



WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, Aug. 31, 6:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat-on-the-Meadow Service
(preceded by a 5:45 p.m. BYOD)

FRIDAY, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.

Our celebration in honor of Kol Ami's 18th Year on 'Prospective Member' *erev Shabbat* Service plus the release of our new CD "Chai-Lights" as well as 'First-Friday' birthday and anniversary blessings and the voices of our Adult Choir

SATURDAY, Sept. 8

10:00 a.m. - *Bar Mitzvah* of Jacob Margasak (see page 16)

9:00 p.m. - *Selichot* Service:

Unveiling the High Holy Days with guest speaker Dr. Simcha Raphael presenting "The Myth and Mystery of *Rosh Hashana* and *Yom Kippur*," preceded by an *Oneg* at 8:30 p.m. with delicious refreshments

FRIDAY, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, Sept. 15, 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

SUNDAY, Sept. 16, 8:00 p.m.

erev Rosh Hashanah

MONDAY, Sept. 17

10:00 a.m. - *Rosh Hashanah*

(parallel Youth Service for students in grades 3-6 in the chapel)

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THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 2012 - 5773

Adult, Youth, and Children's Services plus Childcare



We will use the "Gates of Repentance" prayer book during adult services. We have 500 books available, but if you have the prayer book at home, please bring it with you so that the Kol Ami prayer books can derive the greatest possible use by other members and their families.

Our *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* morning services for stu-

dents in grades 3 through 6 will be under the direction of our Congregation's I.M. Wise students and song leader Zoe Long. Our young adults will be using "Gates of Repentance for Young People" as their prayer book.

As in previous years, we will have a special service for children in grades K through 2 on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* afternoons for our Children's-Family Service to ensure a meaningful, interactive experience using a special edition of "Gates of Repentance for Young People" as their prayer book.

Child care is available during *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* morning services through Laurie Langman (215-654-9717 or laurierobin@verizon.net).

SELICHOT – UNVEILING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

"The Myth and Mystery of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*"

Saturday, September 8, at 9:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Pre-service *Oneg* at 8:30 p.m.

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

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SAVE THE DATE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We invite you to celebrate the significance of *Tikun Olam* ("Healing the World"), honoring Stewart and Sally Eisenberg, at a brunch at Kol Ami on **Sunday, November 18, at 11:00 a.m.** Look for your invitation, which will be mailed at the end of September. ■

WORSHIP SERVICE (continued from page 1)

TUESDAY, Sept. 18, 6:00 p.m.

Tashlikh-Shabbat Shuvah Service at the home of Guy and Karol Appel, preceded by a 5:30 p.m. BYOD (see page 4)

FRIDAY, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tov l'Hodote: "It Is Good to Express Appreciation" - This evening we gather in the spirit of gratitude for the devotion of the elected leaders of our congregation and to formally install those who will join them on our Board of Trustees

SATURDAY, Sept. 22, 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

TUESDAY, Sept. 25, 8:00 p.m.

Kol Nidrei

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 26, 10:00 a.m.

Yom Kippur (parallel Youth Service for students in grades 3-6 in the chapel)

FRIDAY, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, Sept. 29, 10:00 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Efron Danzig (see page 16)

SUNDAY, Sept. 30, 6:00 p.m.

erev Sukkot Service (see page 19)

MONDAY, October 1, 10:00 a.m.

Sukkot Service

TORAH & HAFTARAH

September 1 - Kee Tetzey

Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19

Isaiah 54:1-10

September 8 - Kee Tavo

Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8

Isaiah 60:1-22

September 15 - Nitzavim-Vayelech

Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30

Isaiah 61:10-63:9

September 22 - Vayelech

Deuteronomy 31:1-30, Hosea 14:2-10

September 29 - Ha'azinu

Deuteronomy 32:1-52

II Samuel 22:1-51 ■

DO YOU HAVE a friend, relative, colleague, or neighbor looking for a synagogue? Invite them to our Prospective Member *erev Shabbat*!



With the Jewish New Year about to begin and the next school year quickly approaching, it's a good time to think about synagogue membership. In addition to High Holy Day tickets and religious school enrollment, Congregation Kol Ami offers spiritual growth, adult and student choirs, community service, social events, interfaith relationship group, holy day celebrations plus the warmth of an intimate and dynamic community.

Please invite and encourage your friends, relatives, colleagues, and neighbors to join us for our Prospective Member *erev Shabbat* service at Congregation Kol Ami on **Friday, September 7, at 7:30 p.m.** Get to know our members and learn more about the synagogue.

Also at this service, we will celebrate our 18th year with the release of a CD that features Kol Ami voices. The service, which includes participation by the adult choir, will be held in the sanctuary. Rabbi Holin will lead us, along with our cantorial soloist, Rebecca Schwartz. Rebecca, an award-winning Jewish composer and musician, integrates song into the worship service, leads our adult and student choirs, and teaches.

For more information on this very special event, contact Irene Levy Baker, membership chair, at 215-782-2253 or spotlightpr@comcast.net. ■

HIGH HOLY DAYS CALENDAR 2012

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

"DO YOUR BEST"

At our *erev Shabbat* service on August 3, in the midst of the Summer Olympics, I asked, "Who won a silver medal in the 2012 Summer Olympics 200-meter men's freestyle? Who took silver in the women's 400-meter freestyle? How about the bronze in the men's gymnastics all-around event?"

We applaud effort, but we honor winners. "Go for the gold!" and "We're number one!" are marketing mantras engrained in our culture. To the victor go the spoils: accolades, and possibly endorsements and fame. Iconic athletes are known by their first names. "Be like Mike!" Really? How about, "Be there for your community?"

I was captivated by the Olympics. I especially enjoyed the in-depth stories about individual athletes: their dedication and passion for their sport, the meaning (and sometimes the absence) of family, and the drive to keep raising the bar. I stayed up late at night to watch competition as varied as canoe slalom, cycling-track, diving, gymnastics, sailing, soccer, swimming, table tennis, and track and field. I did not always watch to see who would win, but rather who would push the envelope of their personal best, even if they did not win the gold. And yet, isn't exceeding your expectations a victory?

"No pain, no gain" is another well-known mantra and it suggests that effort often yields its own rewards. We learn important things about ourselves: patience, perseverance, confidence, and self-respect. The struggle, and sometimes falling short, can lead to greater wisdom. Moses

did not enter the Promised Land, but he took people a lot farther than geographic distance alone suggests.

Yet how we castigate those who fall short! How the media tends to belittle those who don't stand tall on the victory stand! The one who holds gold glitters, while silver suffers disapproval for not having done quite enough, and bronze is such a disappointment that its dull tone symbolizes our seeming dismissal of the effort that went to acquire it. Why don't we simply applaud what results from doing one's best?

Mitchell Watt is an Australian who won bronze in the 2009 world long jump championships and silver in the 2011 world championships. The surprise winner in the recent Olympics was Britain's Greg Rutherford, and Watt suffered the sting of questions directed at him afterwards. He said that a silver medal in his first Olympics was significant. Four years ago, he added, he was not even competing at an elite level, let alone dreaming of being an Olympian. What he said in an interview after the medals were awarded was really significant: "I'm pleased and proud of the result. I've been keeping clear of Twitter and all the headlines and stuff to try to be in my own little bubble, and then to wake up in the morning and finally read some stuff: 'Falls short of goal,' 'A leap not far enough,' 'Watt shattered with his result.' I spoke with these guys 20 minutes after the meet, and I wasn't shattered and they are writing that I was shattered and that I failed. You try to not let that stuff get to you, but it left a little bit of a sour taste in my mouth."¹

America's Matt Emmons was in the 50-meter rifle three-position competition in the recent Olympics. In 2004

and 2008, his final shots were off-target and medals within his reach were suddenly gone. This time, he was in second place, within striking range of first, but his final shot once again went astray, and he slid from silver to bronze.

