



WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, May 6, at 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service with our Adult Choir

SATURDAY, May 7, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue; Carol Nemeroff will give the *dvar Torah*

FRIDAY, May 13, at 7:30 p.m.

I.M.Wise *erev Shabbat* Service where we will honor Adam Fishbein for his continued devotion to Jewish study as a 12th-grade graduate of the advanced study program at Gratz College plus our Second-Friday birthday and anniversary blessings under the *tallit*

SATURDAY, May 14, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

FRIDAY, May 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Daven, Dine, Discuss - Join us for a brief half-hour service followed by a BYOD and topic-driven discussion, after which the night extends at leisure (see page 6)

SATURDAY, May 21, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue; Betty Shapiro will give the *dvar Torah*, followed by a potluck lunch

FRIDAY, May 27, at 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, May 28, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue ■

REJOICE WITH OUR 12TH-GRADE STUDENT AND HIS FAMILY AT OUR I.M. WISE GRADUATE SERVICE

EREV SHABBAT SERVICE ON FRIDAY, MAY 13, AT 7:30 PM



PLEASE JOIN US at this special service to honor our 12th-grade student of the two-year Gratz College Isaac Mayer Wise Reform Teaching Certificate Jewish Studies program and to congratulate him for his devotion to continued Jewish study and as student teacher in our Religious School: **Adam Rosenfeld Fishbein**, son of Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein. ■

WELCOME THE STRANGER... PROTECT THE REFUGEE!

We are told to love, care for, and protect the stranger 36 times in the *Torah*. This is not just a commandment, it is a core Jewish value. "When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not wrong him. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt..." (Leviticus 19: 33-34).

Based on our values and rooted in our own history, we have a responsibility to respond to today's refugees. Since 1882, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) in Pennsylvania and its predecessor organization, the Association for Jewish Immigrants, have exemplified the full meaning of the Jewish value of welcoming the stranger, as well as the American sentiment of sanctuary

Social Action continued on page 10

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 1, at 10:00 a.m.

Continental breakfast will be served prior to the meeting.

TORAH & HAFTARAH

May 7 - *Acharey Mote*

Leviticus 16:1-18:30, I Samuel 20:18-42

May 14 - *Kedoshim*

Leviticus 19:1-20:27, Amos 9:7-15

May 21 - *Emor*

Leviticus 21:1-24:23, Ezekiel 44:15-31

May 28 - *Behar*

Leviticus 25:1-26:3, Jeremiah 32:6-27 ■



CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory

Mary K. Bogot

*mother of Lisa Ney (Benjamin Shoham)
grandmother of Elad, Eyal, and Maayan*

Stacey Konwiser

niece of Jean (Stephen) Ettinger

Carol Lapinsohn

*mother of Laura (Matthieu) Reale
grandmother of Rachel and Max*

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

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES

Financial assistance is available for any family who wishes their child to participate in religious-school-related activities and hesitates due to cost.

For details, please contact Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110. Requests will be handled confidentially. ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The gift of time is priceless. The broad definition of volunteering is offering to do work for no compensation. What I see YOU doing is good work for Kol Ami and partner organizations that have personal meaning for YOU. I see the sparkle of *tikun olam* in your eyes and the fullness of intention in your hearts.

Yet the importance of volunteerism is not just for that reason. Volunteers are greatly needed, and we at Kol Ami depend on YOU. And you don't let us down. You have passion in processes, spreadsheets, *dvars*, education, *tikun olam*, social justice, phone calls, cooking, singing, mindfulness...the list goes on and on. Many times I hear you say you don't necessarily have the time, but YOU do have the heart. And somehow your heart guides you to making the time to take action, actions from the heart.

I can speak for the congregation leadership when I say we recognize your efforts and appreciate all of your hard work to strengthen our Jewish identity and community. You are the backbone of Kol Ami and do a lot without expecting anything in return. I cherish the time working with you. Your compassion and service inspires, your dedication makes us special as a congregation and bonds us as a congregational family.

