



# CONGREGATION Kol Ami

VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

## WORSHIP SERVICES

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

*erev Shabbat* Service to celebrate and honor our interfaith couples and families for being such an important part of our synagogue family plus "First-Friday" birthday and anniversary blessings in front of the ark; our Adult Choir will add their voices

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

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue; Bill Hyman will give the *dvar Torah* on the 40th anniversary of his *Bar Mitzvah*

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

*erev Shabbat* Service

**SATURDAY, Nov. 12,**

**10:00 a.m.** - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue

**4:00 p.m.** - Family *Havdalah* Service

**FRIDAY, Nov. 18, 6:00 p.m.**

All students, all families... Religious School *erev Shabbat* and Consecration Service; plus our Student Choir will add their voices

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

"Touch-*Torah*" Service for our youngest children and their families

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

*erev Shabbat* Service

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## JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL SERVICES



**AN EREV SHABBAT SERVICE FOR ALL OF US TO  
CELEBRATE AND HONOR OUR INTERFAITH FAMILIES  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, AT 7:30 PM**

Our Interfaith Relationship Dialogue, chaired by Julie Cohen and Nigel Blower, meets several times a year with Rabbi Holin to offer interfaith families a relaxed haven in which to discuss thoughts about faith, child rearing, the meaning of Jewish rituals and holy days, contemporary literature, and more. Here at Kol Ami, they have found "a home away from home," where they are warmly welcomed and involved in our congregation. Tonight we celebrate their presence and the blessing they are for all of us.



**FAMILY HAVDALAH SERVICE  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, AT 4:00 PM**

What a wonderful time for all of us to be together, as children, youth, and adults gather to rejoice in the celebration of *Havdalah* over braided candle, spices, and wine.

4:00-4:45 p.m. - Mingle and sample "finger food"

4:45-5:15 p.m. - Sing-along

5:15-5:30 p.m. - *Havdalah* service



**CHILDREN-FAMILY "TOUCH TORAH" SERVICE  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, AT 10:00 AM**

This is a very special service for our youngest children and their families. Join Rabbi Holin and Rebecca for our brief "service in song" as the *Torah* Scroll is opened and rolled over the outstretched legs of the children as Rabbi Holin reads from it and explains the meaning of the *Torah* story to the children. This is a wonderful way for children to get "up close and personal" with the *Torah* as they see the Hebrew words on the parchment. ■

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

*Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue;  
Samantha Pashko will read from the  
*Torah* on the fifth anniversary of her  
*Bat Mitzvah*

**TORAH & HAFTARAH**

**November 5 - *Lech Lecha***

Genesis 12:1-17:27, Isaiah 40:27-41:16

**November 12 - *Vayera***

Genesis 18:1-22:24, II Kings 4:1-37

**November 19 - *Chayei Sarah***

Genesis 23:1-25:18, I Kings 1:1-31

**November 26 - *Toledot***

Genesis 25:19-28:9

I Samuel 20:18-42 ■



**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Casino Night Committee**

Thursday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m.

Co-chairs: Bill England, 215-635-0920,  
and Sharon Myers, 215/938-7435

**Interfaith Relationship Dialogue**

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

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

**Operations Committee**

Wednesday, November 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Guy Appel, 215-938-9330,  
and Jeff Cohen, 215-635-3232

**Religious School Committee**

Tuesday, November 15, at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Sheryl Cohen, 215-885-2436

**Social Action Committee**

Monday, November 7, at 7:15 p.m.

Chair: Ronit Sugar, 215-635-0390 ■

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

**ROSH HASHANAH 5772, SEPTEMBER 29, 2011 (SPEECH REPRINTED)**

*Chag sameach.* Having this opportunity to speak to so many of our members early in my tenure as President required that I carefully plan my words. I have three goals: 1) say something meaningful about us, i.e., Kol Ami, our relationship to Jewish life, and each other; 2) not bore you; and 3) [related to 2] be BRIEF. Wish me luck.

I want to share thoughts about how the larger culture in which Jews live affects their religious practice, and in particular what that means for us at Kol Ami. I begin in 1979 with my first visit to Bet Hatfutsot, the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv. That exhibition had a profound effect on my Jewish identity. Exposed to exhibits and films depicting Jewish life across the continents, my limited view of Jewish identity was challenged. This was the moment I began to struggle with how my family's Eastern European cultural Jewish immigrant experience had overshadowed my understanding of the Jewish religion.

As I wandered through the depictions of Jewish life in such disparate homelands as India, Morocco, Ethiopia, and Yemen, I realized quickly that great CULTURAL differences distinguished me from them. Their synagogue architecture, food, and melodies hardly resembled what Jewish had come to mean to me. It fascinated me to see how the local cultures did AND DID NOT shape local Jewish life. Very importantly, I realized that if neither Sunday bagels and lox, nor holiday gefilte fish were recognizable by half the world's Jews, I'd better give serious thought as to what did bind me to the Jew from Bombay, Marekesh, and Addis Ababa.

Today I want to discuss how AMERICAN CULTURE in 2011 affects how we operate as a Jewish community; the great opportunities and distinctive obstacles.

One of the most powerful American values impacting Jews here is the commitment to individual freedom. Each of us is encouraged to be the individual we want to be: To decide what will make us happy. To go for it. To follow our feelings! That's different from Jews throughout the Millennia. Normally, few personal inclinations trumped family and community obligations.

As a result, Jewish life in America has taken on many unprecedented and unique features. American Jews have followed their passions and created many new avenues of Jewish expression. No Jews in history had as many options for Jewish life. We have Reconstructionist, Reform, Conservative, Orthodox, or you can join a *Chavurah* or a *Folksbul*, How about getting your hands dirty at the Jewish Farm School? Does Jewish Bible Rap interest you? How many of you know about Moishe House or Reboot, new movements created by Jews under 35? This reflects the spirit of American ingenuity and freedom not found in other Jewish communities around the world. Ironically, many Israelis, citizens of the Jewish State, envy American Jews because we have so many more choices to create meaningful Jewish lives.

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

(continued from previous page)

This is an exciting time for us. So much creativity. So many choices. Our Jewish menu of opportunities resembles the selections found in American supermarkets. It can be overwhelming. The culture has adapted to nearly everyone's individual desires.

There is a flip side to this coin of creativity and freedom. While the American spirit inspires us to be anyone we want to be, we're more focused on our individual feelings than the general welfare of the community.

