2¾" H
 - 2¾" W by 4¾" H
- Quarter page: 2¾" W by 2¾" H

COSTS BY AD SIZE

Full page is \$500, Half page is \$250, Quarter page is \$100, and Single-line recognition is \$50.

NEXT STEPS: Send your completed ad or instructions, along with your contribution check, to Elaine Stevens no later than Friday, July 20, 2012. ■



Sample page above is to scale.

**PROSPECTIVE-MEMBER
EREV SHABBAT SERVICES**

(continued from page 1)



- **6:30 p.m.** - *Shabbat* Service led by Rabbi Elliot Holin with Sherry Cohen, congregant and professional opera singer, who provides music in the summertime when our Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz is away at Jewish summer camp.

- **7:30 p.m.** - Dessert *Oneg*

Friday, September 7 - erev Shabbat Service in Celebration of our 18th Year and CD Release:

This service, which includes participation by the adult choir, will be held in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. Rabbi Elliot Holin will lead services with returning Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz, an award-winning Jewish composer and musician as well as choir leader and teacher.

Please encourage your friends, neighbors, colleagues, and family to join our intimate and dynamic community. For more information, contact Irene Levy Baker, Membership Chair at 215-782-2253 or spotlightpr@comcast.net. ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Craft Show Committee

Thursday, July 19, at 7:00 p.m.
Co-chairs: Karol Appel, 215-938-9330, and Ellen Horowitz Matz, 215-635-5426

Inclusion Committee

Sunday, August 26, at 10:00 a.m.
Co-chairs: Barry Boise, 215-635-9042, and Joel Fishbein, 215-635-3615 ■

September starts a great year for adult Jewish education with much more to come!

Continuing Jewish Education

BOKER TOV TORAH: Q&A FOR MODERNS

Instructor: Professor Howard I. Bogot, Rabbi

Thursday mornings; September 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Is *Torah* truth? Does a modern Jew believe in sin and salvation? How does Judaism view conversion and interfaith marriage? Is the Messiah coming? What about afterlife? These are some of the questions participants in this morning seminar will consider. Unscheduled questions will be welcomed and valued and collaborative answers developed.

Please RSVP by September 3 to Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110.

Professor Howard Bogot is a graduate of Lewis University (formerly National College of Education) in Evanston, Illinois; the University of Cincinnati; and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to receiving his MEd from the University of Cincinnati and graduate degrees from HUC-JIR, Rabbi Bogot has completed post-graduate coursework in Education and Social Work at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania and Hunter College in New York City.

Prior to accepting the positions of Director for the Department of Religious Education as well as Curriculum Development and Special Projects (1981-1996) for the Union of Reform Judaism (formerly the Union of American Hebrew Congregations), Professor Bogot provided administrative, consultative, and academic leadership (1968-1981) for Gratz College, the oldest Hebrew Teachers College in the Western Hemisphere.

From 1992-1996, Howard Bogot served as a faculty member of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Marymount Manhattan College, and Fordham University as Clinical Professor of Education and Assistant Professor in the departments of Humanities and Theology.

From 1996-2001, while on a consultancy in Israel, Rabbi Bogot served as a Visiting Professor on the faculty of the New Immigrant English Teacher Education program at Israel's Beit Berl College. He provided students with seminars in Jewish Identity Values, English Proficiency, and Pedagogy. He is also cofounder, educational consultant, and faculty for the Institute on Creative Jewish Thought in Netanya, Israel, and a member of the Advisory Board for the Peace Education Commission of the World Conference on Religion and Peace. ■

HIGH HOLY DAYS CALENDAR 2012

<i>Selichot</i>	Saturday, September 8	9:00 p.m.
<i>erev Rosh Hashanah</i>	Sunday, September 16	8:00 p.m.
<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	Monday, September 17	
	- Adult Service	10:00 a.m.
	- Youth Service (Grades 3-6)	10:00 a.m.
	- Children's-Family Service	2:00 p.m.
<i>Tashlikh-Shabbat Shuvah</i>	Tuesday, September 18	6:00 p.m.
<i>Kol Nidrei</i>	Tuesday, September 25	8:00 p.m.
<i>Yom Kippur</i>	Wednesday, September 26	
	- Adult Service	10:00 a.m.
	- Youth Service (Grades 3-6)	10:00 a.m.
	- Children's-Family Service	2:00 p.m.
	- Selected Readings/Discussion	3:00 p.m.
	- Afternoon Service	3:45 p.m.
	- <i>Yizkor-Neilah</i> Service	5:30 p.m.