Treated for thyroid cancer in 2010, Emmons has things in perspective. This is what he said following the medal presentation: "Just to be on the podium at the Olympics is a very special feeling. I'm very, very happy for that. I'm very happy to be up there with bronze. Of course, silver is great, gold is great, but given what I had to work with today, it was a really tough match. Probably the toughest match I've ever had to shoot." Reflecting on his good health, he added, "After going through a situation like that, just being alive is good. I love what I do, I love being here. I love trying to inspire the next generation. I love being a teammate to my teammates and also my competitors, to be there and shake their hand when they do well and be part of what they're doing, but also there are much bigger and more important things than pulling a trigger and trying to stand on a podium."²

I really don't care which country won the most gold or the most medals. What I care about are the stories that shed light, in their own words, on what athletes did to arrive at 'their moments,' how they felt about their efforts, and what they took away from the experience. Almost to an individual, they responded with grace and insight about how they performed and praised those who had done better. More often than not, the most interesting part of the Olympics was

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FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

(continued from page 3)

found in stories told by those who did not medal at all, but realized how much they accomplished nonetheless.

What a great message as we prepare to celebrate *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*: “Do your best” and “Respect yourself.”

Shalom u'vrachab l'Shanah tova,
Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

Sources:

¹ Clarey, Christopher. ‘For Australians, A Blow to the Ego.’ “The New York Times.” 7 August 2012. B14.

² Pilon, Mary. ‘This Time, American’s Aim On Last Shot Is Not Too Far Off.’ “The New York Times.” 7 August 2012. B14. ■



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Social Action Committee

Monday, Sept. 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Ronit Sugar, 215-635-0390

Worship Enhancement Committee

Sunday, Sept. 30, at 12:00 p.m.

Co-chairs: Mindy Levy, 215-885-3672,
and Bill Shapiro, 215-517-8666 ■

CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolences in loving memory of:

Rosalind Hellman

aunt of Deborah (Stuart) Poppel

May her memory forever be a blessing in the midst of our People ■

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES (continued from page 1)

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

Dr. Raphael will address and engage us in dialogue after our brief and meaningful *Selichot* service: the quest for ‘forgiveness’ based on our willingness to introspect and take responsibility for what we have done, or have not done, that requires atonement toward healing ourselves and others.

For over two decades, Dr. Raphael has taught about the interface of Jewish spirituality and contemporary psychology. He is adjunct assistant professor in the Jewish Studies Program at Temple University and is in private practice as a psychotherapist and spiritual director, affiliated with Mount Airy Counseling Center in Philadelphia. He is also the author of “Jewish Views of the Afterlife.”

TASHLIKH - THE BRIDGE TO YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, Sept. 18, Guy & Karol Appel’s Residence (Meadowbrook)

Bring-Your-Own-Dinner, Refreshments, and Blanket

Bring a dessert to share!

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.; Tashlikh Service at 6:00 p.m.

Tashlikh, from the Hebrew word meaning ‘to send forth,’ is a service of readings and reflections from Psalms and Prophetic writings. Traditionally held on the second day of *Rosh Hashanah* and dating back to the Middle Ages, the *Tashlikh* service is a tribute to the Creator to whose work of creation the fish were the first witnesses, hence the proximity to a natural body of water (“Let waters bring forth swarms of living creatures”). We will symbolically cast our transgressions across the water to be carried away, preparing us for the Day of Atonement just a week later, at *Kol Nidrei* on Tuesday, September 25.

REFLECTIVE READINGS AND DISCUSSION ON YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON

Wednesday, September 26, at 3:00 p.m.

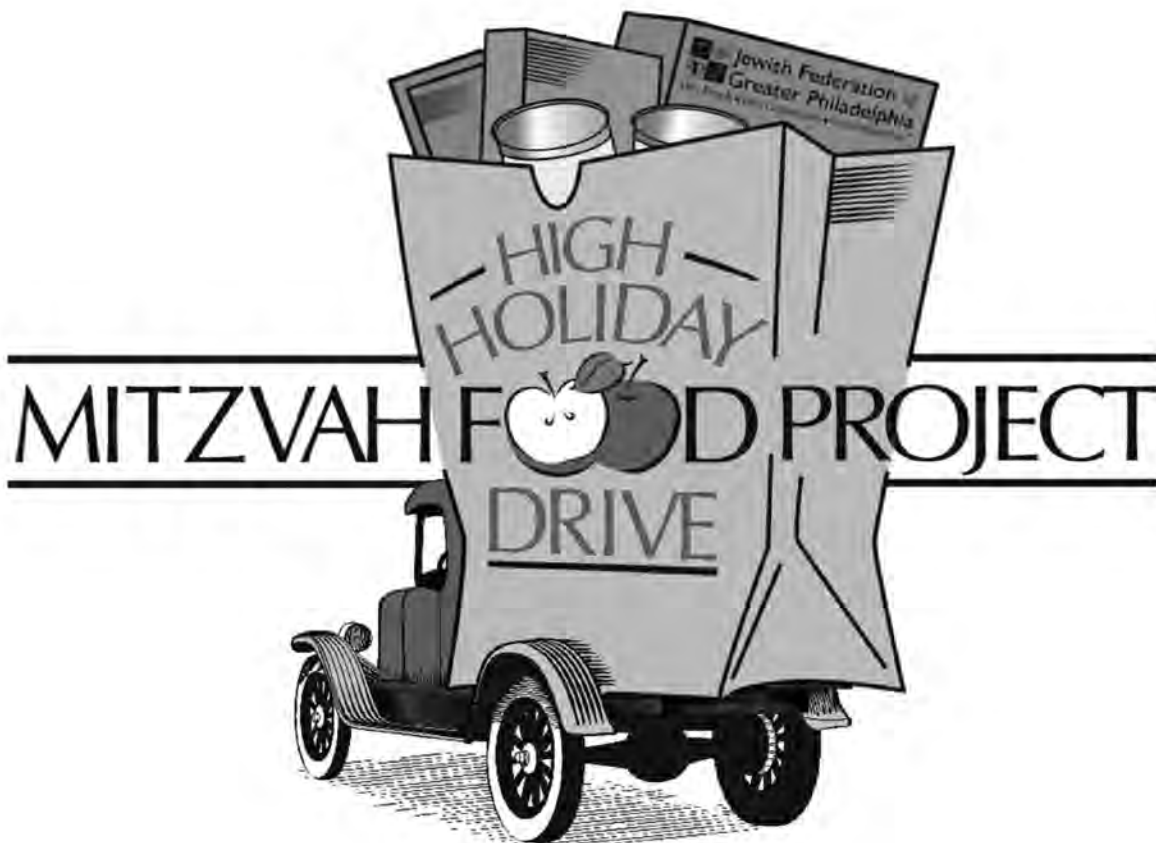
Our High Holy Day Reflective Reading Service provides a pleasant and meaningful interlude between the Children’s-Family Service and the Afternoon Service, a way for us to continue to pray together with readings culled from different sources as well as those written by our own members.

We invite you to submit creative or favorite writings by **September 15** to Spiritual Growth Group chairpersons Natalie Dyen (nat.dyen@verizon.net) or Janet Falon (jfalton@english.upenn.edu) for inclusion in the service.

YIZKOR-NEILAH (MEMORIAL) SERVICE ON YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, September 26, at 5:30 p.m.

A booklet listing the names of loved ones to be remembered has been provided by you on your membership forms. If you wish to make any additions or corrections for the booklet, please send this information to Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org **by September 15.** ■



Congregation Kol Ami's High Holy Day Food Drive is from:

Sunday, September 16, 2012 to Wednesday, September 26, 2012
to benefit food-insecure families in our community.