This reminds me of a story told by an acquaintance of an experience he had at an Orthodox Jewish Day School some 50 years ago. The time had come for afternoon prayers, but as a 10-year-old, he "wasn't in the mood." He explained to the Old World Rabbi, that he just didn't feel like it, to which the Rabbi responded, "so Dennis doesn't feel like participating in afternoon prayers, SO WHAT!"

At this different time and place, an individual's (especially a child's) particular feelings were not given much, if any, consideration. I don't think many of us would favor such an approach. For us, the pendulum has swung the other way.

As I've described, the array of choices for the modern American Jew is unprecedented. Yet one alluring choice is to choose to opt out or live on the margin of Jewish life. The choice to not participate in Jewish life has not been an available option for our people in most places and times. Our decisions whether or not to light *Shabbat* candles, attend Synagogue services or enroll in a course to further our Jewish education can frequently depend simply on whether or not "we feel like it." And the competition for our time has never been stiffer. Whether it's work, school, hobbies, family, volunteer activities, etc., there is so much to do and so little time. I confess that October 19 will be one of those crisis points for me. *Erev Simchat Torah* arrives on a World Series night—and my firm has season tickets. Please pray that I make the right choice. In other words, I hope I WON'T do what I will certainly feel like doing on that night. [Oh, Rabbi Holin: FYI, it's not looking too good for the Giants.]

Here at Kol Ami, we seek to collaborate with our membership to create meaningful choices that will lead to YES. Rabbi Holin, with your Synagogue leadership, works very hard to provide us with many ways to connect to the Synagogue, Judaism, and each other. We cannot take our membership's commitment for granted. It must be earned. We want your input, ideas, and help so that everyone will find meaningful activities within the Kol Ami community. For the next few months, I will be spending most Sunday mornings in our new library; please visit me with your suggestions, criticisms, or even compliments. We are also going to reach out to you with surveys to check the Kol Ami collective pulse and learn more about our preferences. We will be asking about everything from your preference for Friday night service times to your level of connection.

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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

### **Rabbi Selilah Kalev**

### **Director of Education**

215-635-7106

### **Sheri Cutler**

### **Nursery School Director**

215-635-4180

### **Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist**

215-572-6094

### **Please send correspondence to:**

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

**Web site:** [www.kolamielkinspark.org](http://www.kolamielkinspark.org)

### **Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark](http://www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark)

## **BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS**

Please send articles by the fifth of the previous month (e.g., by October 5 for the November issue) to **Janet Falon** at [jfalton@english.upenn.edu](mailto:jfalton@english.upenn.edu). Articles may be edited as needed. Photographs/images to be included should be at least 2x3" in size and 300 DPI resolution to ensure good reproduction. ■

# L'SHANA TOVA UMETUKAH. TO A GOOD AND SWEET YEAR.

WORDS OF OUR PAST PRESIDENT, ILENE SCHAFFER, PRESENTED AT OUR EREV SHABBAT SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER 23

From the moment we joined Kol Ami in 1996, my husband and I felt a connection to the people that made up our synagogue family—a connection that has strengthened tremendously over time. Eight years ago, I was invited to join the Board of Trustees. I was flattered and honored to be asked. I looked forward to joining our leadership in ushering us forward through the years.

Many times since then, I have commented to others about the people who make up our Board as I have been consistently amazed by the level of commitment and dedication every member demonstrates on a nearly constant basis—and a volunteer one at that. These people chose to help, chose to support, chose to attend, and, in the process, they ensure that Kol Ami remains a vibrant, caring community. To all of you, I can only say thank you—not only for everything you do for our synagogue but for everything you did to aid me in my role as president.

The position demands much time and energy, but it would have been an impossible job if the Board were not doing their part as well. When I look back over my two-year tenure, I am most proud of the fact that with the help of all of you, and, most importantly, Bart Weiner and Jennifer Streitwieser, we conducted a hugely successful capital campaign. It was a monumental task that was supported by not only the Board, but the Congregation as a whole; and it gives me great satisfaction to know that I had a part in helping to secure our future.

I volunteer for no other entities and it's not because I truly don't have the time (which I don't) but rather it's because I have never been moved to do so. Kol Ami has always moved me—on every level—and being the lay leader has given me a great sense of satisfaction. It felt like a debt was being repaid. I have received so much, it was only natural to give back in return.

Now it is **David Hyman's** turn to move us forward—he has already impressed me with his ideas and energy, and I know that his tenure will be successful. David, know that I will do all I can to support you moving ahead.

I would like to add a few more thanks. First of all, I would like to thank my husband, **Marshall**, for not hesitating with his approval when I told him I was considering the presidency. He was and is an incredibly supportive man who loved me enough to give up a lot of time with me so

I could devote myself here. I would like to thank **Rabbi Holin** for his spiritual leadership and his friendship. One of the perks of this job was the growth of my relationship with you—I will treasure our friendship always.

To **Guy Appel, Michael Levin, and Alan Gershenson** who have now departed the Board—you have worked tirelessly on behalf of Kol Ami, and on her behalf, I thank you all. Don't go far—we still need you all. To **Jeff Margasek, Phyllis Harrison, and Bill Hyman**—welcome to the Board of Trustees—I look forward to working with all of you as we march onward together. I wish you all *l'shana tova*.

Lastly, I would like to thank our executive director, **Elaine Stevens**. You know, everyone thanks Elaine and comments about how much she does for the synagogue, but I have to tell you all—including Board members—until you work with her as president, you truly have no idea. Elaine, for two years you amazed me—you made me more capable, more prepared, and more productive. I know with my whole heart that whatever good I have accomplished during my term was made possible by your hard work, and, even more than that, you have been a stalwart friend and confidant. ■





## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION



Nine years ago, I had the honor of being the speaker at my Rabbinic Ordination. It was the culmination of six years of study, a class vote, a few weeklong class study sessions of a chosen text, and a lot of nerves and stress. In the end, I addressed about one thousand attendees on the value of greeting. Basing it all on a Rabbinic text about Moses' brother Aaron, I charged this esteemed audience with the need to recognize the power and importance of saying "Hi."