BOOK LIST FOR THE 2012-2013 KOL AMI CONTEMPORARY WRITERS SESSIONS

Here's the tentative book list for the upcoming year of our Contemporary Writers sessions, led enthusiastically and skillfully by Lucille Barrett. If you have any input about the books chosen, contact Lucille at louhalprin@aol.com or 215-690-4139.

<u>Date*</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
October 28	Crossing the Borders of Time.....	Leslie Maitland
December 2.....	Tales of Love and Darkness	Amos Oz
January 27	Patrimony / The Human Stain	Philip Roth
March 17.....	The Metamorphosis	Franz Kafka
May 5.....	By Fire, By Water	James Mitchell Kaplan

* All sessions will be held on Sundays at 11:00 a.m.



"CROSSING THE BORDERS OF TIME" BY LESLIE MAITLAND

"Investigative reporter Leslie Maitland grew up enthralled by her mother's accounts of forbidden romance and harrowing flight in 1942 from the Nazis. Her book is both a journalist's vivid depiction of a world at war and a daughter's pursuit of a haunting question: what had become of the handsome Frenchman whose picture her mother continued to treasure almost fifty years after they parted? It is a tale of memory that reporting made real and a story of undying love that crosses the borders of time."

"TALES OF LOVE AND DARKNESS" BY AMOS OZ

"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 lived through its turbulent history.

"It is the story of a boy growing up in the war-torn Jerusalem of the forties and fifties, in a small apartment crowded with books in twelve 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, his mother committed suicide, a tragedy that was to change his life. He leaves the constraints of the family and the community of dreamers, scholars, and failed businessmen and joins a *kibbutz*, changes his name, marries, has children, and finally becomes a writer as well as an active participant in the political life of Israel."

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SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office
215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin
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

Elaine Stevens, Executive Director
215-635-3110

David Monblatt
Director of Education
215-635-7106

Sheri Cutler
Nursery School Director
215-635-4180

Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist
215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:
Congregation Kol Ami
8201 High School Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
Web site: www.kolamielkinspark.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark>

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the fifth of the previous month (for example, by August 5 for the September issue) to **Janet Falon** at 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

FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT



Rabbi Holin's fast for the URJ's **Nothing But Nets** project—which helps 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 **Thursday, July 12**, and **Wednesday, August 22**.

His **Phast for Philadelphia**—which benefits 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 **Monday, July 23**, and **Thursday, August 2**.

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”)

FIRST-FRIDAY AND SECOND-FRIDAY EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

for July or August Birthday & Anniversary Blessings
Friday, July 13 and August 3, at 6:30 p.m.

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

LOCA LIVES!

Friday, July 20, at 4:30 p.m.

Shabbat Dinner at Curds and Whey in Jenkintown

The Ladies of a Certain Age (LOCA) group is resuming its activities with a *Shabbat* dinner, after which we will go as a group to *Shabbat* Services on the Meadow at Kol Ami. Please RSVP to Elaine Gershenson at 215-887-3994 or gershlaw1@comcast.net so she can make reservations. Note: If you're eligible to join AARP, you're eligible to join LOCA.

PAJAMA-RAMA

Thursday, July 19, at 5:30 p.m.
at Congregation Kol Ami

Put on your pajamas, bring your teddy bear, and join us for stories read by Nursery School Director Sheri Cutler, plus some songs and a snack.



SELICHOT: UNVEILING THE HIGH HOLY DAZE



Myth and Mystery of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur
with Guest Speaker Dr. Simcha Raphael
Saturday, September 8, at 9:00 p.m.
Pre-service Oneg at 8:30 p.m.

Simcha Raphael will join us for a spirited dialogue about the meaning this time of year holds for all of us. The High Holy Day season is a time for self-reflection, enabling individuals to realign and reconnect with their inner

essence. On this night of *Selichot*, we prepare for the High Holy Days by exploring various spiritual and psychological themes inherent to *Kosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. Through study, discussion, and reflection, we will engage in a process of renewal, *teshuvah*, empowering each of us to renew and transform our lives this New Year.