Our synagogue has chosen to collect:
CANNED VEGETABLES (kosher, lower salt)

Please bring in your donations of **CANNED VEGETABLES** to support those in need through the Mitzvah Food Project. Your participation will help us to make this year's food drive our most successful yet!

jewishphilly.org/mfp



**Jewish Federation of
Greater Philadelphia**

One People ■ One Community ■ One Federation™

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

A VISITOR RETURNS

Last October's Kol Ami Bulletin included a transcript of a conversation I had with Ω , a visiting PhD candidate from planet β . It was my pleasure to help Ω with a dissertation on Jewish earthly practices. To my delight, Ω 's classmate journeyed to our galaxy in August and engaged me in dialogue over dinner. Here is a portion of that conversation:

μ : Thanks so much for meeting with me. Ω had so many wonderful things to say about his time with Kol Ami that I, too, wanted to visit.

ME: Our pleasure to host you. Why now?

μ : Truthfully, I've been working so hard I needed a break for some fun. I'm looking forward to joining you for some wild New Year's parties!

ME: Uh oh.... I think you're confusing two different New Years.

μ : Not at all. I'm referring to the Jewish party in New York City's famous Square to dance, kiss, and drink alcohol.

ME: Times Square?

μ : That's it. Must I wear a prayer shawl or head covering to join this ancient Jewish ritual? I am also interested in making the traditional *Rosh Hashanah* Resolution for 5773. I will join a gym, go on a diet, and lose 20 weight units.

ME: Oy. Please allow me to explain. Here on earth, in the United States, most Jews live more or less in two worlds, i.e., the religious and secular. The secular world deals with the physical realities before us. Our religious life transcends the physical and helps us make meaning of



life. The ways in which we welcome the secular and Jewish New Year's reflect this distinction.

μ : It sounds like it would be more fun to celebrate the secular New Year with you at a party than at a *Rosh Hashanah* prayer service.

ME: I have to agree. At Kol Ami, we do make time for fun, but during this High Holy Day season, our focus is on more serious self-reflection. Rather than weight loss, we focus on ethical and spiritual growth. Ironically, many people feel much happier after the serious work of *Rosh Hashanah* than during their recovery the morning after the "fun-filled night" welcoming the secular New Year. Fun does not equal happiness.¹

μ : I understand. Back home in β , we are a unified, though boring galaxy. We all have complete faith in Nothing. At times, it leaves one with an empty feeling. But enough about me. You've given me a grand idea. My dissertation title will be "*Rosh Hashanah* v. New Year's Eve: An Alien's Comparative Analysis."

ME: How can I help?

μ : How does this sound for an intro: "For Jews on planet earth, *Rosh Hashanah* is part of a longer

period of sanctified time for ethical and spiritual soul-searching. New Year's Eve is a few hours of celebration and partying. Jews are prohibited from handling money on the Holy Day. On New Year's Eve, the money flows almost as rapidly as the alcohol. One is a time for fun; the other is a time for fulfillment."

ME: That's very eloquent. You have grasped the concept of holiness. So are you still disappointed that you travelled so many millions of miles for a period of introspection rather than inebriation?

μ : And I'll end with a quote about the Jewish concept of holiness from Rabbi Holin's favorite, Rabbi Abraham Heschel: "It gives us the opportunity to perceive the infinite even as we are performing the finite."

ME: *L'Shana tova umetucha.*

לשנה טובה ומתוקה

David Hyman

215-496-7224

president@kolamielkinspark.org

Sources:

¹ Prager, Dennis. "Happiness is a Serious Problem." New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1998. ■

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Awesome, Mom! I get to go to TWO schools! This combination of words has rarely been uttered in the known universe. Religious school can be a hard sell. I know a few people in the advertising world, and even they have a hard time trying to convince their kids that there's nothing better after a long day of school than going to another school. They can't pitch it. But don't worry, parents, help is on the way. And no, we didn't hire Don Draper.

KOL AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL – IT'S EXPERIENTIAL!

Religious school needs to stand out from secular school. It's not enough that the content is different. We must also engage our children using a variety of methodologies. This year, Kol Ami will begin to create programming that immerses students in Jewish learning, including interactive programs that complement classroom lessons and discussions. We will engage students intellectually, spiritually, and physically—and leave them wanting more.

KOL AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL – IT'S MEASURABLE!

Religious school should be effective. It's not enough anymore to provide parents with anecdotal evidence of our accomplishments. We need to hold ourselves accountable for what we set out to teach our children. Our plan is to create a curriculum based upon measurable objectives. We want to have specific aims for each class and use a wide variety of assessment tools to prove that learning has actually taken place.

KOL AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL – IT'S FUN!

Religious school should be a fun and enjoyable experience. We want to see smiles and hear laughter because we must produce an atmosphere that creates lasting positive memories of religious school and builds Jewish identities. We want to create a place to which students feel a strong connection, a place they wish to be. In addition to producing a variety of fun and engaging new programs this coming school year, we're also revitalizing our Senior Youth Group. Just wait until your kids see the exciting lineup of programs we have in store.

SAVE THE DATE:

- First Day of School and After-School BBQ: Sunday, September 9
- Parent Orientation (during school): Sunday, September 23 ■

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

Apple Picking at Solebury Orchards

Sunday, Sept. 9, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Here comes *Rosh Hashanah*, a brand new year, and apples! Join your classmates for an afternoon of apple-picking at beautiful Solebury Orchards in New Hope. Our visit includes a wagon ride to the orchard, pick-your-own apples, and delicious fresh doughnuts and cider. Families are welcome. This is a great way to start the school year!

Sukkah Party

Sunday, Sept. 30, 2:00 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Rosalind Holtzman ■

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office

215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

215-635-4182

David Hyman, President

215-496-7224

Barry Boise, Vice President

215-635-9042

Jeff Cohen, Vice President

215-635-3232

Ellen Asam, Secretary

215-635-5598

Bart Weiner, Treasurer

215-233-4712

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Elaine Stevens, Executive Director

215-635-3110

David Monblatt

Director of Education

215-635-7106

Sheri Cutler

Nursery School Director

215-635-4180

Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist

215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:

Congregation Kol Ami

8201 High School Road

Elkins Park, PA 19027

Web site: www.kolamielkinspark.org

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

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

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



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



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



Sunday, October 21, 2012
1:00 – 5:30pm

With Keynote Address by
Anita Diamant

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

Workshop sessions hosted by local Rabbis, Jewish educators and interfaith partners include:

- Navigating Holidays in an Interfaith Family
- The Unique Joys and Challenges for the Non-Jewish Mom
- Shabbat for Beginners – What, Why & How
- The Interfaith Partnership – Negotiating the Conversations
- Managing the In-Laws
- End-Of-Life Issues Unique to Interfaith Couples
- Growing up Interfaith

Registration is now open!!

To register for the symposium: call or email Julie Cohen, at Julie@JulieCohenCoaching.com or 215-635-4719 for registration form and instructions. Visit www.InterfaithRollercoaster.com for more information.

Space is limited, register today. Fee: \$30/person; \$50/couple (Child Care provided).



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



Sunday, October 21, 2012, 1:00 – 5:30pm

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Interfaith Rollercoaster Symposium. To register, please complete this form and return to Congregation Kol Ami with payment to reserve your seat. After this is received, we will mail you your tickets to the event and additional symposium information.

Participant #1 Name: _____
if attending with a partner/spouse:

Participant #2 Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Amount Enclosed: ___ \$30 for individual ___ \$50 for couple

We will be providing on-site childcare for 'potty-trained' children. If you would like to take advantage of this no-fee service, please list age and gender of child(ren):

Please complete this form and return to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027, with registration fee: check payable to Congregation Kol Ami.

For any questions, please contact Julie Cohen: 215-636-4719 or Julie@JulieCohenCoaching.com

2012-2013

Continuing Jewish Education

Boker Tov Torah: Q&A for Moderns

Instructor: Prof. Howard I. Bogot, Rabbi
Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
September 6, 13, 20 & 27 (4 sessions)

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

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

As a Driven Leaf: Script as Text

Instructor: Prof. Howard I. Bogot, Rabbi
Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
October 25; November 1, 8 & 15 (4 sessions)

Faith as confidence and Job-like suffering “inspire” the doubt, enemy collaboration, and ultimate embarrassment of a Jewish sage. This play-reading will provide the *dramatis personae* (seminar participants) with a living-theater experience through which to discover the “secret” of Jewish survival, the dynamics of Jewish group loyalty, and the challenge of critical thinking.