Looking to prove my point, I asked: "What is the opposite of greeting? What is it to walk along a road, into a room, or down a hall without being

greeted by those who pass? It is loneliness, isolation, and ultimately, non-existence." The *Torah* rebels against this condition of the human being. For example, when Adam was created, even though he lived in Paradise, God said to him, "*lo tov*" ("not good"): it is not right for man to be alone. To be lonely is to feel no connection and to feel that what we do and who we are does not matter. And it is human nature to rail against this sort of anonymity. That is why reality TV and talk shows are full of desperate people who will do anything to be recognized. There is a yearning within all of us to answer "*hineini*" ("here I am") to someone's call.

I continued by arguing that people turn to religion to heal that loneliness, and it is the ultimate failure of any religious community that does not remove it. To have someone enter our sanctuary, perhaps to say *kaddish*, perhaps to reconnect with their heritage, and to never be greeted; for no one to show interest in who they are and why they are there, is an offense against the divine image in every human being. Ironically, these days often the only greeting people get and interest that is shown is when they are going through a security screening.

What can a greeting do to bring a person out of such depths? It provides recognition; it is a simple acknowledgment of the person that stands before you. Greeting draws us out of our internal space, the "all-about-me" self-absorption that is natural when we are lonely. Greeting jars us, reminding us that we are not alone, that there are others around us, and that others know and care that we are there. A greeting says: "Hello, I know that you are before me, and you are important."

So why do I bring this to you today? Do we at Kol Ami need to work harder to be warm, to be welcoming, and to recognize those before us even as we pass

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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Kol Ami embraces the American individualist spirit and each member's unique participation. Our leadership envisions a strong Jewish community where each of us can impact how we create our individual and collective meaningful Jewish identity. This is our map to a strong and vibrant American Jewish community at Kol Ami.

Speaking of Synagogue success, one of the President's less-appealing responsibilities is to remind you of the envelope that's quietly sitting by your side. Let me share a personal story going back 40 years on my approach to this role. During a first date during my sophomore year in college, I explained to the more mature junior across the dinner table that I believed in openness and honesty in dating: NO GAMES! I'll never forget her response, "Oh the 'NO-GAME' GAME."

So today, I offer you the "No-Solicitation" Solicitation. Let me simply acknowledge the many of you who were so generous during our recent and successful capital campaign. *Toda raba*. Thank you very much. I am expecting 100 percent participation from our Board in this *Rosh Hashanah* solicitation. We need the help and appreciate your consideration at SOME LEVEL of participation. In case you need any further incentive to give, if this "No-Solicitation" Solicitation is not successful, my President's message next year, for 5773, will last three hours.

*L'shana tova umetukah*. To a good and sweet year.

David Hyman  
215-496-7224  
president@kolamielkinspark.org ■

## NEW MEMBERS

Kol Ami would like to offer a hearty welcome to new members **Meryl and Terry Silver**, who have resided in Elkins Park for almost 25 years.

Meryl is a college advisor at Montgomery County Community College, who also volunteers time with Hadassah. Terry is a CPA in Philadelphia as well as being a yoga enthusiast.

Together, Meryl and Terry love to travel and to root for the Phillies. Meryl and Terry have raised two sons during their quarter-century in the neighborhood. Their younger son, Jake, is entering his senior year at Reed College in Portland, Oregon, and their older son, Max, got married on September 4, with Rabbi Holin performing the ceremony.

Meryl and Terry are happy to have joined our community this summer and are looking forward to their new participation and friendships.

Welcome to Kol Ami, Meryl and Terry, and *mazel tov* on your family *simchah!* ■

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If you know of a friend, associate, or family member who may be interested in joining our intimate and dynamic community, contact Irene Levy Baker, the Kol Ami Membership chair, at [spotlightpr@comcast.net](mailto:spotlightpr@comcast.net) or 215-782-2253. She has membership kits as well as religious school and dues information available.

Some of the many benefits Congregation Kol Ami offers include: spiritual growth, adult and student choirs, community service, social events, an interfaith relationship group, holiday celebrations, and more.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

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through the halls? Well, I suppose we can always do better; however, I must admit that I truly believe that we are uniquely good at this. We are a small, warm, and inviting community whose individuals take the time and care to reach out to each other.

Often I am asked whether I am happy at Kol Ami, given that my background is steeped in conservative Judaism. I always answer truthfully when I say: "I have never been a part of a community that was this warm and welcoming."

Although we are very good at welcoming each other, I think there is another area where we can, without question, improve. You see, welcoming only works when we are there to be welcomed. With this in mind, I believe that our attention should be on coming together as a community as often as we can. Recognizing that though we are each busy as individuals and as families, our Kol Ami community misses us when we are not there. It is made stronger by our presence, as we are made stronger by being there. It is only as a group that we can look to each other for support.

In the past, as a religious school, we have touted our warmth and our community and, then in the name of education and pedagogy, designed all of our programming for tiny groups within it. But, how much *ruach* (spirit) can a room full of five families generate? So this year, we are rethinking things. We are recognizing the power and importance of saying "Hi." We have created programming that brings much, if not all, of the community together. We will learn together, we will sing together, we will play together, and we will say "Hi" to each other!

Please join me in recognizing the individuals who stand before us. Please join me in being there to be recognized. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

*B'Shalom,*

Rabbi Selilah Kalev ■



## SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

(GRADES 6-8)

After the great success of our first two events—an afternoon at Dave & Busters and a Scavenger Hunt—join your friends at The Rink of Old York Road in Elkins Park on **Sunday, November 6**, for an afternoon of ice skating. The event is planned for **12:00 p.m.** (immediately following Hebrew School) **until 2:30 p.m.** We will have a private room to hang out when not skating, and lunch will be provided. A flyer will be sent home with additional details. Contact Alison at [kayouthadvisor@gmail.com](mailto:kayouthadvisor@gmail.com) with any questions. ■

# ISRAEL TRIP

by Katherine Streitwieser



This summer, I spent five weeks in Israel with my youth movement, *Habonim Dror*, the builders of freedom. Due to my youth movement's ethos, my trip was far from a tourist's experience in Israel.

Our days consisted of mainly day trips with mini-lessons about the history of the given place. We started in Tel Chai, learning about the kibbutzim, including their founders and how these early pioneers helped Israel to expand its boundaries and fight against land threats. Within the first week, each group of about 20 people, built a raft from primitive materials and sailed across the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee); afterwards we had a dance party on the beach.