Your good work is noticed, possibly in more ways than any of us can imagine. YOU NEVER KNOW suggests...

You never know when someone
May catch a dream from you
You never know when a little word
Or something you may do
May open up the windows
Of a mind that seals a light
The way you love, may not matter at all
But you never know it might.

And just in case it could be
That another's life, through you
Might possibly change for the better
With a broader and brighter view
It seems it might be worth a try
At pointing the way to the right
Of course it may not matter at all,
But then again...it might.

~Helen L. Marshall

Thank you for thinking beyond yourselves, for making time for our collective strength, and for your dedication.

Simon the just...used to say –
“Upon three things the world stands:
On *Torah*, On Divine service, and on Deeds of Loving Kindness
~Pirkee Avot

Todah Rabah!

Shelley Chamberlain

215-635-1738, srchamberlain@comcast.net ■

GETTING TO KNOW THE KOL AMI MARKETING COMMITTEE



Lorie Slass and Jeff Margasak, Marketing Committee Co-chairs

The Kol Ami Marketing Committee has been hard at work over the last six months. The team, which includes Shelley Chamberlain, Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein, Jeff Margasak, Morgan Selkirk, Lorie Slass, and Elaine Stevens has focused its efforts on rebuilding the Kol Ami digital experience.

Our efforts to date have included:

- Researching sites of other synagogues inside and outside of our community as well as Web sites of

industry sites considered to be design leaders;

- Creating user profiles to better understand the needs of our members and prospective members;
- Surveying committee chairs and Board Members about what elements they would like to see in a new site; and
- Detailing the content and functionality that we want in a new site.

The plan is to replace our outdated Web site with a new, modern, mobile-friendly site that promotes interaction. The new www.kolamielkinspark.org will include useful functionality, streamlined content, and a much-improved user experience.

What can you look forward to in the new site?

- An intuitive listing for Religious School events and other programming as well as event registration.
- Calendar enhancements that allow you to download event details to your calendars.
- A site that works on your phone, tablet, or PC.
- An online payment option for donations, dues, and school tuition.

The Committee hopes to deliver the site with this new functionality in time to support enrollment for the new religious school year and the High Holy Day season.

In addition, the Committee will build on the success of last year's events at Arts in the Park in Cheltenham and the Jenkintown Arts Festival later this summer. Kol Ami members were on-hand at both events, answering questions about our wonderful synagogue. If you are interested in volunteering for either of these events this year, please contact Lorie Slass (lbslass@yahoo.com) or Jeff Margasak (jkasagram@gmail.com). ■

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office
215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin
215-635-4182

Shelley Chamberlain, President
215-635-1738

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 (e.g., by May 5 for the June issue) to **Janet Falon** at jfalon@english.upenn.edu. Articles may be edited as needed. ■



**UNION FOR
REFORM JUDAISM**
האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית
SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

A Rare Evening
AMONG FRIENDS

TO BENEFIT CONGREGATION KOL AMI קול עמי



THURSDAY, THE SECOND OF JUNE

from seven until eleven o'clock in the evening

Cairnwood Estate • 1005 Cathedral Road, Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania

CO-CHAIRS

Joel Fishbein &
Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein

Ruben Honik &
Kendra Thompkins

Special musical guest
The Deb Callahan Band

Edibles by
Karen Spire Catering & Events

Wine tasting by
Greg Moore, Moore Brothers Wine Co.

Chocolate tasting by
Joanne's Candy Kitchen

Silent & Live Auction
\$125 per person
Dressy Casual Attire Suggested

RSVP by May 19

SPONSORSHIP

Please help sustain Congregation Kol Ami with A Rare Event Sponsorship.

Musical Sponsor: A sign near our musical guest featuring your name in appreciation for your donation of \$3,600, inclusion in all other recognition signage, a 'thank you' ad in our Kol Ami Bulletin, and entry for 10 to the event.