Please RSVP by October 18 to Elaine Stevens, Executive Director, at 215-635-3110.



Adult Two-Year Bnai Mitzvah Class

Instructors:
Rabbi Elliot Holin and
Rosalind Holtzman
Tuesdays as shown below
from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Our second year of study leading to the celebration of adult *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* on March 9, 2013, continues with study-review of Hebrew liturgy, *Torah* text, and reading from the *Torah*:

- October 2, 16, and 30
- November 13 and 20
- December 4 and 18
- January 15, 22, and 29
- February 5, 12, 19, and 26
- March 5

If you are interested in being part of a future *Bnai Mitzvah* class, please call Rabbi Holin at 215-635-4182.

The “Derech Aretz” of Intimate Relationships: Ground Rules for Best Friends and Lovers

Instructor: Rabbi Patrice Heller
Monday, November 5, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

If we want our intimate relationships to bring meaningful connection to our lives, the ground rules of “*derech aretz*” can help us. We will explore how *derech aretz* offers a path that teaches the importance of small and large acts of kindness and respect, as well as the necessity of mindful and caring interaction. We will review some current research about emotional attunement, focusing on effective ways to enhance relationships as well as avoiding behaviors and attitudes that create negativity and distance.

This material will be interactively presented with plenty of time for questions and group discussion.

Please RSVP by October 24 to Elaine Stevens, Executive Director, at 215-635-3110.

for Adults at Kol Ami

Exploring the Worlds of Jewish Mysticism: *Kabbalah* for Tomorrow

Instructor: Dr. Simcha Raphael
Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
December 3, 10 & 17 (3 sessions)

In this course, we will investigate central ideas and themes of *Kabbalah*, the mystical tradition of Judaism. Through a combination of lecture, discussion, and reflection, we shall discover ways of making traditional Kabbalistic teachings relevant and applicable in our lives today.

Topics to be explored include:

- *Kabbalah* Old and New: Introduction to Jewish Mystical Thinking
- *Kabbalah* and the Nature of God: Immanent and Transcendent - Where Do We Find God?
- *Kabbalah* and the Spiritual Life: Guidelines for Growing the Soul

Star Trek and Judaism

Instructor: David Monblatt
Thursday evenings
from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
January 31; February 7, 14 & 21 (4 sessions)



This course will boldly explore Jewish values and ethics implanted throughout the Star Trek series. Over the years, the successful franchise has confronted such topics as the nature of evil, atonement, and remembrance, while spotlighting the value of education, the dignity of the individual, and the importance of social justice. The course will examine episodes from the original television series, Next Generation, Star Trek Deep Space Nine, and selected scenes from the film series.

Hayyim Nahman Bialik (1873-1934): Israel's National Poet

Instructor: Rabbi Elliot Holin
Wednesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
March 6, 13, 20 & 27 (4 sessions)



Bialik was born in Ukraine and studied at the renowned Volozhin Yeshivah in Lithuania. His poem "Should You Wish to Know the Source" is fulsome praise for the synagogue as a house of prayer, study, and the embodiment of *mitzvoth*. "Sabbath Queen" is a beautiful description of the gifts that the day of rest bestows on everyone who tastes its splendor. He eventually left the *yeshivah* to join the *Haskalah* (Jewish Enlightenment) movement.

In 1903, his epic poem "In the City of Slaughter" was a scream of anguish following the brutality of the Kishinev pogroms, seeds of the Holocaust that would engulf Europe in less than 30 years.

His poems urged a reawakening of the Jewish People in the face of anti-Semitism and in the name of national identity (Zionism) as well as poems that speak about intimate relationships found in love and friendship, as in his work "Take Me Under Your Wing."

We will read and discuss each of the poems mentioned above, as well as other works by Bialik.

Defiance: The Jewish Partisans and Resistance in the Holocaust

Instructor: David Monblatt
Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
February 28; March 7, 14 & 21 (4 sessions)

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THE INSTRUCTORS

RABBI PROF. HOWARD BOGOT is a graduate of Lewis University (formerly National College of Education) in Evanston, Illinois; the University of Cincinnati; and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to receiving his MEd from the University of Cincinnati and graduate degrees from HUC-JIR, Rabbi Bogot has completed postgraduate course work in education and social work at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania and Hunter College in New York City.

Prof. Bogot has authored and coauthored many books, syllabi, and lesson plans Published by both the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Since 2001, Prof. Bogot has served Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education and the University of Pennsylvania's Literacy Network as a Jewish studies facilitator for their Nurturing Excellence in Supplementary Jewish Schools project. In 2005, the University of Pennsylvania asked him to mentor 30 teachers at Cheltenham High School.

RABBI PATRICE HELLER has been a Reform rabbi in the Philadelphia community for over 31 years, serving in congregational full-time and interim positions.

As a psychologist and PA-licensed marriage-and-family therapist, she has maintained an independent rabbinical and psychotherapy practice since 1986 and was a staff therapist at Council for Relationships for five years. In addition to her private practice, Rabbi Heller is also a therapist at the Postpartum Stress Center in Rosemont, PA where she specializes in couples therapy as well as postpartum spectrum disorders.

Currently she is an adjunct associate professor for the Psychology Department at Temple University (TU), where she has been teaching Life-Span Psychology and the course she created for TU, Human Sexualities, since 2006.

DAVID MONBLATT is our congregation's new director of education. An article introducing him to our members, listing his many professional accomplishments, appeared in the June 2012 Bulletin.

DR. SIMCHA RAPHAEL is adjunct associate professor in Jewish studies at Temple University and teaches courses on Jewish mysticism. He works as a psychotherapist and spiritual director affiliated with Mount Airy Counseling Center in Philadelphia. He has had a long-time interest in the synthesis of contemporary psychology and Jewish mysticism in creating a spiritual path for life today. Ordained by Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi as a rabbinic pastor, he is author of the book "Jewish Views of the Afterlife." His website is www.simcharaphael.com. ■

DEFIANCE: THE JEWISH PARTISANS...

(continued from page 11)

During World War II, there were approximately 25,000 Jews throughout Europe and Russia who escaped the clutches of the Nazis and their collaborators and formed or joined armed resistance groups. Sacrificing all, these brave men and women have come to be known as The Jewish Partisans and their accomplishments contributed to the ultimate defeat of Nazi Germany. This course will examine the heroic efforts of the Partisans, as well as explore the numerous ways in which the Jewish people resisted annihilation, including: the saving of lives, the documentation of atrocities, and spiritual resistance.

Boker Tov Torah: Agnon and Other Storytellers

Instructor: Prof. Howard I. Bogot, Rabbi
Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
April 4, 11, 18 & 25 (4 sessions)

Stories provide us with staged landscapes for living our lives. Jewish stories reflect the same literary motifs as found in any culture. Every day, we Jews journey on the ark with Noah, cross the Reed Sea with Moses, embarrass the idolaters with Elijah, ride inside the whale with Jonah, and applaud Mordechai as he is led by Haman through the streets of Shushan. Participants at this seminar will read, hear, and discuss the stories that define Jewishness. We might even write some stories for each other.

The Wisdom of "Pebbles of Wisdom" by Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz



Instructor: Rabbi Elliot J. Holin
Thursday evenings
from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
April 4, 11, 18 & 25 (4 sessions)

Born in Jerusalem in 1937, Steinsaltz studied mathematics, physics, and chemistry at Hebrew University in addition to rabbinic studies. An Orthodox rabbi,

renowned as a teacher, philosopher, and spiritual guide, he has devoted his life to making the Talmud accessible to all Jews. This book is a collection of his 'pebbles of wisdom' from more than 30 years of his lectures and writings about life, awareness, and faith.

continued next page

We will read and discuss selected ‘pebbles’ such as this: “As more and more people who tried it found out, you don’t get a gateway to Heaven. You get, at most, a gateway into another chamber within yourself.” How might his insights open up the possibility for greater awareness, wholeness and happiness in our lives?