From there, we toured Jerusalem, including the Western Wall, Jewish Quarter, Knesset (Parliament building), and a *shuk* (outdoor marketplace). We stayed in Druze Village, Peki'in, seeing other cultures and how all fit into Israel's way of amalgamating cultures.

Next, I had a day that I waited for since 2006, *Yom Habonim* (Day of the Builders). This

day was the gathering of all the people in my youth movement and in my age group from over 20 countries, such as Uruguay and Netherlands. Meeting people who have a similar ideology to mine is rare and to have those people surrounding me was unreal. The day consisted of trading shirts, and *charades* due to language barriers, but to know that other people in the world are similar to me is wonderful.

The following day we stayed in bedouin tents and woke up early to hike Masada. Next, we started our trek into the desert; we stayed on a *kibbutz* at Sde Boker and had a wonderful view of desert landscape. In Sde Boker, we received our *Chutzot Tnuva* (movement shirt). When we receive our shirt, we are officially considered leaders in the movement, which is a major accomplishment.

Following this, we spent four days with our Israeli sister movement, *HaNoar HaOved V'HaLomed*, the working and studying youth. I gained an interesting viewpoint from their lifestyles, including people from sexually sheltered Jerusalemites to modern Tel Avivis. Next, we took a pit stop to visit the Tent Protests in Jerusalem, a hot topic within our very liberal camp.

As our trip wrapped up, I realized that it was not the places that made my journey unforgettable, but the 150 people with whom I spent several weeks and who changed my perspective on the world. ■





*Don't miss these enlightening opportunities...*

# Continuing Jewish Education

## Life Happens: To See the World through Jewish Eyes - Our Search for Meaning

**Instructor: Rabbi Howard Bogot**  
**Thursdays - November 3, 10 & 17**  
**from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

In his book “Man’s Search for Meaning,” Viktor Frankl defines meaning as the primary psycho-spiritual need of the individual: “We had to learn (in the concentration camps)... that it did not really matter what we expected from life, but rather what life expected from us... Our answer must consist not in talk, but in right action and right conduct... These tasks, and therefore the meaning of life, differ from person to person.”



Our search for meaning is a series of seminars devoted to meaningfulness as related to Jewishness. By discussing classic and contemporary Jewish texts, participants in individual, as well as clustered sessions, will explore

human needs, attitudes, and actions that often exist in creative tension with each other: fear-optimism; failure-confidence; suffering-contentment; pride-shame.

Professor Bogot, MEd, is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. He has served as a faculty member of HUC-JIR of Religion, Marymount Manhattan College, and Fordham University as clinical professor of education and assistant professor in the departments of Humanities and Theology.

## Lunch and Learn - *Mishnah*

**Instructor: Rabbi Elliot Holin**  
**Tuesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Commencing November 8**  
**BYOL plus ‘Jewish nutrition’ at the Synagogue**



What wisdom did rabbis in the second century of the Common Era offer about life and afterlife, the search for wisdom, and the sanctity of relationships that might be insightful today?

Join Rabbi Holin as we explore selections from *Mishnah – Pirkei Avot* (“Chapters of the Fathers/Ancestors” from the second century of the Common Era) to discuss

rabbinic writings about Temple rituals, personal and professional relationships, the value of study, and how they speak to us now.

Date	Writings/Works
November 8	“How to Enhance Life”
November 15	“How to Make Wise Choices”
March 13	“The Benefits of Studying <i>Torah</i> ”
April 3	“What to Avoid Doing” – part 1
April 10	“What to Avoid Doing” – part 2
May 8	“What Is a Good Path in Life?”
May 15	“The Purpose of Prayer”

Please call Rabbi Holin at 215-635-4182 by November 1 to RSVP for the November classes.



# for Adults at Kol Ami

## Tastes of Honey: Sample the Wonders of Jewish Wisdom Literature

Instructor:  
Rabbi Elliot Holin  
Wednesdays from  
7:30 to 8:30 p.m.



Join Rabbi Holin on the following Wednesdays to delve into Jewish texts and teachings that stimulate thought and have the potential of enriching your life:

Date	Writings/Works
December 7	<b>Proverbs</b> , part 1: “To know wisdom and instruction” (1:2)
December 14	<b>Proverbs</b> , part 2: “Let another praise thee, and not thine own mouth” (27:2)
January 18	<b>The Book of Job</b> , part 1: “The Lord has given, and the Lord has taken” (1:21 )
January 25	<b>The Book of Job</b> , part 2: “The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind” (38:1)
February 15	Selected works of Israeli poet <b>Yehuda Amichai</b> , part 1
February 22	Selected works of Israeli poet <b>Yehuda Amichai</b> , part 2

Please call Rabbi Holin at 215-635-4182 by November 30 to RSVP for the December classes.

## Jewish Ethics for Everyday Life

*A text-based class exploring ethical and legal dilemmas from a Talmudic perspective*

Instructor: Rabbi Alexander Coleman  
Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Date	Writings/Works
January 4	“Sticks and Stones May Break My Bones but Names Will Hurt Me”: defamation and gossip in Jewish law
February 1	“The Robin Hood Dilemma”: taking the law into one’s own hands
March 14	“Nothing but the Truth”: when is lying permitted?
April 4	“Survivor: Who Gets to Live?”: choosing one life over another in medical treatment
May 2	“When the Hand Rocks the Cradle”: how long do parents bear responsibility for their children?

Rabbi Alexander Coleman, a native of Liverpool, England, received his education from *yeshivas* in Jerusalem and New York. For the past 15 years, he has dedicated himself to Jewish education and spiritual counseling in the Philadelphia area, offering classes and one-on-one mentorship on Jewish philosophy, spirituality, law, and ethics as well as text-based classes on *Chumash*, *Talmud* and other classic works. His classes on Jewish law and ethics are accredited by the PA Continuing Legal Education Board. CLE confirmation forms will be provided at the class and all CLE processing will be handled by the presenter, and entails a separate fee.

**Registration Instructions:** To register for this class, contact Elaine Stevens at [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) by December 20. The non-member course fee is \$50. ■

# Kol Ami Events

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## FIRST-FRIDAY EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

for November Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Friday, November 4, at 7:30 p.m.

at our *erev Shabbat* Service



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in November, please join us for a special Second-Friday *erev Shabbat* service. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with a November *simcha* under a *tallit* in front of the ark. Watch for

your invitation for this special *Shabbat simcha*. Rabbi Holin will continue to send personal letters to everyone celebrating a significant birthday or anniversary ending with 0 or 5 (for example, 40, 45).