Wine Sponsor: A sign near our wine tasting featuring your name in appreciation for your donation of \$2,400, inclusion in all other recognition signage, a 'thank you' ad in our Kol Ami Bulletin, and entry for 8 to the event.

Chocolate Sponsor: A sign near our chocolate tasting featuring your name in appreciation for your donation of \$1,800, inclusion in all other recognition signage, a 'thank you' ad in our Kol Ami Bulletin, and entry for 6 to the event.

Jerusalem: Recognition signage including your name in appreciation for your donation of \$1,000, inclusion in our 'thank you' ad in our Kol Ami Bulletin, and entry for 4 to the event.

Tel Aviv: Recognition signage including your name in appreciation for your donation of \$500, inclusion in our 'thank you' ad in our Kol Ami Bulletin, and entry for 2 to the event.

Haifa: Recognition signage including your name in appreciation for your donation of \$300, and inclusion in our 'thank you' ad in our Kol Ami Bulletin.

A Rare Evening

Kol Ami Events

SECOND-FRIDAY EREV SHABBAT MAY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Friday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m.



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

LOCA STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Sunday, May 15, at 12:30 p.m.

Join us to learn how to relieve stress, relax, and have fun. Our own Meryle Gurmankin will introduce us to healthy stress-management techniques for women. It will be an afternoon of relaxation together with music, creative fun, and yummy healthy snacks. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Jean Ettinger at jeanettiger@gmail.com.

“SOWING SEEDS OF LOVE, REAPING BLOSSOMS OF COMPASSION”

Tuesday, May 17, at 7:30 p.m. by Dr. Ruqaiyah Nabe

Given what is happening in the world, the time could not be more important for us to welcome Dr. Nabe to our Synagogue to talk about her “Sowing Seeds of Love, Reaping Blossoms of Compassion” article published in June 2014 in *Contexts & Cultures*.

Consider her words: “The nature of God is, above all else, one of compassion...Among the many Hebrew names of God, one of my favorites is *Ha'Rakhaman*, the Compassionate One...Notice the strong similarity with the Arabic *Rahman* and *Rahim*...The Hebrew word for compassion, *rakhamin*, which is in turn rooted in the Semitic word for womb, without which it is impossible to grow and develop into the likeness of God as *Torah* commands us to do.”

She asks: “How must a Muslim approach and demonstrate compassion from an Islamic perspective?”

Copies of Dr. Nabe’s article will be available in the Synagogue Office and through ListServ in advance of her arrival. Dr. Nabe is a Muslim scholar, an interfaith minister, and spiritual director offering insights to the Islamic/Muslim and interspiritual communities in the name of interfaith dialogue.

KABBALAT SHABBAT: DAVEN, DINE, DISCUSS

Friday, May 20, at 6:30 p.m.

The Selected Poetry of Yehuda Amichai – How His Words Speak to Us Today – Read, Reflect, Discuss

You are invited to experience our very special and engaging *Kabbalat* [the joy of receiving the] *Shabbat* at Kol Ami. Join us for a brief, half-hour service from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m., followed by a BYOD and topic-driven discussion over dinner. The night extends at leisure. The poems will be available this evening as well as in advance via e-mail.

CALLING ALL YOUNG-ISH MEMBERS TO JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FOOD, FUN & FRIENDS!

Saturday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen

It’s a social gathering...a night out without kids...adult company and connections. Get a babysitter (if you need one), bring a beverage AND an appetizer OR dessert to share. Please RSVP to Sherry Cohen (shcohen361@verizon.net) or Heather Pelletier (hfppt1@gmail.com). They can answer any questions too!