Sinai: Meaning, Metaphor, and Midrash

Instructor: Prof. Howard I. Bogot, Rabbi
Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
May 2, 9, 16 & 23 (4 sessions)



Conversational theism, inspiration, tribal survival, caprice, and intuition are all descriptions that could profile the role of revelation as the origin of Judaism. Did God ‘speak’ to Moses? Do modern people receive divine messages? Is revelation completed or progressive? Are Jews chosen or choosing?

Through discussion, seminar participants will consider the components that are hallmarks of the narrated moment in which the Jewish people received *Torah*. ■

Registration Instructions

To register for a workshop, contact Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org by the deadline shown.

Non-member course fees for classes taught by Rabbi Bogot and Heller are \$50 per course.

Course fees can be applied to membership for the current year or forthcoming year.

Membership is required to enroll in the *Bnai Mitzvah* course.

SH’LAH’CHAY’NEE “SEND ME!”

Sh’lah’chay’nee - “Send me!” (Isaiah 6:8)

The ancient Hebrew prophets—Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Micah among them—were zealous in their demands that people respond to the needs of the homeless, hungry, and infirm. Their paradigm for those who had precious few to speak on their behalf included the orphan, the poor, the stranger, and the widow.

Isaiah, writing in the names of all prophets who preceded him, as for those who would follow him, said: “I heard the voice of the Lord, asking, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go [forth in God’s Name]?’ I said, ‘Here I am. *Sh’lah’chay’nee* – Send me!’”

Isaiah’s words are an echo of the text in the Book of Deuteronomy that tells us it is imperative to “uphold the cause of the orphan and widow, befriend the stranger, and provide food and clothing [to the poor]” (Deut. 10:18).

A year ago on *Rosh Hashanah*, I encouraged us to create a *Sh’lah’chay’nee* banner to be placed in the hallway of our religious school. On large, brightly colored index cards, Kol Ami children, youth, and adults would be asked to write about recent *mitzvot* that they performed, and those cards would be placed at the edges of the banner. My hope is that every few weeks, new index cards will replace current ones, keeping us abreast of wonderful things that our members are doing within and beyond our synagogue in the spirit of *mitzvot*.

This past year, our seventh-grade students and their parents created the amazing banner which is displayed in our hallway of the religious school (see photograph on page 20). The personally written index cards describe what individuals have done in the past few months in the name of *tikun olam* (healing, lit. “fixing” the world of pain). Every three months, students in our religious school will be given an index card to fill out describing a *mitzvah* they did that had personal meaning to them, and we’ll rotate cards during the weeks so that everyone’s words will appear on the banner.

Adults are encouraged to pick up the large, colorful index cards at worship services and in the religious school office to be filled in. Please return these cards to Jessica in the religious school office when completed. This will assure that new cards will be rotated out-and-in, vetted, on a regular schedule.

Together, we can make a statement. We can inspire each other. We can continue to touch other lives.

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin ■

Fruits of Our Capital Campaign: What A Summer!

In June's bulletin, we outlined our summer plans for the HVAC system, roof, and new natural gas supply. As we round into September, it's worth noting all that has been or is about to be completed. If you've been to the site for CSA pick-up, to drop a child for Nursery school, for a committee meeting, or for services on the meadow, you will have witnessed some or all of the following:

- Removal of the old cooling tower from the roof and installation of new air-conditioning and heating units for the lobby and sanctuary hallway
- Removal of the old electrical transformer and cage and the building of a new noise abatement enclosure around a rather large condensing unit that will cool the Sanctuary
- Digging and laying of new pipe to carry increased natural gas supply from Waring Road up High School Road and into the north end of the meadow, supply that will significantly cut our utility bill
- Trenching across the driveway to lay both new higher-capacity electrical cable (leading to the new electrical transformer) and the new natural-gas supply
- Delivery and installation of a new dual-fuel boiler and high-tech air handler
- Commencing of the roofing work on the chapel, school wing, and service section.



We've had dumpsters, cherry-pickers, back-hoes and all kinds of equipment. We've seen a seemingly endless, and at times simultaneous, cavalcade of PECO, Verizon, Worth, and Jottan trucks and contractors handling their part of the action, all while coordinating with Elaine who has kept things under control, organized, and safe.

As of mid-August, all our projects were on time. We will have painting and landscaping to do, which we hope to have accomplished by the start of the High Holy days. Many thanks go to Elaine, to Worth and Company who is building the HVAC, PECO who is implementing the gas line, and to Jottan who is doing the roofing.



There is one more thing we hope to have done for Friday night, September 7, services where we will debut the new Kol Ami Music CD. We should have a brand-new sound system in the sanctuary, one that enables all our members, no matter where they are seated, to hear the beautiful music and prayers, *Torah* readings, and sermons that help make our worshipping together so wonderful.

By early September, we might have a few bugs to work out and some more landscaping and painting to do, but this has been a wonderful summer of investing in our spiritual home. ■

Kol Ami Events

FIRST-FRIDAY EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

for September Birthday and Anniversary Blessings
Friday, September 7, 7:30 p.m. at our Celebration in
Honor of Congregation Kol Ami's 18th Year when we
welcome prospective members and the release of our
new "Chai-Lights" CD



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in September, please join us for a special First-Friday *erev Shabbat* service. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with a September *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*.

OUR CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF CONGREGATION KOL AMI'S 18TH YEAR

erev Shabbat Service, Friday, September 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Chai-Lights from the Voices of Kol Ami 18th Anniversary Edition



Join us as we celebrate with the release of our new CD "Chai-Lights" featuring the beautiful sounds and voices of Rebecca Schwartz and our Adult and Student Choirs. This celebratory treasure will be given to all members to celebrate our special anniversary and to commemorate the founding of our synagogue.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES INSTALLATION: "TO LEAD AND INSPIRE"

erev Shabbat Service, Friday, September 21, at 7:30 p.m.

On this evening, we will probe the meaning of the *Hash-kiveynu* ("Guide us...shield us...defend us...watch over us") and the *Modeem Anachnu* ("We acknowledge...your deeds") prayers in the context of our synagogue leaders who guide and inspire us. Join us as we thank them for their commitment and dedication.



FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT

Rabbi Holin's **Nothing But Nets** fast this month—which supports URJ's project to purchase, distribute, and educate about the proper use of insecticide-treated family bed nets to prevent the spread of malaria in Africa—will be on **Thursday, September 8, and Monday, October 10.**

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, September 20, and Wednesday, October 19.**

Join our rabbi in a fast—or virtual fast—no matter where you are by sending funds that you would have spent on food to help people in need:

Commission on Social Action

Union for Reform Judaism

633 Third Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10017

(make check payable to the URJ with a memo note "Nothing But Nets")

Unemployment Information Center

112 N. Broad Street, 11th Floor

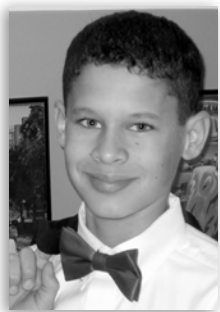
Philadelphia, PA 19102

(make check payable to Unemployment Information Center with a memo note "Philadelphia Unemployment Office")

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BAR MITZVAH OF JACOB MARGASAK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, AT 10:00 A.M.



Jacob is in the eighth grade at Cedarbrook Middle School. His favorite subject is math, and he enjoys creative writing. His extracurricular activities include donating time to Cradles to Crayons and playing soccer on a Cheltenham team.