If you have a special 0 or 5 birthday or anniversary, you will be invited to participate in any Friday service in “your” month by blessing the candles or *challah*, or reciting the *Kiddush*, or at any Saturday service that month by carrying or blessing the *Torah*.



## FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT

Rabbi Holin’s **Fast for Darfur**—which supports rescue efforts in Darfur—and **Nothing But Nets** fast—which supports URJ’s project to purchase, distribute, and educate about the proper use of insecticide-treated family bed nets to prevent the spread of malaria in Africa—will be on **Wednesday, November 9, and Tuesday, December 13.**

His **Phast for Philadelphia**—which is on behalf of unemployed workers in Philadelphia who are struggling to make ends meet by helping them pay their mortgages, address health care needs, and pay electric bills—will be on **Tuesday, November 22, and Wednesday, December 28.**

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’)

## Save Darfur Coalition

3246 Solutions Center

Lockbox #773246

Chicago, IL 60677

## 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’)



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PTO

(FORMERLY ACTIVITIES WORKING GROUP) **EVENTS**

Below are the PTO 2011/2012 Events and Activities at a glance:

- Family Bingo - **November 5**
- Religious School Bake Sales - **November 13, March 11, and April 15**
- PTO Meetings - December 11, January 22, February 5, March 18, and April 22
- Pancake Breakfast - December 11
- Hoagie Sale - February 5

Any questions or concerns can be directed to co-chairs Kenny Moss ([kenny.moss2@comcast.net](mailto:kenny.moss2@comcast.net)) and Heather Pelletier ([hfppt1@gmail.com](mailto:hfppt1@gmail.com)) or Elaine Stevens at the Kol Ami executive office.

## “FOOD STAMPED”: A FILM AND BRIEF DISCUSSION AT CONGREGATION KOL AMI

Thursday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m.

A 62-minute film by Shira and Yoav Potash; co-sponsored by Elkins Park Hazon CSA and the Kol Ami Social Action Committee

“Food Stamped” is a informative and humorous documentary film following a couple as they attempt to eat a healthy, well-balanced diet on a food-stamp budget. Through their adventures, they consult with members of U.S. Congress, food justice organizations, nutrition experts, and people living on food stamps to take a deep look at America’s broken food system. Exploring the question of whether

it's possible to eat healthfully on government food stamps, filmmaker Yoav Potash and his nutrition educator wife, Shira, do their best to make healthy choices at the market and stay within a dollar-a-meal budget.

**Admission charge:** Please bring non-perishable food or a grocery store gift card.

## WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE



It's starting to get cold outside, and many people are without warm clothing. Please donate new or clean, gently used winter coats, jackets, gloves, hats, scarves, and blankets for adults and children. Bring your clothing to the synagogue, and it will be donated to the needy people in our area.

## SUPPORT OF ISRAEL HONOREE BRUNCH

**Sunday, November 6, from 10:00 a.m. until Noon  
at Keneseth Israel**

The State of Israel Bonds Organization, together with Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Keneseth Israel, **Congregation Kol Ami**, and Old York Road Temple-Beth Am, will be honoring Sima and Steve Sussman, Caryl and Michael Levin, **Sara and Michael Chernoff**, and Carol and Barry Stein at a Tribute Brunch. Tribute co-chairs are Jackie Shulman and Peter Soloff.

The honorees will receive a special award for the long-standing support of the Israel Bonds program and their great involvement with the Philadelphia Jewish community. The keynote speaker at the event will be Gil Hoffman, the chief political correspondent and analyst for "The Jerusalem Post."

For further information, please contact the Israel Bond office at 215-545-8380 or e-mail Raisa Neyman, the event coordinator, at [raisa.neyman@israelbonds.com](mailto:raisa.neyman@israelbonds.com).



NOT JUST A BOND.  
A BOND WITH ISRAEL.

## LOCA LUNCH AND BRYN ATHYN TOUR

**Sunday, November 13, at 11:30 a.m.**

The Ladies of a Certain Age (LOCAs) are sponsoring a lunch at Timbers Restaurant in Abington, followed by a guided tour of the Bryn Athyn Cathedral. Tours last about an hour.

Contact Natalie Dyen (215-657-4124 or [nat.dyen@verizon.net](mailto:nat.dyen@verizon.net)) to RSVP. Once we know who's coming, we'll arrange car pools. Women 50ish and older, who are members of the Congregation, are welcome to join LOCA events.

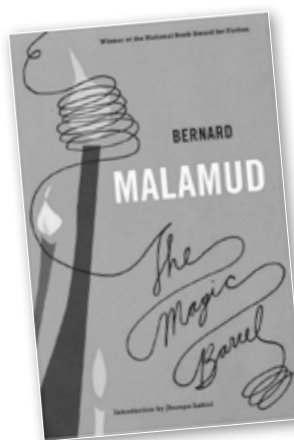
## ISH EVENT: BEER TASTING!

**Saturday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m.  
at the home of Lori and Ron Iller  
801 North Fairway Road, Glenside, PA**

Please join us for our Annual Beer Tasting! Bring a six pack of your favorite brew and a snack to share. RSVP to Sherry Cohen at [shcohen361@verizon.net](mailto:shcohen361@verizon.net) or Heather Pelletier at [hfppt1@gmail.com](mailto:hfppt1@gmail.com) no later than November 16.

## CONTEMPORARY JEWISH WRITERS GROUP BOOK REVIEW

**Sunday, November 20, at 11:00 a.m.**



The Contemporary Jewish Writers Book Group begins a new season at Congregation Kol Ami with "The Magic Barrel," Bernard Malamud's short-story classic. It was honored with the National Book Award for Fiction.

One of America's most gifted writers, Malamud brings us into a world of shoemakers, matchmakers, rabbis, artists, and "ganufs." These tales capture the rhythm of Yiddish folktales and the idioms of many first-generation American Jews. Malamud's voices, in their comedic brilliance, speak in an English tongue fragrant with Yiddish nuance.

*continued page 14*





## Kol Ami Kids ‘Cool’ Fall Events Held

ABOVE: Kol Ami’s Senior Youth Group (Grades 6-8) held a scavenger hunt on October 2, where items were hidden all over the Kol Ami grounds. Here are some of the lucky finders!