Simcha Raphael, PhD, has taught about the interface of Jewish spirituality and contemporary psychology for more than two decades. He is an adjunct assistant professor in the Jewish Studies Program at Temple University and is in private practice as a psychotherapist and spiritual director, affiliated with Mount Airy Counseling Center, in Philadelphia. He is the author of "Jewish Views of the Afterlife."



KOL AMI'S THIRD ANNUAL CRAFT & FINE ARTS SHOW

October 13 & 14, 2012

This event promises to be stellar, so be sure to mark your calendars now. If you have any questions, contact co-chairs Karol Appel at 215-938-9330 or Ellen Horowitz Matz at 215-635-5426. Visit www.kolamicraftshow.org for details.

INTERFAITH SYMPOSIUM WITH ANITA DIAMANT

Sunday, October 21, 2012, from 1:00-5:30 p.m.
with Keynote Address by Anita Diamant

The Interfaith Relationship Dialogue of Congregation Kol Ami presents an afternoon symposium of workshops, support, and community for anyone in an interfaith relationship. See page 8 for the event flyer.

YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE!

Our Spring Red Cross Blood Drive yielded 36 Productive Units.

Many thanks to all who donated and those who attempted to donate. A double thank-you to two of our members who were able to do the Double Red-Cell donation process.

Also, thank you to our Kol Ami members who volunteered to do the registration.

We look forward to the same success at our next blood drive. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the event co-chairs Sharon Myers at 215-938-7435 or Jean Ettinger at 215-635-3623.



SAVE THE DATE

KOL AMI ADULT MEMBERS ART SHOW

November 27 through January 7

We invite you to display your framed "ready-to-hang" artwork in Kol Ami's Art Lobby Gallery. Find your favorite piece of artwork, drop it off at the office of Elaine Stevens by November 20, and the Art Committee will exhibit your work.

All work can be picked up after January 7, 2013. These pieces can range from your favorite travel photograph to one that you created in your studio. We encourage you to share your unique talents with us! ■

The Interfaith Relationship Dialogue of
Congregation Kol Ami קול עמי in Elkins Park, PA
Presents:



An afternoon symposium of workshops, support and community for anyone in an interfaith relationship.



Sunday, October 21, 2012

1:00 – 5:30pm

With Keynote Address by
Anita Diamant

Ms. Diamant is the author of six non-fiction guides to contemporary Jewish life including *The New Jewish Wedding* and *How to Raise a Jewish Child*, as well as the international bestseller *The Red Tent*.

For symposium questions or to be added to the mailing list, please contact Julie Cohen, symposium chair, at Julie@JulieCohenCoaching.com or by phone at 215-635-4719. Visit www.InterfaithRollercoaster.com for more information about workshop presenters and registration.

Registration begins in August. Fee: \$30/person; \$50/couple
Babysitting Available



NEW MEMBERS



THE POPPEL FAMILY (ABOVE): Congregation Kol Ami is pleased to welcome new members Stuart and Deborah Poppel, and their daughter Melanie (who is currently finishing third grade at Rydal Elementary School). The Poppels were looking for a synagogue so that Melanie could attend religious school and so that Deborah could “brush up” on her Jewish learning, as she had not previously belonged to a synagogue. When the Poppels first met with Rabbi Holin, they felt connected to Kol Ami right away.

Stuart and Deborah have local roots: Stuart grew up in the Bustleton section of Philadelphia and is a graduate of Northeast High School (and attended Johns Hopkins University and Emory Law School); Deborah attended Haverford Township High School (and attended the University of Delaware and Frostburg State). Today, Stuart is a real-estate attorney who specializes in affordable housing, and Deborah is an environmental consultant who specializes in wetland ecology and endangered species. Daughter Melanie takes hip-hop dance class, is involved with the Girl Scouts, and is a Forgotten Cats volunteer. They live in Huntingdon Valley.

The Poppel family likes outdoor activities such as hiking, and they all enjoy reading. They have a mini-menagerie of pets, including two cats, a Betta fish, and a tortoise. They are looking forward to their family vacation this summer in Hawaii.