**“FROM MY HOMELAND – MUSICAL STORIES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE” BY GIL MORGENSTERN, VIOLINIST
JOIN US TO HONOR OUR VATIKIM – OUR CONGREGATION’S “ESTEEMED ELDERS”**



Tuesday, May 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Our Congregation will host a very special event honoring our esteemed elders who have been blessed with longevity of 80-plus years and to whom we are drawn because of the examples of their lives and their continued devotion to our Congregation.

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KOL AMI EVENTS (continued from previous page)

We hope that you will join us at a special concert commissioned for them.

“From My Homeland – Musical Stories from around the Globe” is an exciting and moving evening of diverse music from around the world. This unique journey will take us from Brooklyn to Spain, from the *shtetls* of Eastern Europe to the unspeakable horrors of the Holocaust, and finally from Bohemia back to Brooklyn. Join us as we enter the magical world of musical storytelling.

Using music to tell a story is as old as music itself; indeed, music possesses magical powers to communicate. The composers whose works will be performed in tonight’s program have all harnessed this narrative power to “speak” to their fellow human beings and to tell personal stories through the gift of music.

This evening’s program highlights the singularly expressive range of the violin and the diverse manner in which composers of different times and cultures have exploited it.

Included are two deeply spiritual works: Ernest Bloch’s highly dramatic “Nigun” from Three Pictures of Chassidic Life, and John Williams’ moving “Theme from Schindler’s List.” Both works are wonderful examples of how music can succinctly express an emotional depth in a way that words alone cannot.

Also on the program are two examples of creative genius: George Gershwin’s “Porgy and Bess” about African-American life in Charleston, and Aaron Copland’s immensely popular “Hoedown,” about America’s midwest. Although both composers grew up in Brooklyn steeped in Yiddish song and theater, they managed to capture the essence of the time and place. Gershwin used original folk songs and Copland created an American musical vocabulary out of whole cloth.

Works to be performed include:

Ernest Bloch: “Nigun” (from Baal Shem Suite: Three Pictures of Chassidic Life)

John Williams: “Theme from Schindler’s List”

Bedřich Smetana: “From My Homeland”

George Gershwin, from Porgy and Bess (arr. Jascha Heifetz)
“Summertime”

“A Woman Is a Sometime Thing”

“It Ain’t Necessarily So”

Aaron Copland: Waltz and Hoedown from Rodeo

A violinist with a long history of performing in the world’s great concert halls, Gil Morgenstern’s career has taken him to international venues including Wigmore Hall, London; Cultural Center Concert Hall, Hong Kong; the American Academy, Rome; Salone dei Cinquecento, Florence; El

Teatro Sucre, Quito; and Arts Centre and State Theatre, Melbourne, Australia. Morgenstern’s discography includes works by Beethoven, Fauré, Copland, Ravel, Kodaly, Sessions, and the award-winning American composer George Tsontakis. Morgenstern’s latest recording, 20th Century Duos for Violin and Cello, was the No. 1 classical CD for over a month on eMusic, the largest online store for independent music in the world, and was one of the top 10 best-selling classical music albums on Amazon. The New York Times raved: “the music is terrific and the performances compelling on this surprisingly exciting and excellently engineered recording.”



FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT

Join Rabbi Holin in fast days – or virtual fast days – every month, no matter where you are, by sending funds that you would have spent on food to help men, women, and children in need:

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 first Wednesdays, **May 4** and **June 1**.

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.

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YEDIDAY KOL AMI 2016

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

Jeffrey Abrams and Margaret Barry
Bruce and Ellen Asam
David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Carol Baron
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Barry and Allison Boise
David and Shelley Chamberlain
Michael and Sara Chernoff
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Arthur Gordon
Ray and Sis Grenald
Ruben Honik
David Hyman
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Shari Johnson
Eric and Adena Johnston
Charles Langman and Laurie Jubelirer
Langman
David and Patrician Ann Long
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
Bart Weiner and Nadine Liez-Weiner ■



KOL AMI EVENTS (continued from page 7)

Forthcoming **Phast for Philadelphia** fast days will be on fourth Thursdays, **May 26** and **June 23**.

Below are the mailing addresses for the organizations mentioned previously:

American Friends of NATAL
1120 Avenue of the Americas, 4th Fl.
New York, NY 10036

Unemployment Info. Center
112 North Broad St., 11th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(make check payable to Unemployment Information Center with a memo note "Philadelphia Unemployment Office") ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue
Tuesday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m.
Home of Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry, co-chairs, 215-782-1704

Religious School Committee
Monday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m.
Co-chairs: Lisa Ney and Benjamin Shoham, 215-886-2029

Social Action Committee
Tuesday, May 31, at 7:00 p.m.
Co-chairs: Jody Long, 215-512-3636, and Rocky Weinstock, 215-782-3848

**Social Action Committee
HIAS Presentation**
Monday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m.
Co-chairs: Jody Long, 215-512-3636, and Rocky Weinstock, 215-782-3848

**Social Action Committee
Inter-Faith Housing Alliance
Presentation**
Sunday, May 15, at 10:00 a.m.
Co-chairs: Jody Long, 215-512-3636, and Rocky Weinstock, 215-782-3848

Spiritual Growth Group
Monday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m.
Co-chairs: Janet Falon, 215-635-1698; Meryle Gurmankin, 215-464-2466 ■

ARTIST OF THE MONTH: GERARD BROWN EXHIBIT MAY 3 - JUNE 13



Gerard Brown's drawings and paintings merge his interests in communication and concealment. Employing codes and signals, the works describe themselves and question the conditions of their own existence.

As a journalistic art critic for many years (his writing has appeared in the *Philadelphia Weekly*, *Juxtapoz*, *Ceramics: Art & Perception*, and many gallery and museum brochures), Brown has made a career translating images into words and considering what is seen but unsaid in exhibits.

His own work employs encrypted forms of writing, strategies borrowed from puzzles and games, and forms of slang and secret messages to explore how meaning is transmitted through the public sphere.

Gerard Brown is currently an Associate Professor and Chairperson of Foundation at Tyler School of Art and also has taught at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California; Moore College of Art in Philadelphia; and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. ■

The Kol Ami gallery hours are Wednesday from 4:00-8:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m.-noon. If the Religious School is closed on those days, the gallery is also closed. All of Brown's works are for sale. See Elaine Stevens if interested in purchasing a piece.

Mark Your Calendars!

November 13, 2016



&



Present a day of learning and dialogue:



Kindness Counts כ:

Moving Beyond the Gender Boxes

Embracing Transgender and Non-Binary Jews,
Their Loved Ones and Straight Allies in the Mishkan

Congregation Kol Ami
8201 High School Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
execdir@kolami.info

Registration information coming soon...

**V'ahavta l'reyecha kamocha: "Love your neighbor who, like you,
is also created in the divine image..."**

Social Action Opportunities

WELCOME THE STRANGER

(continued from page 1)

as engraved inside the Statue of Liberty with the words of Emma Lazarus: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

HIAS values are based on the core Jewish belief of “welcoming the stranger” and *tzedakah* (generosity, charity, and fairness). HIAS Pennsylvania believes in newcomers as an asset, not a burden to the community. HIAS believes in the dignity of the individual, in compassion, empathy, conscientiousness, tolerance, respect, and commitment to a multicultural society.

Driven by the Jewish value of “welcoming the stranger,” HIAS Pennsylvania provides legal, resettlement, citizenship, and supportive services to immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers from all backgrounds in order to assure their fair treatment and full integration into the American society.

There are many volunteer opportunities for us: donate household goods, donate money, donate time—help set up a home, accompany refugees to appointments, after-school programs, intake volunteer, public relations, administrative, translation and legal counsel.

Earlier in the year, we gauged your interest through a pulse survey. Thank you for wanting to collectively welcome refugees to Philadelphia and to love, care for and protect the stranger!