BELOW: Mrs. Holtzman took the Junior Youth Group (Grades 4 & 5) for some apple-picking fun at Solebury Orchards in New Hope, PA, on September 25.





# Family Bingo Night

**Come out and join us at Congregation Kol Ami**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011**

**5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.**

***Kid-Friendly Prizes • 50/50 Raffle! • "Themed" Raffle Items***

***Refreshments Available!***

**For more information, please call Ellen Kovnat**

**Phone: 215-886-8713**

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

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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Hm Phone/Wk phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# 4 packs \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# single packs \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to Kol Ami)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_



**4 pack – 14" cheese  
pizza, 4 drinks, 4 cook-  
ies, 10 bingo cards  
.... \$20.00  
(\$24.00 at the door)**

**Single pack – 2 pizza  
slices, 1 drink, 1 cookie,  
2 bingo cards .... \$5.00  
(\$6.00 at the door)**

**Please send form and check to:**

**8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027**

## Open to the community

## KOL AMI EVENTS (continued from page 11)

In the eponymous tale, “The Magic Barrel,” we meet Leo Finkle, a rabbinical student who is convinced he needs a wife. He contacts Pinya Salzman, a matchmaker who shows him photographs of eligible women. None please Finkle. After a devastating blind date with one woman, Leo Finkle appears to lose heart and faith. The matchmaker, however, seemingly by accident, leaves behind a photo that captures the young rabbi. Over Saltzman’s objections, Leo and Stella arrange a date. Reflecting Malamud at his best, the story ends with baffling consequences.

Malamud’s characters are energetic, vigorous in their conflicts and passions. His stories invite us to question ideals of love, morality, and identity. The author’s veritable “magic barrel,” so rich in realism and fantasy, may cause our temperatures and consciousness to rise.

## SECOND ANNUAL JUNIOR YOUTH KALLAH

December 2 - 4, 2011

URJ Camp Harlam, Kunkletown, PA

Open to all Sixth- to Eighth-Grade Students

If you enjoy meeting new people, learning, singing, and laughing, this event is for you. For further details, contact Alison at [kayouthadvisor@gmail.com](mailto:kayouthadvisor@gmail.com).

## JOIN US TO HEAR BEVERLY ROSEN TALK ABOUT “THE LIST” BY MARTIN FLETCHER

Friday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m.

(at our *erev Shabbat Service*)



One Book, One Jewish Community has chosen “The List” as the book-of-choice for the highly successful literary program that enjoys the support of all Kehillot and their participating synagogues throughout Greater Philadelphia.

The book is loosely based on the story of Mr. Fletcher’s parents. Having fled the Nazis, a young Austrian couple in

1945 London discovers that for Jews like them, the war did not end with VE Day. While they desperately seek word on the possible survival or whereabouts of family members sent to concentration camps, petitions are being signed by anti-Semites in their neighborhood of

Hampstead to “send the aliens home” to clear space and jobs for returning British soldiers. It takes place at a time when the horrific truths of the concentration camps was not widely known, and the false notion that Jews had any “home” to which they could return.

Martin Fletcher worked as a French and German interpreter for the Common Market before beginning his career as a television news programming writer for VisNews in the UK in 1970. He joined the BBC, writing on the main evening news program, returning to VisNews to be a news cameraman. After four years in Belgium, Israel, and Rhodesia, he joined NBC News where he began his career as a cameraman in 1977.

He began his Tel Aviv assignment in 1982, becoming Bureau Chief in 1996. He is currently a NBC News Special Correspondent. He has won five Emmy Awards for his work on the first and second Palestinian uprisings, the horror of war in Rwanda and Kosovo, and then for his story on trauma medicine in Israel.

His other awards include “Breaking News” and “Walking Israel,” for which he won a Jewish National Book Award.



## MEMBER-TO-MEMBER CONVERSATIONS: “THE HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK” WITH EDIS HALL

Sunday, December 4  
from 11:00 a.m. until Noon

In December, we will commence a new program at the synagogue, offered to enable us to know each other better by hearing from fellow members about interesting avocations, experiences, and studies.

When Edis Hall enrolled in the Drexel Graduate School of Library Science, one of the courses was the History of Libraries. When her professor informed the class that with the exception of monks, there was no learning and no libraries during the “Dark Ages,” Edis did research to prove him wrong.

As she writes, “The Hebrew library as a concept has had an unbroken and illustrious history. As a physical entity, it has endured a tumultuous and erratic history, but the love of learning and reverence for books, so inbred into the very fiber of Judaic life, has always brought forth new schools, new universities, and new libraries whenever and wherever



the old were demolished. Though short-lived, they constituted a bulwark of intellectual freedom that vigorously strengthened a people's will to survive."

Join us for this first of five "getting-to-know-you" programs.

## EXPERIENCE SHABBAT EXPERIENCES!

**Innovative family opportunities during the year—save the dates!**

During the 2011-2012 program year, we will offer several unique *Shabbat* experiences for the entire family, commencing in December.

Daytime programs will begin with a brief *Shabbat* service at 10:00 a.m. and *Oneg* at 11:00 a.m., followed by the opportunity for us to truly celebrate the meaning of *Shabbat* with *mishpachah*, the synagogue family:

- **Saturday, December 10, at 2:00 p.m.**  
Docent tour of the National Museum of American Jewish History
- **Saturday, March 17, at 4:00 p.m.**  
"Jews in Sports" presentation by Robert Alan Katz as part of our afternoon *Havdalah* service experience
- **Saturday, April 28, at 2:00 p.m.**  
'Walking Tour of Jewish Philadelphia' with guide Linda Nesvisky
- **Saturday, May 12**  
Walk-lunch at High School Park or Avelthorpe Park following the service ■

## COMMUNITY & NATIONAL EVENTS

### UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM (URJ) BIENNIAL December 14-18

Gaylord National Hotel and Conference Center,  
National Harbor, MD (just outside Washington DC)

Our congregation is one of more than 900 Reform synagogues in the United States and Canada that are part of the URJ, the largest Jewish movement in North America that represents 1.5 million Jews. The URJ helps sustain Reform Judaism through synagogue life by providing leadership and program ideas on spiritual, ethical, and political issues.