We are pleased to welcome Stuart, Deborah, and Melanie to our family at Kol Ami! We are especially happy that Kol Ami could be Deborah’s first (and perhaps her “best” and “only”) synagogue membership. This is a *mitzvah* all the way around. ■

THE WEISS FAMILY (BELOW): Kol Ami would also like to extend a warm welcome to new members Brian and Valerie Weiss, their 7-year-old son, Tyler; and 2-year-old daughter, Hannah. As a result of Tyler playing sports and going to school with Heather and Eric Pelletier’s son, Cameron, the Weiss family became acquainted with Kol Ami. Valerie and Brian note that as they were already looking for a synagogue for their family, they were very happy to attend a Family *Shabbat* service at Kol Ami. Right from the start, they felt warmly welcomed and had the sense that Kol Ami was the perfect environment for them.

Valerie is a scientist by both academic and hands-on experience, including a Master’s degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. She currently serves as a project manager at Merck, leading and directing global project teams to bring vaccines to market. Brian, after spending most of his career in the for-profit world, currently serves on the executive team of the world’s leading not-for-profit membership association for the project management profession (The Project Management Institute, or PMI) with more than 600,000 members and credential holders in more than 185 countries.

Valerie and Brian grew up in the Philadelphia area. Valerie attended Council Rock High School and Penn State University, and Brian attended Cheltenham High School and Tulane University. They were married in 2001, and they love to do things as a family, including traveling both within the USA and internationally, taking an active interest in Tyler’s baseball and soccer games, avidly following the Philadelphia sports teams, and just enjoying each others’ company. Valerie also likes to recreate food she sees on TV or in restaurants in more healthful ways, and Brian is a golf enthusiast who is always willing to play.

The Weiss family is excited about being members of Kol Ami, and we are happy to have them join. Welcome! ■



CONTEMPORARY JEWISH WRITERS

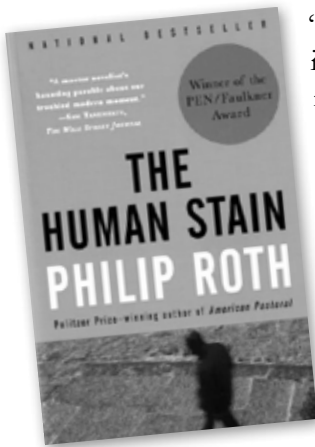
(continued from page 5)

"PATRIMONY" BY PHILIP ROTH

"In a cunningly straightforward way, 'Patrimony' tells one of the central true stories many Americans share...such telling is a marvel of artful wit and vigor.... It is the triumphant art of the literal...the gloriously pragmatic, unpredictable genius of Roth's narrative gifts."

— *The New York Times* Book Review

"THE HUMAN STAIN" BY PHILIP ROTH



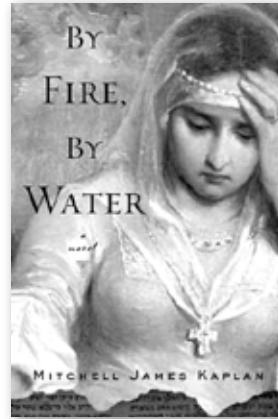
"It is 1998, the year in which America is whipped into a frenzy of prurience by the impeachment of a president, and in a small New England town, an aging classics professor, Coleman Silk, is forced to retire when his colleagues decree that he is a racist. The charge is a lie, but the real truth about Silk would have astonished even his most virulent accuser."

"Coleman Silk has a secret...[one which has been] kept for fifty years: from his wife, his four children, his colleagues, and his friends, including the writer Nathan Zuckerman who sets out to reconstruct the biography of this eminent, upright man, esteemed as an educator for nearly all his life, and to understand how this ingeniously contrived life came unraveled." And to understand also how Silk's astonishing private history is, in the words of *The Wall Street Journal*, "magnificently" interwoven with "the larger public history of modern America."

"THE METAMORPHOSIS" BY FRANZ KAFKA

"Franz Kafka's haunting short novel, *The 'Metamorphosis'*, explores the trials and tribulations of a young man struggling under the expectations of those around him. Kafka's magical realism takes the reader from Gregor Samsa's transformation from man to giant insect and through his subsequent isolation. *'The Metamorphosis'* is threaded with universal themes, making the work a deeply moving and often disturbing journey into the human psyche. Kafka writes with a depth of emotion and intellectual sincerity that continue to resonate with readers of across the globe today."