He says, "I'm proud to be Jewish because of what we have overcome throughout history. I try to practice as many Jewish rituals as I can. While my family had not celebrated *Shabbat* regularly while growing up, I made the choice to begin doing it more often as I began to study for my *Bar Mitzvah*. We included my friends in the traditions when they had been over for dinner on a Friday night and even attempted to Facetime with my dad who was running late from work one week. Also, during the High Holy Days, my family and I attend services here at Kol Ami. Participating in these rituals helps me form a strong bond with God and with the people who are with me.

"For my *Mitzvah* Project I volunteered at an adult daycare center called '2nd Home.' I had the pleasure of creating games that the clients could participate in like "Name that Celebrity," "Name that Tune," and even word searches. In addition, I got to talk with the participants about their lives in the early years, though many don't remember details because of dementia. My favorite part about helping them was knowing that I was making a difference in their lives just by being there and keeping them company.

"The two prayers that I like the most are the *Avote v'Imahote* and the *G'vurote*. They speak about God's power and how inspiring God was to our ancestors. They also speak about respecting our ancestors for their greatness and about how God has inspired us every day in our lives and through our actions. These prayers speak about the roots of our religion and culture. Although they speak of ancient times, they still apply today because God is always protecting and inspiring us.

"I chose to chant from Deuteronomy 26:8-15 and 28:2-7 because they are about how God freed us from Egypt and about the blessings that will come upon us if we obey the laws of God. This seems to be an important part of our culture and religion because the verses speak of God redeeming us from Egypt and us repaying God by helping others. Today, when someone helps us, we should feel obligated to help someone else, and this turns into a domino effect in which each person who is helped helps another person."

We congratulate Jacob's parents, Jeffrey and Robynn, and his sister, Jenna. ■

BAR MITZVAH OF EFRON DANZIG

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, AT 10:00 A.M.



Efron is in the seventh grade at Cedarbrook Middle School.

He likes health class and science and enjoys being with his friends, playing football, and running track.

He says, "My favorite prayers are the *Yotzer* and the *G'vurote*. The theme of the *Yotzer* is the creation of the world.

At first, there was nothing. Everything was dark. Then G-d made light. He made the ground and the sky, and the sun and the moon. Then He created man and woman. This prayer is part of the service because it reminds us how we were made. Even though I know that this is different from evolution, it is important because it shows that Jews feel that G-d is the creator.

"I like the *G'vurote* because it is important to know the power that G-d wields. It says that G-d has a lot of power, and we should respect that. I don't pray that often, but when I do, I usually ask for some help: 'You give us power and love. We worship You for all the things You give us.'

"To me, God is my conscience. When I am about to do something for which I might get in trouble, I think, "Would God like that?" I do not pray a lot, but I do at Hebrew School.

"I chose to chant from Deuteronomy 32:1-6, 48-52 because the first six verses are part of the poem that Moses said to the Israelites as they moved through the Sea of Reeds, and the last six verses are part of the story where Moses is not allowed to enter the land of Israel. He goes to the top of the mountain where he sees the land from a distance, and he dies on the mountain.

"The *Torah* Portion talks about how God gave the people a second chance and let them enter Israel. We can apply this to our lives because people give each other second chances all the time. I would give someone a second chance if I thought they might be able to do better than they did the first time."

We congratulate Efron's mother and stepfather, Beth Levine and Joseph Rabinowitz, and his father, Jay Danzig, as well as his sister, Maya, who celebrated her *Bat Mitzvah* at Kol Ami on May 1, 2010.■

Jewish Values...Sustainable Agriculture....Faith Dialogues about Spirituality....
....and Good Food!



A farm trip to 'Lancaster Farm Fresh's' Sunrise Ridge Organics

Sukkot in the Fields

Shabbat Sukkot, Saturday, October 6, from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Hold the date for a family-friendly, incredibly rich experience

Visit and tour Sunrise Ridge Organics, one of the farms supplying wonderful produce, fruit, eggs, flowers, and herbs to our Elkins Park Hazon Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

- Join us for the second year in building and celebrating in our own *Sukkah* with Kol Ami's Rabbi Holin, fellow congregants, and CSA members
- Make new friends with congregants from synagogues participating in LFFC CSA
- Share a potluck lunch with farmers and their families
- Share insights about food, farming, and the land
- Stop and shop for pumpkins at a farm stand on your way home!

The program is open to members of the Elkins Park Hazon CSA, Congregation Kol Ami, and CSA participating synagogues in the Philadelphia region. Sign up early so we can organize a potluck lunch and carpooling! While there is no charge for this event, we ask that you bring a dairy or vegetarian dish and contribute to the *Tikkun Olam* project to provide financial support to the Fresh Food Fund. Driving time: 1½ hours.

Could not have been said better -- reasons to participate in *Shabbat Sukkot*:

"To have offered prayers in the *Sukkah* that Jeff Cohen and Mark Kaplan constructed on the farmer's land spoke to us about our mutual desire to sustain faith and the environment. It was a wonderful way to celebrate *Shabbat*, making us keenly aware that "The earth is the Lord's." (Psalm 24:1) —Rabbi Holin

"This was a day of inspiration filled with connections to God, the earth, music, lessons, wonderful people, and fabulous food." —Karin Schnoll

"I loved spending time with the Amish family, learning about each other's culture, customs, and way of life. While there were so many differences in our fundamental way of life, it was a fascinating process to share each other's life lens." —Karin Kaplan

For questions and to RSVP by September 14, e-mail Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org

Please let her know who's coming and your interest in carpooling. We will contact you about transportation, food preparation for lunch, and the *Tikkun Olam* project.

YOU ARE KINDLY INVITED TO JOIN
THE CRAFT & FINE ARTS SHOW @ KOL AMI
2012 CHAI-LY SPIRITED SPONSORS!

PLATINUM \$180 LEVEL

PLATINUM SPONSORS will receive two entrances to the Saturday Preview Night & Sale plus five raffle tickets for a chance to win one of the art items donated by one of our participating artisans. Platinum sponsors will also receive free entrance for the following day.

GOLD \$108 LEVEL

GOLD SPONSORS will receive two entrances to the Saturday Night Preview & Sale, which will also entitle them to free entrance the following day.

To show our appreciation for your generosity, our list of **CHAI-LY SPIRITED SPONSORS** will be shared on the event's Web site (www.kolamicraftshow.org), at the event, and in the bulletin.

In advance, thank you for considering to be a **2012 CHAI-LY SPIRITED SPONSOR!** At your convenience, please forward your interest and a check to Elaine Stevens.

**JURIED
CRAFT &
FINE ARTS SHOW**



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 13TH**

PREVIEW & SALE

6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tickets \$20 (Members) / \$25

Entertainment & Catered gourmet light fare
Special Auction items created by our artisans

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 14TH**

SHOW DAY & SALE

11:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Tickets \$5

Gourmet fare for purchase
Raffle sale for original art items

World Mitzvah Mall, benefitting non-profit organizations, open throughout the show

Congregation Kol Ami קול עמי

8201 High School Road • Elkins Park, PA • 215-635-3110

www.kolamicraftshow.org

CELEBRATE THE BLESSINGS OF THE GOOD EARTH

erev Sukkot Service under the *Sukkah*
Sunday, September 30, at 6:00 p.m.

If the weather cooperates, we will rejoice at a brief service under the *sukkah* this evening. If not, our air-conditioned chapel awaits us.

Join us as we gather under our outdoor *sukkah* to sing and sway with the *lulav* and *etrog*, praising The Holy One for our precious natural resources and the bounty of the land, as well as thanking farmers and workers who ensure that we might partake of such goodness.

TORAHS ALOFT ON EREV SIMCHAT TORAH!

Sunday, October 7, from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.
preceded by pizza and refreshments at 5:30 p.m.

Last year, we inaugurated a very special *erev Simchat Torah* Service as 14 of our young adults and adults read or chanted the “personal verses” that they celebrated at their *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvahs* years ago! We are eager to welcome more participants this year.