The URJ Biennial welcomes more than 5,000 Jews from across the country to four incredible days of think-tanks, which present the "best of" innovative programs that have engaged and enriched the lives of synagogue members; learning sessions with URJ staff, rabbis, and lay leaders; plenary sessions that welcome inspirational speakers; Jewish youth at the cutting edge of new avenues to engage Jewish identity and community; and the incredible experience of being at a "Biennial *Shabbat*" filled with the spirit of song and voices joined together in joyous prayer.

Rabbi Holin, Cantorial Soloist Rebecca and Joel Schwartz, Ilene Schafer, Ellen Friedman, and Elaine Stevens attended the URJ Biennial in Toronto in 2009 and will be glad to tell you about their experiences, which should whet your appetite for the Biennial in Washington!

To learn more about the Biennial and how to register, go to [www.urj.org](http://www.urj.org). ■



### KOL AMI'S FIRST PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Sunday, December 11, at 9:00 a.m.**

**8201 High School Road, Elkins Park**

Start your day right! Come on out for a hearty breakfast and visit with friends before religious school. We'll be serving pancakes, coffee, tea, fresh fruit, and juice!

**In advance: Single \$3 / Family \$12**

**At the door: Single \$4 / Family \$15**

RSVP to Elaine Stevens by Wednesday, December 7, at 215-635-3110 or [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org).

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS: OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

## SEND ME! by Ronit Sugar

After hearing the Rabbi's inspiring *Rosh Hashanah* sermon, many of you are wondering, "What can I do to make the world a better place?" Here are some suggestions:

1. Every time you come to the synagogue, bring a can of food or a box of non-perishable food, and drop it in the big aluminum can in the main hallway. This food will be delivered to the *Mitzvah* Food Pantry in Beth Shalom and distributed to needy families in our area.

2. Come see the movie "Food Stamped" at our synagogue, on **Thursday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m.** Read the details on page 10. Afterward, we will have a brief discussion on the issues addressed in the movie.

3. Go to the Jewish Relief Agency Warehouse at 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, to help pack and distribute food to needy Jews in Philadelphia. The next volunteer date is **November 20 at 10:00 a.m.** Visit [www.jewishrelief.org](http://www.jewishrelief.org), call 215-281-1101, or e-mail [jra@jewishrelief.org](mailto:jra@jewishrelief.org) for details and/or directions.

4. Pack holiday food boxes so low-income families can enjoy a holiday meal. Join us on **Sunday, December 4, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** at Share Food, 2901 West Huntingdon Park Avenue, Philadelphia. Dress warmly. Please RSVP to [robinrifkin@comcast.net](mailto:robinrifkin@comcast.net).

5. Look for alerts in the Bulletin requesting certain food items, go shopping in the kosher section of your supermarket, and drop off these items at the synagogue. We will be collecting holiday-specific, kosher food at *Hanukkah* and *Passover*, to be given to Jewish families in Philadelphia.

6. Volunteer at a *Mitzvah* Food Pantry. Visit <http://www.jewishphilly.org/section.aspx?id=2671> now.

7. Join us the next time we "Cook for a Friend," where we prepare meals in the Kol Ami kitchen to be delivered to homebound seniors in Philadelphia. Watch for alerts via the Bulletin or Listserv.

8. Pay attention to the debate about the 2012 Farm Bill, which is coming up in Congress. The time to advocate a fair Farm Bill for producers and consumers is now. Share your thoughts on these issues with your state and federal representatives. More information can be found at <http://www.hungercoalition.org/policy-center>. ■

## ARTIST IN THE KOL AMI LOBBY

**SKIP ATKINS**—an enthusiastic, amateur photographer dating back many decades to his days in the college dark-room—rejoiced at the advent of digital photography. This meant that there was no longer a need to squint in red light, and his hands didn't have to plunge into unpleasant liquids anymore. Appreciative of the ability to learn from other local photographers whom he admires, Skip enjoys the greater creative control over the entire process of producing a photographic image, from capture to processing to printing, that digital techniques afford.

Although Skip spends most days (and occasional nights) as an anesthesiologist in the local area, he is grateful for any opportunity to take his camera and tripod out for a shooting session. Partly owing to his dislike for driving long distances, most of his photographs are taken in the greater Philadelphia area as well as other sites around the Delaware Valley and mid-Atlantic region.

Skip has exhibited previously in various venues, including the annual Art in the Atrium juried show at Abington Memorial Hospital (where his work has won three awards), and he was a featured photographer at the former Swan Gallery in Jenkintown.

In addition to photography, Skip is passionate about Phillies baseball, occasionally trying to combine the two with varying degrees of success. He and his family are active in the local Jewish community, and he is delighted to have the opportunity to show his work in the gallery at Congregation Kol Ami from November 3 through January 3.

Stop by for Skip's open house on **Sunday, November 6, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Also, to see many of Skip's photographs, visit [www.Skip-Atkins-Photography.com](http://www.Skip-Atkins-Photography.com). ■



# KOL AMI NOVEMBER 2011 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class</b> 7:00 p.m.	2 <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. <b>Operations Committee Meeting</b> 7:30 p.m.	3 <b>"Food Stamped" A Film and Brief Discussion</b> 7:00 p.m. Presented by Elkins Park Hazon CSA and the Kol Ami Social Action Committee <b>Continuing Jewish Adult Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot</b> 7:00 p.m. "Life Happens: To See the World through Jewish Eyes - Our Search for Meaning"	4 <b>Nursery School erev Shabbat Service</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Interfaith erev Shabbat Service plus "First-Friday" blessings; Adult choir participation</b> 7:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. - Dinner	5 <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m. Bill Hyman will give the dvar Torah <b>Family Bingo</b> 5:00 p.m.
6 <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:50 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Gr 4 to Abramson Center 11:40 a.m. - Gr K-7 Tfilah 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <b>Israel Bonds Recognition Brunch</b> 10:00 a.m. Keneseth Israel Honoring Mike and Sara Chernoff <b>Senior Youth Group Ice Skating at The Rink at Old York Road</b> 12:00 p.m. <b>Artist Open House Skip Atkins</b> 2:00 p.m.	7 <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Yoga <b>Social Action Committee Meeting</b> 7:15 p.m.	8 <b>No Nursery School</b> Teacher in Service <b>Lunch &amp; Learn with Rabbi Holin</b> 12:00 p.m. "How to Enhance Life" <b>Interfaith Relationship Dialogue</b> 7:30 p.m. Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen	9 <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	10 <b>Continuing Jewish Adult Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot</b> 7:00 p.m. "Life Happens: To See the World through Jewish Eyes - Our Search for Meaning"	11 <b>Nursery School erev Shabbat Service</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>erev Shabbat Service</b> 7:30 p.m.	12 <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Family Havdalah Service</b> 4:00 p.m.