"BY FIRE, BY WATER" JAMES MITCHELL KAPLAN



"Luis de Santángel, chancellor to the court and longtime friend of the lusty King Ferdinand, has had enough of the Spanish Inquisition. As the power of Inquisitor General Tomás de Torquemada grows, so does the brutality of the Spanish church and the suspicion and paranoia it inspires. When a dear friend's demise brings the violence close to home, Santángel is enraged

and takes retribution into his own hands. But he is from a family of *conversos*, and his Jewish heritage makes him an easy target. As Santángel witnesses the horrific persecution of his loved ones, he begins slowly to reconnect with the Jewish faith his family left behind. Feeding his curiosity about his past is his growing love for Judith Migdal, a clever and beautiful Jewish woman navigating the mounting tensions in Granada. While he struggles to decide what his reputation is worth and what he can sacrifice, one man offers him a chance he thought he'd lost...the chance to hope for a better world. Christopher Columbus has plans to discover a route to paradise and only Luis de Santángel can help him.

"Within the dramatic story lies a subtle, insightful examination of the crisis of faith at the heart of the Spanish Inquisition. Irresolvable conflict rages within the *conversos* in *'By Fire, By Water,'* torn between the religion they left behind and the conversion meant to ensure their safety. In this story of love, God, faith, and torture, fifteenth-century Spain comes to dazzling, engrossing life.

"Recipient of the Independent Publishers Award for Historical Fiction (Gold Medal), the Forward Book of the Year Award for Historical Fiction and an honorable mention in the category of General Fiction for the Eric Hoffer Award." ■



Before joining Kol Ami, Lucille (Lou) Barrett—teacher of literature and writing, Poet of the Year at Wesleyan University, recipient of the Connecticut Poetry Society's Winchell Award, and contributor to numerous national magazines—led a Contemporary Jewish Writers group at Temple Israel in Westport, Connecticut.

Year-End Religious School PTO Reflections

by Heather Pelletier and Kenny Moss, PTO co-chairs

Another wonderful school year has come to an end. Thanks to your help and support, this has been another successful year in the PTO's quest to support our Religious School and our children's growth. The PTO exists to create many opportunities to increase family and congregation involvement in this goal. We would like to express our thanks and review the various successful activities that have occurred this past school year, none of which would have been possible without the dedication and support of the religious school community.

ACTIVITIES

Some of the most consistently successful activities include our bake sales, Passover candy sale, *Hanukkah* candles sale, Family Bingo Night, hoagie sale, and Luigi's pizza fundraiser. Each opportunity has made more money year after year. This past year we raised over \$4,200. These activities continue to succeed because of your enthusiasm and input, so be on the lookout for the next opportunity to participate in the upcoming year.

SCRIP

There have been and will continue to be ongoing opportunities for participating in our scrip fund-raiser, even in the summer. Scrip is a simple way to support Congregation Kol Ami's Religious School by purchasing gift cards for the places you normally shop. Congregation Kol Ami receives a portion of the amount you spend without any additional cost to you. This program is continuing to expand, and we are hoping your support will create a greater opportunity for growth. See page 16 for more details.

TOTE BAGS

Additionally throughout the summer, you can still purchase our stylish and useful Congregation Kol Ami tote bags.

RECYCLING

As an ongoing effort to keep Congregation Kol Ami as green as possible, our multiple recycling programs will also continue throughout the summer and into next year as well. Remember to hold on to your Capri Sun/Honest Kids pouches, ink cartridges, old cell phones, and computer keyboards and mice. Bring them to Congregation Kol Ami and save the earth while supporting our Religious School at

the same time. All of these programs will continue and will hopefully expand as well.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST & PARENT/CHILD BREAKFASTS

We also began some new events this year. The pancake breakfasts were resounding successes, bringing together the Kol Ami community in a delightful, delicious atmosphere. On two occasions, parents and children met before Sunday school to share an early-morning breakfast made by some of Congregation Kol Ami's finest chef-dads. Nobody walked away hungry.

RIVERSHARKS

We also had two outings at the Camden Riversharks Atlantic League baseball stadium. We sat together and enjoyed each other's company and a sunset baseball game with all the "fixin's." The student choir sang at the second game and made us proud to be part of the Congregation Kol Ami community.

RETRO PROM NIGHT

In addition, the PTO reached out to the ISH group to sponsor a successful, community-wide "Retro Prom" that was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance. The PTO will continue these wonderful events and bring some other opportunities for adventure into the coming school year.