Join us as our three *Torah* Scrolls are carried around the sanctuary to the sound of joyful singing, and each one is held aloft to be read or chanted. As each person completes his or her verses, the *yad* will be handed to the next person.

Please call Rabbi Holin by September 15 at 215-635-4182 to let him know that you will help us feel uplifted when you read or chant ‘your verses’ from the *Torah* on our ‘*Torahs Aloft*’ evening.

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH WRITERS GROUP BOOK REVIEW WITH LOU BARRETT

“Crossing the Borders of Time” by Leslie Maitland
Sunday, October 28, at 11:00 a.m.



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

THE LIFE AND WORDS OF REB NACHMAN OF BRESLOV PRESENTED BY CAROL NEMEROFF

Monday, October 29, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

We welcome Ms. Nemeroff under the auspices of our congregation’s Spiritual Growth Group to speak about Reb Nachman, a great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov and founder of the Breslov Hasidic movement.

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

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

PRAYER-WRITING WORKSHOP: YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE A RABBI OR A JEWISH SCHOLAR, OR EVEN BELIEVE IN GOD

Monday, November 12, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Taught by Janet Falon, writer/writing teacher and co-chair of the Spiritual Growth Group

At heart, a prayer is a conversation between yourself and God, however you perceive of God or God energy. As a “regular” person, you are not only allowed to write prayers, but you’re encouraged to write them, especially those that articulate your own needs and desires, both large and small.

NO WRITING EXPERIENCE OR EXPERTISE IS NECESSARY. At this hands-on writing workshop sponsored by the Spiritual Growth Group, you will learn more about how and why to write a prayer. You will do some writing exercises to help you clarify the values and issues that are sufficiently important for you to include in a prayer, and then you will write a prayer—or more! This is a wonderful way to create or enhance your relationship with God, whatever your conception of God is, and to foster mindfulness and gratitude.

SAVE THE DATE

KOL AMI ADULT MEMBERS ART SHOW

November 27 through January 7

We invite you to display your framed “ready-to-hang” artwork in Kol Ami’s Art Lobby Gallery. Find your favorite piece of artwork, drop it off at the office of Elaine Stevens by November 20, and the Art Committee will exhibit your work. All work can be picked up after January 7, 2013.

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THE SH'LAH'CHAYNEE BANNER located in the Kol Ami Religious School hallway onto which large, brightly colored index cards are hung that have been filled out by Kol Ami children, youth, and adults about recent mitzvot that they personally performed.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: THE CONDUCT-HALPERN FAMILY



Kol Ami offers a warm welcome to new members **Rebecca Conduct**, **Jason Halpern**, and their young sons, **Isaac** and **Eli**. Rebecca and Jason have been members of the CSA for years, and, therefore, they have been part of our family for quite some time. They live in Elkins Park, within walking distance of the synagogue, so they're literally right at home in joining Kol Ami.

Rebecca grew up in Berks County, and Jason was raised in Lancaster. After getting married, they lived in the New York metro area for eight years before moving to Elkins Park to raise a family. Rebecca is a librarian, working as a knowledge-management consultant for Paragon Solutions, and Jason is a software product manager, working for Financial Software Systems.

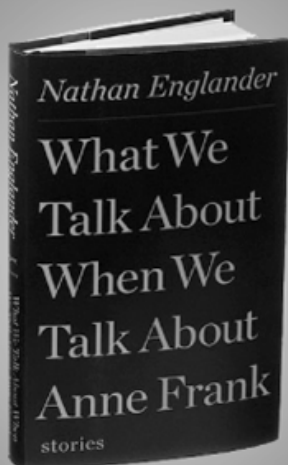
Outside of work, Rebecca is on the board of directors for the Creekside Coop and self-describes as someone who "loves everything to do with food." She enjoys cooking, gardening, and reading, while Jason is a sports enthusiast, especially for baseball. Their younger son, Eli, is two years old, and their older boy, Isaac, is five years old and just about to enter kindergarten.

We are delighted to have the Conduct-Halpern family join Kol Ami. ■



Announcing the 2012-2013 Feature Selection...

"Englander's new collection of stories tells the tangled truth of life in prose that, as ever, surprises the reader with its gnarled beauty... Certifiable masterpieces of contemporary short-story art."
—Michael Chabon



Buy Yours
Today on
Amazon.com

SAVE THE DATE

Kick Off Conversation with Nathan Englander
Sunday, October 28, 2012
Main Line Reform Temple
410 Montgomery Avenue, Wynnewood



KOL AMI EVENTS (continued from page 19)

These pieces can range from your favorite travel photograph to one that you created in your studio. We encourage you to share your unique talents with us! ■

NEWS FROM STOP HUNGER NOW

In April, our Religious School students shared an amazing morning of *mitzvah* and community as we packaged meals for Stop Hunger Now. With the support from our donation of \$2,500 from our *Tzedakah* Fund, we were able to fund the event, and the food was later shipped to Haiti. It was an incredible morning that we shared with members of Teferet Bet Israel. The following is a "thank-you" letter from Stop Hunger Now. In April we will be going to TBI and once again do *mitzvah*!

Friends of Stop Hunger Now,

We are delighted to announce that the meals from your meal packaging event have been shipped in a container totaling 285,120 meals from our Philadelphia warehouse. The meals are being transported by Convoy of Hope and will be received by our in-country partner, Mission of Hope (MOH), in Haiti.

MOH exists to bring life transformation to every man, woman, and child in Haiti. Through their many programs, MOH seeks to create holistic transformation utilizing indigenous mobilization, relational proclamation and excellent implementation. Programs include education, church advancement, medical care, orphan care, disaster relief, earthquake relief, cholera relief, nutrition, home construction, and Haiti One, an alliance of

non-profit partners working together to bring change to Haiti. MOH currently serves more than 50,000 meals per day to children in schools and orphanages across Haiti.

Visit <http://youtu.be/yng8hZC7Km8> to watch the 22-second video of the meals leaving the Philadelphia warehouse. Also check out www.stophungernow.org for more information on how to continue your involvement in the fight against hunger, and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stophungernow for updates, videos, and photos from the field.

Thank you for generously donating your time as a volunteer with Stop Hunger Now. We are sincerely grateful for your dedication and for sharing our vision of a world without hunger. ■

UPDATING BABYSITTING LIST



We would like to update the Kol Ami babysitting list. If you were on the original list that was compiled in the fall, please send any updates—grade, driving status, rate change, etc.—to Janet Falon at jfalon@english.upenn.edu.

If you'd like to be on the list, or if you'd like a copy of the babysitting list, please write to Janet as well. ■



MAZAL TOV TO OUR RECENT HIGH-SCHOOL GRADUATES

We congratulate these students and their families, and wish our graduates all the best in their future:

<u>Name</u>	<u>College</u>
Sam Goldman	The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania
Joshua Holin	University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida
Ellie Kaplan	Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts
Rebecca Leifer	Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana
Emma Long	Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania
Lindsey Pashko	Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Samantha Pashko	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, Kutztown, Pennsylvania
Alex Schilder	University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware
Eric Schwartz	University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
David Sklar	Wofford College, Spartanburg, South Carolina ■

Attention All Adults and Students!



**Do you enjoy singing? Then Congregation Kol Ami's
Adult or Student Choir is for you!**

Adult Choir: Meets Sunday mornings from 9:50-10:50 a.m. If you're dropping children, please arrive no later than 9:55 a.m. Students in Grades 8-12 may also participate if they wish.

Student Choir: Meets Sunday afternoons from 12:00-12:30 p.m. (after Religious School). Students in Grades 2-6 may participate.

Choir members will receive dates of participation and constant updates via e-mail. In order to remain active, attendance at rehearsals and services is very important. All rehearsals are held in Room 101. This commitment benefits our Kol Ami community, and choir members have a lot of fun! If you're interested, please contact Rebecca Schwartz at rebeccasongs@verizon.net or 215-572-6094.