# KOL AMI NOVEMBER 2011 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Thurs						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>13</b> <b>BAKE SALE</b> <b>Adult Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:50 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Gr K-2 Family Education Program 10:30 a.m. Gr 5&6 <i>Mitzvah</i> Bowl Presentation 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <b>LOCA Lunch and Bryn Athyn Tour</b> 11:30 a.m. <b>Religious School Staff Development</b> 12:00 p.m.	<b>14</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Yoga	<b>15</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Fitness <b>Lunch &amp; Learn with Rabbi Holin</b> 12:00 p.m. "How to Make Wise Choices" <b>Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class</b> 7:00 p.m. <b>Religious School Committee Meeting</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>16</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	<b>17</b> <b>Continuing Jewish Adult Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot</b> 7:00 p.m. "Life Happens: To See the World through Jewish Eyes - Our Search for Meaning" <b>Casino Night Committee Meeting</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>18</b> <b>Nursery School</b> <b>erev Shabbat Service with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Religious School</b> <b>erev Shabbat and Consecration Service with Student Choir Participation</b> 6:00 p.m.	<b>19</b> "Touch-Torah" <b>Shabbat Service</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>ISH Beer-Tasting Event</b> 7:00 p.m. Home of Ron and Lori Iller (Glenside)
<b>20</b> <b>No Religious School</b> Teacher in Service <b>Contemporary Jewish Writers Group Book Review with Lou Barrett</b> 11:00 a.m.	<b>21</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Yoga	<b>22</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Fitness	<b>23.</b> <b>No Religious School</b> Thanksgiving	<b>24</b> <b>No Nursery School</b> Thanksgiving	<b>25</b> <b>No Nursery School</b> Thanksgiving <b>erev Shabbat Service</b> 7:30 p.m.	<b>26</b> <b>Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue</b> 10:00 a.m. Samantha Pashko will read from the <i>Torah</i>
<b>27</b> <b>No Religious School</b> Thanksgiving	<b>28</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Yoga	<b>29</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Fitness	<b>30</b> <b>Nursery School</b> 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming <b>Religious School</b> 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.			

# Kol Ami Contributions

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We thank the following individuals for their generous donations to Kol Ami funds this month.

## **ADULT EDUCATION FUND**

*Anonymous*

## **ARTS & CULTURE FUND**

In Honor of:

**Rebecca Schwartz**  
*Joseph and Pam Costa*

## **BAR/BAT MITZVAH CONFIRMATION FUND**

In Honor of:

**Special birthday of  
Charles Langman**  
*Harold and Ellen Stern*

## **ONEG SHABBAT FUND**

In Honor of:

**Special birthday of  
Murray Greenfield**  
*Murray and Tracy Greenfield*

**Our 50th wedding anniversary  
and renewal of vows**  
*Howard and Judith Miller*

## **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In Honor of:

**David Hyman, our  
congregation's president**  
*Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz*

**Special birthday of  
Heather Pelletier**  
*Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz*

**Ilene Schafer, our congregation's  
immediate past president**  
*Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz*

**The naming of our daughter,  
Lexie Madlyn Silberman**  
*Sam and Missy Silberman*

**Special birthday of Harold Stern**  
*Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz*

In Memory of:

**Lillian Strikowsky**  
*Meryle Gurmankin*

## **SYNAGOGUE FUND**

*Anonymous*  
*Suzanne Feld*  
*Jason Halpern and Rebecca Condict*  
*Arnold and Phyllis Holtzman*  
*Robert and Cindi Olsman*

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Holin, with appreciation  
for the baby naming of our grand-  
daughter, Lexie Silverman**  
*Alan and Elaine Gershenson*

**David Hyman**  
*Lisa Mastoon*

**Conversion Ceremony  
of Kara Schmidt**  
*David Hyman*

**Special birthday of Harold Stern**  
*Alvin and Janice Booker*  
*Lore Bryan*

In Memory of:

**Julian Goodstein**  
*Elaine Alexander*

**Fanny Halprin**  
*Herbert and Lucille Barrett*

**Albert Romagnoli**  
*Joan Doyle*

## **YOUTH FUND**

In Honor of:

**Special birthday of Harold Stern**  
*Harold and Ellen Stern* ■

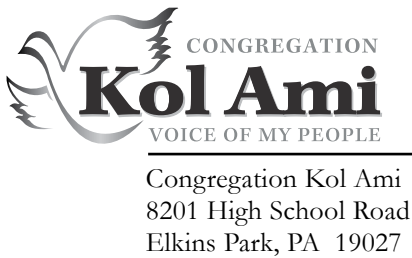
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## **CONTRIBUTION CATEGORIES**

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
- Arts and Culture Fund
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Confirmation Fund
- "Discover Israel" Fund
- Family Camp Weekend Fund
- Family Education Fund
- Library Fund
- Oneg Shabbat Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Religious School Fund
- Synagogue Fund
- Youth Fund

For more information about the above contribution categories, feel free to contact Elaine Stevens, our executive director, via e-mail at [execdir@kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) or by phone at 215-635-3110. ■



TO:



## Making Inclusion a Priority in our Community

We are proud to announce that Kol Ami has been chosen to be one of the four synagogues to participate in the **Lasko Synagogue Inclusion Network for People with Special Needs and Their Families**. Membership in the Network comes with a small cash grant and extensive programming, which will give the congregation access to resources and supports that will ensure we are a community who truly includes people with special needs and their families in all aspects of synagogue life.

The first tangible evidence of this effort that you will see as congregants will be a survey, which will help us identify the needs we may have missed and the challenges we face. As our participation in the Network progresses, we will be able to share “best practices for inclusion” developed in synagogues throughout the country.

If you would be interested in helping to make inclusion a priority in our community, please contact Joel Fishbein ([jfishbein@lawsgr.com](mailto:jfishbein@lawsgr.com)), Rich Goldstone ([rich.goldstone@willis.com](mailto:rich.goldstone@willis.com)), Rabbi Holin, Rabbi Kalev, or any member of your Board. ■