The PTO's goal is to bring our community together as well as provide as much financial and educational support to our children as possible. This could not be accomplished without the continued support and dedication of our families and the congregation as a whole. This could also not be accomplished without the dedication of the PTO committee: Sherry Cohen, Ellen Kovnat, Gary Sender, Robin Shane, Barry Steinbrecher, and Elaine Stevens. On behalf of this hardworking and dedicated committee, we thank you for another successful and enjoyable year. Have a wonderful summer; we hope you will continue to look forward to a bright and worthwhile upcoming year to ensure our children's, and thus our own, Jewish legacy. Following Rabbi Holin's encouragement: "*sh'lahchaynee*" (or "send me"), the PTO will continue to provide ways to do just that for our community to support our children and our Jewish community's future. ■

NU? - TRITION!

After watching the movie “Food Stamped,” which was shown at our synagogue last month, Rabbi Holin suggested an article for the bulletin to give our members useful, interesting, and sometimes surprising information on the topic of nutrition.

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of public information to protect public health and the environment. Their staff researches government data, legal documents, scientific studies, and their own laboratory tests to expose threats to your health and the environment and to find solutions.

Each year, the EWG publishes a list called “The Dirty Dozen,” which are the twelve fruits and vegetables most contaminated with pesticides. In our first Kol Ami NU?-trition article, we bring you a summary of EWG’s list of the DIRTY DOZEN, as well as the CLEAN FIFTEEN, the least contaminated fruits and veggies (see lists at right).













Keep in mind, the health benefits of a diet rich in fruits and vegetables outweigh the risks of pesticide exposure. Use EWG’s Shopper’s Guide to Pesticides to reduce your exposures as much as possible, but eating conventionally-grown produce is far better than not eating fruits and vegetables at all.

The Shopper’s Guide to Pesticide in Produce will help you determine which fruits and vegetables have the most pesticide residues and are the most important to buy organic. You can lower your pesticide intake substantially by avoiding the most contaminated fruits and vegetables and eating the least contaminated produce. ■

EWG’s Shopper’s Guide to Pesticides in Produce

THE DIRTY DOZEN









Buy these organic if possible:

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------------|
| 1 |  | Apples |
| 2 |  | Celery |
| 3 |  | Strawberries |
| 4 |  | Peaches |
| 5 |  | Spinach |
| 6 |  | Nectarines (imported) |
| 7 |  | Grapes (imported) |
| 8 |  | Sweet Bell Peppers |
| 9 |  | Potatoes |
| 10 |  | Blueberries (domestic) |
| 11 |  | Lettuce |
| 12 |  | Kale/Collard Greens |

continued next column

THE CLEAN FIFTEEN

These are lowest in pesticides:

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 1 |  | Onions |
| 2 |  | Sweet Corn |
| 3 |  | Pineapples |
| 4 |  | Avocado |
| 5 |  | Asparagus |
| 6 |  | Sweet Peas |
| 7 |  | Mangoes |
| 8 |  | Eggplant |
| 9 |  | Cantaloupe (domestic) |
| 10 |  | Kiwi |
| 11 |  | Cabbage |
| 12 |  | Watermelon |
| 13 |  | Sweet Potatoes |
| 14 |  | Grapefruit |
| 15 |  | Mushrooms |

KOL AMI JULY 2012 AT A GLANCE

KOL AMI JULY 2012 AT A GLANCE						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	3 Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.	4 NO NURSERY SCHOOL Fourth of July	5 Nursery School Music Program 9:30 a.m.	6 Nursery School Nature Program 10:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	7
8	9 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	10 Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.	11 Nursery School Pony Rides 10:00 a.m.	12 Nursery School Music Program 9:30 a.m. Hebrew Tutoring with Rabbi Holin 3:30 p.m.	13 Nursery School Nature Program - 10:00 a.m. "Second-Friday" erev Shabbat Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	14
15	16 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	17 Nursery School Fitness - 9:30 a.m. Nursery School Mother Goose Storytelling 10:00 a.m.	18 Nursery School Nature Program 10:00 a.m.	19 Nursery School Music Program - 9:30 a.m. Hebrew Tutoring with Rabbi Holin - 3:30 p.m. Nursery School Pajama-Rama 5:30 p.m. Craft Show Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m.	20 erev Shabbat Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD LOCA Shabbat Dinner 4:30 p.m. Curds & Whey, Jenkintown	21
22	23 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	24 Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.	25 Nursery School Nature Program 10:00 a.m.	26 Nursery School Music Program 9:30 a.m.	27 erev Shabbat Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	28
29	30 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	31 Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.				

KOL AMI AUGUST 2012 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Nursery School Nature Program 10:00 a.m.	2 Nursery School Music Program 9:30 a.m.	3 Blessing of College Students, Prospective Member, and "First- Friday" <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	4
5	6 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	7 Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.	8 Nursery School Nature Program 10:00 a.m.	9 Nursery School Music Program 9:30 a.m. Hebrew Tutoring with Rabbi Hollin 3:30 p.m.	10 LAST DAY OF NURSERY SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	18
19	20	21	22	23 Hebrew Tutoring with Rabbi Hollin 3:30 p.m.	24 <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	25
26 Inclusion Committee Meeting 10:00 a.m.	27	28	29	30 Hebrew Tutoring with Rabbi Hollin 3:30 p.m.	31 <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service on the Meadow 6:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. - BYOD	

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.



ARTS & CULTURE FUND

*Karen Gurmankin
Christy Bottie Kitagawa*

In Honor of:

**Stephanie Jacobson and her
hospice mission to Norway**
Paul and Mindy Levy

Cory Newman
Joel and Rebecca Schwartz

**Rebecca Schwartz for her
tutoring for the *Bat Mitzvah*
of Eleanor Streitwieser**
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser

***Bar Mitzvah* of Drew Steinbrecher**
Joel and Rebecca Schwartz

BAR/BAT MITZVAH AND CONFIRMATION FUND

In Honor of:

***Bat Mitzvah* of Maddie August**
David, Tara, Emily and Ryan Abrams

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

***Bar Mitzvah* of our son, Drew**
Barry and Michele Steinbrecher

***Bat Mitzvah* of our daughter,
Eleanor**
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Holin for his help in prepar-
ing Maddie for her *Bat Mitzvah***
Andrew August and Barbara Fink

In Memory of:

Jim Samter
Joseph and Loretta Duckworth

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

**Lucille Barrett and her
new book, "Canopies"**
Elaine Wit

***Bar Mitzvah* of Max Cavallucci**
Elaine Stevens

**Maya Hyman and the
Confirmation Class of 2012**
*William Hyman, Janine Pratt, and
Lia Hyman*

Special Birthday of Sharon Myers
Elaine Stevens

Special Birthday of Ellen Stern
Elaine Stevens

***Bar Mitzvah* of Drew Steinbrecher**
Elaine Stevens

***Bat Mitzvah* of Eleanor Streitwieser**
Elaine Stevens

In Memory of:

Marco Besso
*David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Ed and Judy Grossman
Don and Randy Sable
Elaine Stevens*

Morris Esenstad
*David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Elaine Stevens*

Michael Frishberg
Herbert and Lucille Barrett

Morris Salkin
Stanton and Merle Salkin ■



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

TO:



Kol Ami Scrip Up & Running This Summer



Remember to use the Congregation Kol Ami Scrip during the summer for trips out of town, summer shopping, hotels are available. Help raise money for Kol Ami with NO SELLING...just by continuing to do your regular shopping.

Whole Foods, Acme, Giant Foods, Genuardi's and Target are available for immediate pick up each week in \$25.00 increments. Other stores include: **Amazon.com, iTunes, Old Navy, The Gap, Barnes & Noble,**

T.J. Maxx, Marshall's, L.L. Bean, Toys "R" Us, Avis, Claire's, Comfort Inn, the Disney Store, Courtyard Marriott, GameStop, BedBath & Beyond, PetSmart, Dicks Sporting Goods, Visa, Home Depot, Lowe's, Regal Entertainment, Panera, Sears, Best Buy, Gym-boree, Banana Republic, Crate & Barrel, Marriott, Best Western. There are over 600 additional retailers and services available.

Kol Ami's Scrip program is for **everyone** in the Congregation. Orders will be processed and the scrip cards will be made available the following week for pick up. It's simple, easy, and a GREAT way to help Kol Ami from the convenience of your own shopping cart.

All orders and any questions can be directed to Kenny Moss, km.photos@comcast.net (co-chair of the Religious School PTO) or Elaine Stevens, execdir@kolamielkinspark.org. ■