NEXT STEP:

Join us on **Monday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m.** when the Social Action Committee hosts an informational meeting with HIAS Philadelphia leaders. Sarah Kaepfel, Refugee Self-Sufficiency Coordinator, will give a presentation on HIAS Pennsylvania’s work. Together with Carrie Fox-Kline, Director of Refugee Programming and Planning, and Justin Mixon, a HIAS PA Immigrant Youth Staff Attorney and Kol Ami congregant, they will inform and prepare us for various volunteer opportunities.

Rabbis and synagogue leaders from the Old York Road Kehillah have been invited to attend the meeting and participate. Now is the time to act!

SHARE PROGRAM



Join us for another wonderful opportunity to reduce hunger. Volunteer at SHARE on **Sunday, May 15, at 1:00 p.m.** Tend to the garden or assemble food packages with Kol Ami friends.

INTER-FAITH HOUSING ALLIANCE

Volunteer Opportunity the week of June 19 through 25

The Inter-Faith Housing Alliance (I-FHA) is a non-profit organization providing housing and supportive services for families experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County. This wonderful organization helps families in crisis to become financially stable and self-sufficient through community food banks and various housing programs. They operate an emergency shelter for stays of up to three months, providing three families at a time with the tools they need to become successfully independent – and thus break the cycle of homelessness.

Our synagogue has committed to be a buddy congregation beginning the evening of Sunday, June 19 through the morning of Friday, June 24. Our host congregation is St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 919 Tennis Avenue in Maple Glen.

continued next page

SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

(continued from previous page)

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF JUNE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Transport family from Hope Gardens Day Center to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church:

One or more families most likely will require transportation, so it's ideal to have volunteer who is delivering meal to pick up the family members at Hope Gardens Day Center, 31 S. Spring Garden Street in Ambler at 5:45 p.m. and drive them to the church. Less than 10 minute drive.

Dinner volunteer; collectively we cover five meals:

Prepare a dinner meal for up to 10 people (varies) and arrive at 5:45 p.m. at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Volunteers join the family for a 6:15 p.m. meal. The evening responsibility ends when the Overnight Volunteers arrive around 7:30 p.m. Plans covers five meals between Sunday, June 19, through Thursday, June 24.

Overnight Volunteer:

Responsible to arrive at 7:30 p.m. and be available in case the families need anything. Volunteer(s) sleep at the HOST site in a private room on cots or air mattresses. Volunteers are responsible to bring their own bedding and an alarm clock. Volunteers lock up and remain at the church until the family departs for the Day Center at approximately 7:00 a.m. This commitment is 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Transport family from St. Matthew's Episcopal Church to Hope Gardens Day Center:

One or more families mostly likely will require transportation, so it's ideal to have the Overnight Volunteer support this need, if possible.

There are also other volunteer opportunities, such as purchasing toys/books for the children at the shelter and donating household items to the families at a later time when they are able to secure permanent housing after their stay in the church. These opportunities often lead to lasting bonds between volunteers and families as they spend time over dinner, during transportation, or the quiet evening hours. Shift can be shared with another Kol Ami friend.

If you are interested in volunteering for this program, please contact Laurie Langman (610-608-4293, laurierobin@verizon.net) or Jody Long (215-512-3636; jodyl321@comcast.net). We will create a sign-up genius for volunteer opportunities during the week of June 19.

Join us on Sunday, May 15, at 10:00 a.m. when we will be joined by members of I-FHA, who will address our members about their program. They will lead the orientation and training, answering all questions and concerns about the various volunteer opportunities.



TIME TO GARDEN AND SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORS!

High School Park Workday Weekends

Saturday and Sunday (10:00 a.m. to Noon)

Sponsored by the Friends of High School Park

Join us on the following dates:

June 11-12 and 25-26

July 9-10 and 23-24

August 6-7 and 20-21

September 3-4 and 17-18

October 15-16 and 29-30

November 12-13

Questions? Contact Kevin Reis, FHSP Restoration Manager at fhsprestorationmanager@gmail.com.

All are welcome. Long-sleeves, pants, and boots are recommended. Meet at the shed in the meadow area on Montgomery Avenue and High School Road, Elkins Park.

LEARNING ABOUT GUN-VIOLENCE PROTECTION

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

Plan on attending an interesting evening about gun-violence prevention. The evening will begin with an hour-long movie, "3½ Minutes," which depicts the aftermath of the shooting death of a teenager after an argument about the volume of a car radio in Florida. Following the film will be question and answer session with Montgomery County victims of gun violence.

This promises to be a very thought-provoking evening.



SAVE THE DATE: KOL AMI BLOOD DRIVE

Our annual Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Monday, September 19. Mark your calendar now! ■

Kol Ami Early Learning Center Activities



ABOVE: At the *Matzah Bakery*, the children learned why we eat *matzah* on Passover and how to make it. LEFT MIDDLE AND BOTTOM: The children enjoyed a *Purim* Carnival on March 24 decked out in their unique costumes. BELOW: Shelley Chamberlain, Kol Ami President, visited as a guest cook and taught our preschoolers about kale.



KOL AMI MAY 2016 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Trope Class 9:10 a.m. Congregation Annual Meeting 10:00 a.m. preceded by a Continental Breakfast Religious School 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m.	2 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Social Action Committee HIAS Presentation 7:30 p.m.	3 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Interfaith Relationship Dialogue 7:30 p.m. Home of Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry	4 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	5 Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Neal Beatus 7:30 p.m.	6 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service with Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	7 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Carol Nemeroff will give the <i>dvar Torah</i>
8 Religious School Closed Mother's Day	9 Religious School Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	10 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	11 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	12 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Neal Beatus 7:30 p.m.	13 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. I.M.Wise erev Shabbat Service and Second-Friday Blessings 7:30 p.m.	14 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.

KOL AMI MAY 2016 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Social Action Committee Inter-Faith Housing Alliance Presentation 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. LOCA Stress Management Workshop with Meryle Gurmankin 12:30 p.m. Social Action Committee SHARE Food program in Philadelphia, PA 1:00 p.m.	16 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Spiritual Growth Group Meeting 7:00 p.m.	17 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Guest Speaker Dr. Ruqaiyah Nabe "Sowing Seeds of Love, Reaping Blooms of Compassion" 7:30 p.m.	18 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	19 Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Neal Beatus 7:30 p.m.	20 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rabbi Holin 11:00 a.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. - BYOD and Discussion	21 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Betty Shapiro will give the <i>d'var Torah</i> , followed by potluck lunch ISH Evening of Food, Fun & Friends 7:30 p.m. Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
22 Last Day of Religious School 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	23	24 Concert to Honor Our "Yafikim" - Esteemed Elders" with Violinist Gil Morgenstern 7:30 p.m.	25	26 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	27 Early Learning Center Seder with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	28 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
29	30 Early Learning Center Closed - Memorial Day	31 Social Action Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.				

KOL AMI CONTRIBUTIONS

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



ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

Beautiful piano recital
performed by Cory Newman
Alan and Sheryl Stern

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The family of Herb and Lucille
Barrett, of blessed memory
Barry and Michele Steinbrecher

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

Special birthday of
Phyllis Harrison
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

Robert and Susan Seltzer and
the birth of their grandchild
Alan and Elaine Gershenson ■

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE APPLIED

Below is a list of the available Kol Ami funds:

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Enables us to provide lifelong educational programming focused on Jewish history and contemporary issues.

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

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

BAR/BAT MITZVAH & CONFIRMATION FUND

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

"DISCOVER ISRAEL" FUND

Enables us to provide scholarships to enable children of our members to participate in approved peer-group trips to Israel.

FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND FUND

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

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

Enables us to offer age-appropriate programs to our religious school students. A variety of educational initiatives will be sponsored, including, but not limited, to speaker programs, intolerance awareness, and travel to memorial museums/sites—all with a focus on its current relevance.

LIBRARY FUND

Enables us to purchase educational material for our members.

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

Enables us to provide refreshments following *Shabbat* services.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Enables Rabbi Holin to perform *mitzvot* for those in need, in the name of the Congregation.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Enables us to provide resources and programs for the benefit of our children in religious school.

SYNAGOGUE FUND

Enables us to provide for the general well-being of the Congregation.

YOUTH FUND

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



MAY

- **SUNDAY, MAY 1, at 10:00 a.m.**
Congregation Annual Meeting, preceded by a Continental Breakfast
- **MONDAY, MAY 2, at 7:30 p.m.**
Social Action Committee - HIAS Presentation
- **TUESDAY, MAY 3, at 7:30 p.m.**
Interfaith Relationship Dialogue at the home of Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry
- **THURSDAY, MAY 5, 12 & 19, at 7:30 p.m.**
Continuing Jewish Education for Adults with Neal Beatus
- **SATURDAY, MAY 7, at 10:00 a.m.**
Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue with Carol Nemeroff presenting the *dvar Torah*
- **MONDAY, MAY 9, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee Meeting
- **FRIDAY, MAY 13, at 7:30 p.m.**
Second-Friday *erev Shabbat* Service Honoring our I.M.Wise Graduate
- **SUNDAY, MAY 15**
10:00 a.m. - Social Action Committee - Inter-Faith Housing Alliance Presentation
12:30 p.m. - LOCA Stress Management Workshop with Meryle Gurmankin
1:00 p.m. - Social Action Committee - SHARE Food Program
- **MONDAY, MAY 16, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group Meeting
- **TUESDAY, MAY 17, at 7:30 p.m.**
Guest Speaker, Dr. Ruqaiyah Nabe - "Sowing Seeds of Love, Reaping Blooms of Compassion"
- **FRIDAY, MAY 20, at 6:30 p.m.**
Kabbalat Shabbat Service, followed by a BYOD and Discussion
- **SATURDAY, MAY 21**
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue with Betty Shapiro presenting the *dvar Torah*, followed by potluck lunch
7:30 p.m. - ISH Evening of Food, Fun & Friends at the home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen

MAY (CONTINUED)

- **TUESDAY, MAY 24, at 7:30 p.m.**
Concert with Gil Morgenstern Honoring our *Vatikim*
- **TUESDAY, MAY 31, at 7:00 p.m.**
Social Action Committee Meeting

JUNE

- **THURSDAY, JUNE 2, at 7:00 p.m.**
"A Rare Evening" to benefit Congregation Kol Ami at Cairnwood Estate in Bryn Athyn
- **SATURDAY, JUNE 4, at 10:00 a.m.**
Bar Mitzvah of Noah Stern
- **MONDAY, JUNE 6, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee Meeting
- **THURSDAY, JUNE 9, at 7:30 p.m.**
Human Resource Committee Meeting
- **SATURDAY, JUNE 11, at 5:30 p.m.**
Shavuot-Havdalah Service Honoring our 10th-Grade Confirmants
- **SUNDAY, JUNE 12, at 10:00 a.m.**
Shavuot-Yizkor Service
- **THURSDAY, JUNE 16, at 7:30 p.m.**
Movie – "3½ Minutes" – Learning about gun-violence protection
- **FRIDAY, JUNE 17, at 6:30 p.m.**
erev Shabbat Service on the Meadow Honoring Our First-Year Anniversary Members
- **SUNDAY, JUNE 19 - FRIDAY, JUNE 24**
Inter-Faith Housing Alliance at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
- **MONDAY, JUNE 20, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group Meeting
- **TUESDAY, JUNE 21, at 6:00 p.m.**
Caring Congregants Committee Meeting ■