Adult Choir starts on September 9 and Student Choir starts on September 23.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



JOHN COSTANZA'S Manhattan Streets series will be on display in the lobby of Congregation Kol Ami from September 4 through October 12. **His opening reception is September 9 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** There will be an opportunity for the public to meet the artist. Prints of some of his works will be available only at the opening, and Costanza will personally autograph each piece purchased.

John Costanza's heart and soul were formed in New York City. The eclectic environment of the streets that make up the Big Apple helped Costanza develop his artistic sense of humor. Art is everywhere you look, and there exists no greater place for system stimulation than Manhattan.

Trained in painting and ceramics at the Student League in New York, then acquiring his BFA from Temple University/Tyler School for Art, Costanza stands out as one of the most accomplished artists living in Delaware County, where he resides. Self-described painter, ceramicist, and sculptor, the works of Costanza are as divergent as their mediums. His sculptural side plays with abstract simple forms, yet the painter side is realistic, ethereal, and humorous. Over the many years, he has touched the lives of many artists, influencing their styles and their minds to find their balance of art and life. After receiving his MA in Education from Cheyney University, he became a professor at Moore College of Art, where he also chaired the Ceramic department. During his tenure, he continued to focus on creating his own art.

Costanza made his mark on the art world in the 1930s. He's showed in over 40 one-person exhibitions and 45 two-

person shows. Many of his works are displayed through public and corporate commissions. His artwork has been published and featured in many art magazines and books. His pieces have been in some of the most prestigious museums and exhibitions and are in collections throughout the world. Even today, his daily routine still involves creating work in his studio, a converted pony barn on the premises of his home.

Easy to laugh and make visitors comfortable, Costanza's unique views on life comes through. His time in New York City's hustle-bustle town of business and excess brought his attention to those who were not caught up in the everyday life of getting somewhere, but rather the ones who were in the background, participating in the world without being noticed. They are the colorful characters that make up the fabric of life in a city because they peaked Costanza's interest the most.

Costanza's signature piece, "Craps," for his Manhattan Streets, is a strong, colorful image of a group of men actively engaged in a dice game. One imagines an alley off the busy street, filled with a heated game of craps, with bodies pressed in because there is a lot on the line. The work resonates with color, power, noise, and action.

Manhattan Streets depicts not only the street-level unnoticeables that individual travelers pass right by, but also the daydreamers who sit vigil at their windows, killing time, taking in all the actions of those down below from their little seat above the world. Through their small portal, everything in life is possible. What may at first seem a lonely existence to a viewer of Costanza's Window works, usually gives way to envy. Who hasn't wanted to be a fly on the wall, listening in on conversations and actions of others? The characters portrayed get to observe life undetected from their perch, and yet still are able to participate and experience life vicariously through viewing.

The works in Costanza's Manhattan Streets speaks volumes about the masses of unnoticeables we pass by every day. How much of life happens around us without us ever seeing it, or noticing it? It takes someone like Costanza to pull our attention away from the bright lights to be in the moment and open our eyes.

Visit www.johncostanza.com for more information on the artist. To obtain pricing after the opening, contact Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org. ■

Kol Ami Funds

Should you wish to make a contribution to any of the Congregation's funds, please send your gift to Ms. Elaine Stevens, Executive Director, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027, and indicate to which of the following funds you would like your donation applied.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

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

ARTS AND CULTURE FUND

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

BAR/BAT MITZVAH AND CONFIRMATION FUND

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

'DISCOVER ISRAEL' FUND

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

FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND FUND

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

FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

Enables us to underwrite the cost for our programs and to welcome guest speakers to special events.

LIBRARY FUND

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

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

Enables us to provide refreshments following *Shabbat* services.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

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

SYNAGOGUE FUND

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

YOUTH FUND

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



Thank you to all our past and present contributors!

KOL AMI SEPTEMBER 2012 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		First Day of Nursery School 9:30 a.m.	Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m.	Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:00 a.m.	Nursery School erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. Celebration in Honor of Congregation Kol Ami's 18th Year on "Prospective Member: erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service plus release of our new "Chai-Lights" CD and First-Friday Birthday and Anniversary Blessings Adult choir will participate 7:30 p.m.	<i>Bar Mitzvah</i> of Jacob Margasak 10:00 a.m. <i>Selichot</i> Service 9:00 p.m. Oneg - 8:30 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
First Day of Religious School (Gr K-7) and BBQ 10:00 a.m. Junior Youth Group to Solebury Orchards 4:30 p.m. Artist Open House John Costanza 2:00 p.m.	Nursery School Yoga 9:30 a.m.	Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m.	First Day of Religious School (Gr 8-10) 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:00 a.m.	Nursery School erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 11:00 a.m. erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m.	<i>Shabbat</i> Service and <i>Torah</i> Dialogue 10:00 a.m.

KOL AMI **SEPTEMBER 2012** AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 No Religious School <i>erev Rosh Hashanah</i> 8:00 p.m.	17 No Nursery School <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> 10:00 a.m.	18 No Nursery School <i>Tashlikh Service</i> Home of Guy and Karol Appel 6:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. - BYOD	19 Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. Religious School 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. - Parent Orientation (Gr 8-10) 7:15 p.m. - Meeting with Gr 10 Confirmants and Parents	20 Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:00 a.m.	21 Nursery School <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. Board Installation <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> 7:30 p.m.	22 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
23 BAKE SALE Religious School 10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. - Parent Orientation	24 Nursery School Music 9:30 a.m. Social Action Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	25 Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m. Nursery School Noon Dismissal <i>Kol Nidrei</i> 8:00 p.m.	26 No Nursery School No Religious School <i>Yom Kippur</i> 10:00 a.m.	27 Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:00 a.m.	28 Nursery School <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>erev Shabbat Service</i> 7:30 p.m.	29 <i>Bar Mitzvah of</i> Efron Danzig 10:00 a.m.
30 Religious School 10:00 a.m. Worship Enhancement Committee Meeting 12:00 p.m. Junior Youth Group Sukkah Party Home of Rosalind Holzman 2:00 p.m. <i>erev Sukkot Service</i> 6:00 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

Bruce and Ellen Asam

In Honor of:

Rebecca Schwartz for all her help
and support of Drew in preparing
for his **Bar Mitzvah**

Barry and Drew Steinbrecher

In Memory of:

Mary Ann Miles

*Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ezekiel-
Fishbein*

*William, Maya, and Lia Hyman and
Janine Pratt*

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

Special birthday of Edis Hall

Bernard and Edis Hall

**Special birthday of Laurie
Jubelirer Langman**

*Charles Langman and Laurie Jubelirer
Langman*

Special birthday of Sharon Myers

Craig and Sharon Myers

Special birthday of Ellen Stern

Harold and Ellen Stern

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

*Kenneth and Elva Davis
Philip Goldstein and Jan Volin*

In Memory of:

Bud Feiner

Alan Kagel and Eleanor Kagel Feiner

SYNAGOGUE FUND

*Barry and Carol Baron
Arnold and Phyllis Holtzman*

MiShehbeirach

Ron Yeager

Stanton and Merle Salkin

In Honor of:

**90th birthday
of Katie Goldstein**

Brad and Bonnie Goldstein

Elaine Stevens

Russell Schilder and Jodi Bloch Schilder

Special birthday of Elaine Stevens

*William, Maya, and Lia Hyman and
Janine Pratt*

Craig and Sharon Myers

In Memory of:

Sol Adelman

Stanton and Merle Salkin

Martin Goldstein

Brad and Bonnie Goldstein

Estelle Kammel

Herbert and Lucille Barrett

Ruth Marcus

Harold and Shirley Horowitz

Mary Ann Miles

*Jeffrey and Naomi Hirsch and
Alison Baer*

David and Phyllis Harrison

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Paul and Ellen Kovnat

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Stanton and Merle Salkin

Dr. Barbara Porges

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Isaac Soren

Stanton and Merle Salkin

Sadie Soren

Stanton and Merle Salkin ■



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

TO:

