



WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, March 3, at 7:30 p.m.
“*Shabbat Across America*”

SATURDAY, March 4, 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue;
Carol Nemeroff will give the *dvar Torah*

FRIDAY, March 10, at 7:30 p.m.
“Second-Friday” *erev Shabbat* Service
with Adult Choir and birthday and
anniversary blessings under the *tallit*

SATURDAY, March 11
10:00 a.m. - Grade 8-9 students will
participate in this interactive *Shabbat*
Service through their creative writings
based on liturgy, prayer, and poetry
5:30 p.m. - *Bar Mitzvah* of Lauren
Cheiken (see page 6)

FRIDAY, March 17
6:00 p.m. - “Fun-for-Kids” *erev*
Shabbat Service appropriate for all
ages! It’s a happy half hour with lots
of music and our Student Choir!
7:30 p.m. - *erev Shabbat* Service

SATURDAY, March 18, at 10:00 a.m.
Bar Mitzvah of Nate Quigley
(see page 6)

FRIDAY, March 24, at 7:00 p.m.
Grade 2-4 students will participate in
this *Shabbat* Service

SATURDAY, March 25
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah*
Dialogue; potluck lunch immediately
following the service
5:30 p.m. - *Bar Mitzvah* of Andy
Langman (see page 7)

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“SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA” EREV SHABBAT MARCH 3 AT OUR 7:30 P.M. SERVICE

CONGREGATION KOL AMI JOINS IN THE NATIONAL
CELEBRATION! GIVE YOUR FRIENDS A TASTE OF KOL AMI!



“*Shabbat Across America*” is a nationally
acclaimed annual event that gives people a posi-
tive and joyful *Shabbat* experience. Synagogue
members throughout the country are encour-
aged to invite their unaffiliated friends to a *Shab-*
bat dinner at their congregation to, together,
celebrate the defining moment of the Jewish
week. The National Jewish Outreach Program
will publicize this evening throughout America.

Your guests will be “our guests” at the catered dinner, so please con-
tact Elaine Stevens no later than March 1 at 215-635-3110 or [execdir@](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org)
[kolamielkinspark.org](mailto:execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) to RSVP for dinner. The costs are: \$16 per adult and
\$10 per child under the age of 8. ■

“CONVERSATION” CONTINUES THURSDAY, MARCH 16, AT 7:30 P.M.

AT THE HOME OF SHELLEY AND DAVID CHAMBERLAIN

“Conversation” evenings provide attendees with the opportunity to hear
divergent opinions about political events, social trends, interfaith dialogue or
distance, Israel, God-wrestling, etc. The recent election means that the terrain
in America has tilted in ways that few of us expected, and our concerns about
the future for our children, and the safety of people who are being stigmatized
and victimized, press upon us. You are invited to join us in “Conversation” at
this vital time when the application of Jewish values is all the more important
for the sake of our community and our country. **What is the future we want
to create?** Please RSVP to Elaine Stevens by March 13. ■

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING AND COMMITTEES EXPO

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

Coffee and bagels will be served prior to the meeting.

WORSHIP SERVICES (cont'd from page 1)

FRIDAY, March 31

There is no service this evening due to our Nursery School's Annual *Shabbat* Dinner and Silent Auction

SATURDAY, April 1

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

5:30 p.m. - Martini *Havdalah*
(see page 15)

SUNDAY, April 2, at 1:00 p.m.

Healing Service (see page 15)

FRIDAY, April 7

6:00 p.m. - "Fun-for-Kids" *erev Shabbat* Service appropriate for all ages! It's a happy half hour with lots of music and our Student Choir!

7:30 p.m. - "First-First" *erev Shabbat* Service with birthday and anniversary blessings under the *tallit*

SATURDAY, April 8, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

FRIDAY, April 14, at 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, April 15, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

MONDAY, April 17, at 10:00 a.m.

Passover-*Yizkor* Service (see page 15)

FRIDAY, April 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue *erev Shabbat* Service as we rejoice with our interfaith couples and families who are an integral part of our Kol Ami community

SATURDAY, April 22, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue; "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1). A service to celebrate Earth Day!

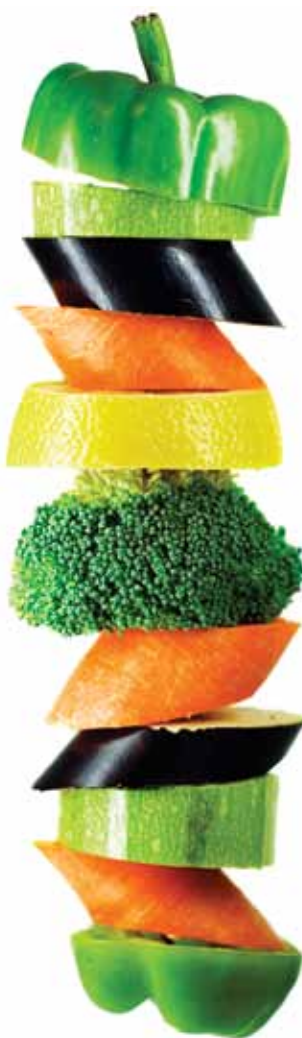
FRIDAY, April 28, at 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service with guest artist Cantor Lisa Levine and our fabulous Adult Choir (see page 18)

SATURDAY, April 29, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Are you aware that March is National Nutrition Month®? Since 1980, this month-long observance has been responding to the growing interest in nutrition. The campaign focuses on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits, sustaining life in a better way. As a registered dietitian, this is near and dear to my heart. This month also recognizes providers of food and nutrition services committed to guiding people toward healthier eating and lifestyle changes. "Put Your Best Fork Forward" is the 2017 theme, which serves as a reminder that each of us holds the tool to make healthier food choices. National Nutrition Month can help us make small changes over time to improve our health now and into the future. Might I suggest shopping at our local Creekside Co-op and other healthy food establishments? Enjoy walks or bike rides through our local parks. Registration is now open for the 11th season of our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). Join us and start eating more healthfully.

Congregants Mark Kaplan, Robin Rifkin, and I proudly co-lead Elkins Park Hazon CSA. With its home base at Kol Ami, it is open to all in our community. Hazon, a leader in the Jewish food and environmental movement, along with our members, helps us create a renewed sense

of purpose and possibility for a sustainable future in and beyond our Jewish community. A CSA is a subscription with local farmers. Each week of the 25-week season, you receive fresh organic produce from Lancaster Farm Fresh Cooperative (LFFC). There are different size shares to meet household needs. I believe there is no better way to access fresh, locally grown food that tastes so good, supports your health, connects you to the land and 100+ high-quality small farms (and their multi-generational families), and inspires eating a broader spectrum of produce. If this interests you, visit <http://www.lancasterfarmfresh.com> and click Summer CSA shares. Select Pa: Kol Ami Hazon as the host site. If you have questions regarding the CSA or are interested in joining the *Shomrei Adamah* (Environmental Stewardship) Committee, write to us at csakolami@gmail.com. For more information about Elkins Park Hazon CSA and related programs, visit our new website www.kolamielkinspark.org.

Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This is a definition that certainly relates to Kol Ami's "bridge to the future" and actions toward sustaining our wonderful congregation.

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FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

I recently returned from Australia and New Zealand, and rarely have I felt myself to be as much a citizen of the world as I did while there.

For six days in Sydney, I was in the midst of a benevolent Tower of Babel: Chinese, Croatian, French, German, Japanese, Mandarin, Spanish, Turkish as well as English spoken by tourists in restaurants, rain-forests and historic sites. There was a shared sense of joy wherever I was, and so many *sheb'heb'chiyanu* moments upon seeing breathtaking vistas and waterfalls in the Blue Mountains of Australia and Milford Sound fiords in New Zealand, and sunrise over Lake Wakatipu in Queensland.

Along the way, people patiently and happily yielded space so that others could marvel and photograph what fellow-travelers were seeing. Minds were open to constructive engagement. Moments like those occurred with such frequency that, although far away from the political maelstrom in America, I often thought, "Hello, Washington, can you feel me?"

This sense of connection almost 10,000 miles away from home was heightened when Susan and I were at an open-air, weekend artist's market in Sydney. Temporary booths brimmed with scarves and dresses, jewelry, candles, hand-made T-shirts, boomerangs, jars of honey, and much more. We wandered down one long lane after another, chatting with artists or salespeople along the way, then turned left or right to see more, and bumped into Kol Ami members Ronit Sugar and Bert Schiowitz, and two of their children, Adam and Julie! What a reunion that was! Talk about feeling united!

That was also true when it came to talking about the world today. Aussies and New Zealanders could not help but express their dismay about Donald Trump – the phrase "my President" does not roll easily from my lips – and their concern about what his leadership will mean for the world, to which I replied, "and for America as well," or for the worse. Halfway around the world was not far enough away from his bombast, his knee-jerk habit of blaming others, his inability to express remorse for words or deeds that have hurt so many people, and his insatiable need to tell everyone with how terrific he is.

Yet there was respite. Susan and I joined worshippers on *Shabbat* morning at The Great Synagogue, an Orthodox *shul* founded in 1828, in the heart of Sydney. The primary color on its interior walls and pillars is ecru, and its dome is dark blue, dotted by small lights that sparkle like stars. Feeling at home in the midst of Hebrew read, sung, and chanted, I was reminded yet again of the comfort that faith provides and the strength it gives us to face the future.

In Sydney and Melbourne, we saw huge posters on buildings and churches that read "Refugees Welcome!" and "Let's Fully Welcome Refugees," the latter proclaimed over a photograph of a young child with forlorn eyes looking over her mother's shoulder.

Hope abounds, despite everything that conspires to mitigate it.

Shalom u'vrachab

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin ■

TORAH & HAFTARAH

March 4 - Terumah

Exodus 25:1-27:19, I Kings 5:26-6:13

March 11 - Tetzaveh

Exodus 27:20-30:10, I Samuel 15:2-34

March 18 - Ki Tissa

Exodus 30:11-34:35, Ezekiel 36:16-38

March 25 - Vayakhel-Pekudei

Exodus 35:1-40:38, Ezekiel 45:16-46:18

April 1 - Vayikra

Leviticus 1:1-5:26, Isaiah 43:21-44:23

April 8 - Tzav

Leviticus 6:1-8:36, Malachi 3:4-24

April 15 - chol hamoad Pesach

Exodus 33:12-34:26, Ezekiel 37:1-14

April 22 - Shebmini

Leviticus 9:1-11:47, II Samuel 6:1-7:17

April 29 - Tazria Metzora

Leviticus 12:1-15:33, II Kings 7:3-20 ■



CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory:

Marty Goldstone

*father of Richard (Jill) Goldstone
grandfather of Benny and Anna*

Henry M. Pollack

*father of Betty (Bill) Shapiro
grandfather of Matthew and Adam*

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

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office

215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

215-635-4182

Shelley Chamberlain, President

215-635-1738

Jeffrey Margasak, Vice President

215-635-9332

Lorie Slass, Vice President

215-635-0920

Barbara Fink, Secretary

215-886-2297

Lisa Landau, Treasurer

215-635-9996

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**IN RESPECT OF SHABBAT, THE OFFICE
CLOSES AT 3:00 P.M. ON FRIDAYS.**

Elaine Stevens, Executive Director

215-635-3110

David Monblatt

Director of Education

215-635-7106

Sheri Cutler

Early Learning Center Director

215-635-4180

Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist

215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:

Congregation Kol Ami

8201 High School Road

Elkins Park, PA 19027

Website: www.kolamielkinspark.org

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

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the fifth of the previous month (e.g., by April 5 for the May/June issue) to **Janet Falon** at jfalon@english.upenn.edu. Articles may be edited as needed. ■



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

As we head into the second half of the school year, Kol Ami Religious School has many exciting programs on the horizon:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Our Confirmation Academy students will have a field trip to the Mazon's THIS IS HUNGER program. This is a high-impact, experiential installation on wheels—literally, it's a big rig. "When the 53-foot-long double expandable trailer is parked and open on both sides, it provides almost 1,000 square feet of interior space to take participants on a voyage of awareness and activism: to help them understand the stark reality of hunger in America and to spark their commitment to taking action that will help end hunger once and for all."

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

This year's family *Purim* program has a new twist. Families will be invited guests to King Ahasuerus and Queen Vashti's Royal Banquet. Rather than watching the *Purim* story, our guests will be a part of the action, cheering on *Purim*'s heroes and booing its villains. This event is being created and produced by the LAMED program, a leadership-development program for Grade 11 and 12 students.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Our K-3 students will experience *matzah* making as we head into *Pesach* season. Students will get to make, bake, and eat their own unleavened bread as they learn the story of Passover.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Our third annual Chocolate *Seder* will delight our students with sweets and songs. Students in Grades K-6 will help lead a model *seder* made entirely of chocolate. This fun-filled event is a favorite of our students (obviously) and helps prepare them for their real Passover *seders*.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

Family Education for Grade 4 each year is a formal introduction to the subject of the Holocaust. Students and parents will be introduced to this difficult and essential subject in a setting that is safe, informative, and meaningful.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Our students in Grades 2-4 will make their annual visit to the Abramson Center to fulfill the *mitzvah* of visiting the sick and the elderly.

On the same date, our students in Grades 5-7 will take a field trip to Center City to learn all about the Jewish contributions to the founding of America.

David Monblatt

eddir@kolamielkinspark.org ■

Kol Ami Teens Shine as Activists on Capitol Hill



Kol Ami teens Talia August, Isabelle Beatus, and Abe Moss, along with chaperone Rosalind Holtzman, attended the January session of the *L'Taken* Social Justice Seminar in Washington, DC, under the auspices of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. They were accompanied by a group from Temple Beth Am-Old York Road and joined by hundreds of Jewish teens from across America for an intensive, four-day lesson in political advocacy.

The seminar's sessions included learning about key issues such as criminal justice reform, comprehensive sexuality education, separation of church and state, and Israel, guided by Reform Jewish values. How can we, as individuals, groups, and organizations, influence the shape of legislation? Tactics such as protests, use of social media/Twitter, television ads, calls to legislators, and writing op-ed pieces were highlighted, while recognizing the undue leverage wielded by deep-pocketed interests and PACs and their effects on the legislative process.

The seminar culminated in small-group visits to legislators' offices on Capitol Hill. Kol Ami-ers visited the offices of Senator Bob Casey and Representative Brendan Boyle. In each office, an assigned group presented their prepared remarks to a legislative aide on their chosen issue, requesting specific action on pending legislation.

Here are some of the highlights of the *L'Taken* seminar, according to Talia and Isabelle:

Talia August: "When walking around Philly, you can find amazing parts of this country's history. With our trip to DC, we were able to see the workings of our modern-day government! I was truly amazed by how Jews from all over the country could find such similarities in both our Jewish beliefs and

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MAZAL TOV

Congratulations to:

- **James and Natalie Dyen** on the wedding of their son, Jesse, to Genna Giacobassi on December 22.
- **Joan Greenberg** on the birth of her granddaughter, Kyleigh, to Rachel and Kyle Grier on December 5.
- **Mark and Karin Kaplan** on the engagement of their daughter, Molly, to Andrew Gordon on December 19.
- **Mindy and Paul Levy** on the announcement of the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Jacobson, to Kyle Western on December 27.
- **David and Shelley Chamberlain** on the engagement of their son, Brian, to Marissa Brooks on February 15. ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Caring Congregants Committee

Thursday, March 9, at 6:00 p.m.

Chairs: Elaine Gershenson, 215-782-1413, and Linda George, 215-887-3994

Membership Committee

Thursday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Chair: Robin Warsaw, 215-635-5839

Religious School PTO Committee

Sunday, March 19 and April 23, at 10:00 a.m.

Chairs: Erica Douglas, 215-491-0630, and Deborah Poppel, 215-947-2252

Social Action Committee

Monday, April 3, at 7:30 p.m.

Chairs: Jody Long, 215-635-4751, and Rocky Weinstock, 215-782-3848

Spiritual Growth Group

Monday, March 20 and April 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Chairs: Janet Falon, 215-635-1698, and Meryle Gurmankin, 215-464-2466

Worship Enhancement Committee

Sunday, April 30, at 9:30 a.m.

Chairs: Mindy Levy, 215-885-3672, and William Shapiro, 215-517-8666 ■

Bat/Bar Mitzvahs in March

BAT MITZVAH OF LAUREN CHEIKEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, AT 5:30 P.M.



Lauren is in the seventh grade at Murray Avenue Middle School. Her favorite subject is science because she wants to be a nurse. She is in her school's Drama Club and also enjoys singing and playing tennis, golf, and soccer.

Her volunteer activities include boxing meals for delivery to families in need, working with special-needs students at her school, and visiting elderly residents of a nursing home. For her *Mitzvah* Project, she has been volunteering at Autism Cares Foundation events. Autism Cares Foundation improves the life experience of children by organizing activities and events where children with autism can play together. She helps out at these events and derives great satisfaction when she sees the participants enjoying the activities.

"I enjoy being Jewish because Judaism teaches us about the importance of doing *mitzvot*," she says. "It makes me feel good to do good deeds for other people, such as giving food to the less fortunate and helping children with autism.

"A memorable Jewish experience I had is when I visited the Abramson Center for Jewish Living, a nursing home for Jewish senior citizens. I did arts and crafts with them, and it was amazing to spend time with them and learn about their lives. They love the company! God teaches us to be kind and to help the elderly.

"My favorite holy day is *Rosh Hashanah* because I get a fresh start to the new year! I get to hear the sounds of the *shofar*. I also have the opportunity to eat apples and honey! What could be better? They are the symbols of the new year. My favorite part, though, is starting fresh so that my mistakes won't be the same next year!

"I chose to chant from the Book of Exodus 29:7-18 for my *Torah* Portion. It informs us about sacrificing animals to G-d. In Biblical times, animals were the most valuable possessions people had and sacrificing them was a way of showing their appreciation to G-d. Today, we do not

sacrifice animals, but instead we show our appreciation to G-d by using prayers.

"My favorite prayers are the *Avote v'Imahote* and the *G'vurote*. The *Avote v'Imahote* reminds us about our ancestors, and it is appropriate that we remember them because the *Torah* is passed down from generation to generation. I can apply this to my life by spending time with my grandparents and learning about their lives.

"The *G'vurote* is a prayer that affirms G-d's power to inspire and save. It is important to thank G-d for the things we need to live and for our health and the health of our families. This prayer teaches me to be thankful for what I have."

We congratulate Lauren's parents, Stanley and Julia, and her sister, Ally.

BAR MITZVAH OF NATE QUIGLEY

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, AT 10:00 A.M.



Nate is in the seventh grade at Cedar-book Middle School. His favorite subjects are English and social studies because he likes to learn about language as well as geography and how the earth was formed.

His extracurricular activities are soccer, skiing, and snowboarding, as well as baseball.

"I am proud to be Jewish because it is me," he says. "My Mom's whole side of the family has been Jewish for who knows how long, and I am proud because I am maintaining the traditions and observing the holy days that they have shown me over the years. Another reason that I am proud to be Jewish is because I am part of a people who have overcome many struggles and maintained their Jewish identity.

"My favorite Jewish holy day is Passover. I am passionate about this because my family comes together, the food is delicious, and I love the prayers and the songs. The one thing I love about this day is that when we read the story about Passover, everyone at the table takes turns reading, and when that is done, *matzah* balls are the best thing you can eat this evening!

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"A powerful and instructive Jewish experience I had was the opportunity to listen to a Holocaust survivor's story. His name is David Tuck, and he was in the Auschwitz concentration camp as a young boy. He came to my school and talked to my entire grade. It was memorable because I am the last generation to meet one of these people and hear about the horrible things that occurred during that time.

"I chose to read verses from the Book of Exodus, chapter 32, verses 19-24 and chapter 33, verses 18-23. They tell us about how Moses went up Mount Sinai, stayed up there a long time, and then God gave him the Ten Commandments. When Moses came down, he saw that some of the Israelites were worshipping a golden calf. He was very upset about what the people had done and so he smashed the tablets of the Ten Commandments, and then had to get another set of the Ten Commandments from God at the top of Mount Sinai.

"My favorite prayers are the *V'ahavtah* and the *Avote v'Imabote*. I like the *V'ahavtah* because it talks about the importance of passing down our religion and our traditions. Doing so ensures our future generations. I apply this to my life because one day when I have children, I will pass the teachings on to them.

"I chose the *Avote v'Imabote* because remembering our ancestors is always important. They are the people who created us and maintained our religion. Both of these prayers are part of our worship service because they carry the message to always respect our faith and keep our religion going."

We congratulate Nate's parents, Bryan and Amy, and his sister, Kyra, who celebrated her *Bat Mitzvah* on October 18, 2014.

BAR MITZVAH OF ANDY LANGMAN

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, AT 5:30 P.M.



Andy is in the seventh grade at Wissahickon Middle School. His favorite subjects are science and language arts because he enjoys doing class projects.

His extracurricular activity at school is also his *Mitzvah* Project: Wiss Pals, where he partners once a month with special-needs students in activities and programs. His time outside of school is devoted to gymnastics as well as the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Walk with his family.

"I am proud to be Jewish because I get to have a *Bar Mitzvah* and read from the *Torah*," he says. "I enjoy being Jewish because I get to learn Hebrew and about Jewish history. I find the *Torah* to be very interesting because there are so many stories, and they can mean many things. They send messages and teach us lessons. Being Jewish is great because you get to learn many things.

"My two favorite prayers are the *Borchu* and the *Avote v'Imabote*. They have lots of meaning, and they honor our ancestors. The *Borchu* begins the service by having everyone sing together in prayer. The *Avote v'Imabote* honors our ancestors and says words in their memories. I would apply these themes by honoring and remembering my ancestors—my great-grandmother Bella, for example. She was an immigrant, and if she didn't make it to America, I would not be alive.

"My favorite Jewish holy day is Passover, and not just because we look for the *afikomen* or because of all the food we eat. When we have a *Seder*, we all read from the *Haggadah* and after all that, we eat! I am more interested in the story of Passover than the other Jewish holy days.

"One experience that changed the way I think about everything was here at Hebrew School. My class was talking about philosophical things and sharing our opinions about them, and there was one topic that came up and really made me think: How does the world come into place so perfectly? I thought about things in the world that work so well together. How do trees and plants have just the right chemicals and features to give off oxygen, and humans and animals just happen to be made to need oxygen to live? The chance of that happening naturally to be just right is so low, it's mind-blowing! That discussion really changed the way I think about how everything was created.

"I chose to read from the Book of Exodus, chapter 35, verses 10-21 because when I was reading about the construction of the tabernacle, I read that they were not going to have enough items to build all of it since they had to start from scratch. Imagine if you had just a few skilled friends and they had to build a tabernacle from scratch. It surprised me that they had more than enough items to build it! I thought this was interesting so I chose it as the section that I would read from the *Torah*."

We congratulate Andy's parents, Chuck and Laurie, and his brother, Sam, who celebrated his *Bar Mitzvah* on October 22, 2011, and his sister, Becca, who celebrated her *Bat Mitzvah* on October 5, 2013, her Confirmation on June 11, 2016, and is a student in our LAMED program of advanced Jewish experiential study. ■

Study at the *Shul* for Adults

RSVP TO ELAINE STEVENS AT 215-635-3110 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THERE IS A \$50 FEE FOR NON-MEMBERS TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE COURSES.

Rereading the Bible: An Introduction to Feminist Interpretation

Tuesdays; March 7, 14, 21 & 28
from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Barbara Rosenthal

We all have an agenda when we read (and interpret) the Bible, whether we are aware of it or not. Many of us read it the way our culture, our religion, or secular society would have us read it. How would our understanding of the Bible change if we acknowledge the usual perspectives we assume when reading, put them aside for the moment, and adopt a new way of reading – if only just to see where it leads? And what could both men and women learn about the Bible, themselves, and the authority to interpret if we read the Bible from the primary perspective of women and their concerns?

RSVP by March 1.

Judaism 101

Thursdays; March 30 and April 6
from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: David Monblatt



This is an introductory-level class for those people who never received a formal Jewish education or who just wish to refresh their knowledge about Judaism. Whether you never attended Hebrew school, or it's been ages since you've learned about Judaism, or you're a parent who wishes to be more engaged in your child's Jewish education, Judaism 101 will review the basics, including the origin, history, traditions, texts and holidays that comprise the Jewish faith.

RSVP by March 23.

Spirituality or Reverence: Kedushah Perspectives

Thursdays; May 4, 11, 18 & 25
from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Howard Bogot



Spirituality, initially understood in the Book of Proverbs as moral conduct, transformed into the Mussar Movement in which the individual Jew strives to release the light of *Kedushah* that lives within the soul as infused, divine spirit.

Reverence is the humbling, respectful recognition of those key ingredients of Judaism that are lived as peak experiences that make life as a Jew worthy and fully human. Whereas awe may be interpreted as overwhelming sensitivity, reverence is a subjective response.

RSVP by April 30.

American Jewish Women and Political Activism

Mondays; June 5, 12, 19 & 26
from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Reena Sigman Friedman

The course will focus on various American Jewish women who have made important contributions to both American life and the American Jewish community in the area of political activism. We will study selections from the writings of these important personalities.

RSVP by May 30. ■

Kol Ami Events

SOFTBALL SEASON IS ALMOST HERE!



Once again this spring/summer, Kol Ami's softball team, informally called the "Koi Amigos," will take to the field to compete against other area congregations in the Delaware Valley Softball League. We always welcome new players to the team. Games take place once or twice each week, Monday through Thursday evenings, between late April and late July, and there's no requirement for any player to attend all games. We also try to practice on Sundays in the spring when we can.

If you would like to sign up or need more information, please e-mail team captain Jonathan Shandell at jonathan.shandell@aya.yale.edu.



Sunday, March 5, at 10:00 a.m. with Andrew Cassel

For millions of Jews who fled the pogroms and poverty of Eastern Europe a century ago, the Sholem Aleichem's stories were cultural guideposts. Characters such as Tevye, the milkman who talks back to God, were like the immigrants' own families – small-town people struggling with change, distanced from past and future generations, carrying big dreams and opinions about everything. Last year, lovers of Sholem Aleichem commemorated his 100th *yortzayt* in celebrations and ceremonies around the world. Andy will recap one of those events and discuss Sholem Aleichem's largely unknown connection to Philadelphia.

FIRST "LOCA" PROGRAM OF 2017

**Friday, March 10 at 5:15 p.m.
at Marco Polo (Elkins Park)**

Our first event of the new year will be an early dinner, followed by attending *Shabbat* services. Our fabulous choir will be singing, so we know it will be a heavenly experience! MOCAs and LOCAs welcome.

Please e-mail Natalie Dyen at nat.dyen@gmail.com by March 2 to let us know if you are joining us **for dinner!**

MARCH AND APRIL BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

erev Shabbat, Friday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat, Friday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m.



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in March or April, please join us at our special *erev Shabbat* service on those dates. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with these *simchas* under a *tallit*. Watch

for your invitation for this special *Shabbat simcha*.

Rabbi Holin will continue to send personal letters to everyone celebrating a significant birthday or anniversary ending with 0 or 5 (for example, 40, 45). If you have a special 0 or 5 birthday or anniversary, you will be invited to participate in any Friday service in "your" month by blessing the candles or *challah*, or reciting the *Kiddush*, or at any Saturday service that month by carrying or blessing the *Torah*.

SOCIAL ACTION EVENT: SHARE FOOD PROGRAM

Sunday, March 19, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

2901 W. Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia



Help Philadelphia families in March by packing food boxes for those in need at the SHARE Food Program. SHARE provides food to over 20,000 low-income families each month. This is a great activity for the whole family, ages 8 and up.

Map: <http://sharefoodprogram.org/contact>

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

RSVP to Jody Smith Long at 215-512-3636, jodyl321@comcast.net or via the [signupgenius](#) link coming to your e-mail soon.

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THIS IS HUNGER™

A community engagement program of MAZON | A Jewish Response to Hunger

THIS IS HUNGER comes to our community!

The faces of hunger in America are both familiar and hidden from view, yet they are all too real and far too many. Act Against Hunger is proud to host **THIS IS HUNGER**, an interactive experience on wheels (literally, it's a big rig!) brought to us by MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger.

When the 53-foot-long double expandable trailer is parked and open on both sides, it provides almost 1,000 square feet of interior space to take participants on a voyage of awareness and activism: to help them understand the stark reality of hunger in America and to spark their commitment to taking action that will help end hunger once and for all.

Inside the truck, the experience is divided into two parts. First, participants are invited to sit at a communal table and virtually "meet" real people struggling with hunger. Portraits are projected at each end of the table, one by one, as individuals share their stories in their own voices and in their own words. At the end of part one, participants are invited to engage in activities that deepen their awareness about the complexities of being hungry and join MAZON in educating the rest of our nation and advocating for change.

THIS IS HUNGER is open to the community and will be at Congregation Keneseth Israel, 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park, in the parking lot, from Sunday, March 5, through Thursday, March 9.

The exhibit is free, but you must reserve tickets in advance. To see when the truck is open and reserve your free tickets, visit: www.thisishunger.org and click on Find Tickets. For questions, please contact Ronit Sugar (ronitsugar@gmail.com or 215-208-7027).

Act Against Hunger invites you to attend a Town Hall Meeting featuring the Pennsylvania Secretary of the Dept. of Human Services, Ted Dallas on Sunday, March 5, from 2-4 pm at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, 8339 Old York Road Elkins Park, PA 19027. **To RSVP for the Town Hall event, please e-mail: jcr2hunger@gmail.com.**

We will have the exhibit open on Sunday, March 5, from 3-5 pm for you to see. If you want to see the exhibit or bring a group to the exhibit from March 6-9, please register at www.thisishunger.org.



DESIGNER BAG BINGO!



Benefitting Congregation Kol Ami

Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

- ♦ \$36 admission includes 12 rounds of Bingo
- ♦ Designers include Coach, Kate Spade, Dooney and Bourke and more!
- ♦ Bonus rounds, additional cards, and daubers available for purchase.
 - ♦ BYO beverages and snacks
 - ♦ **MUST BE 21 to attend**
 - ♦ Door prizes and 50/50
- ♦ Reserved tables for 8 or 14 available

For more information, contact:

Sherry at shcohen361@gmail.com or Heather at hfppt1@gmail.com

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

----->

Name: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Number of Admissions: _____ x \$36 = _____

- ♦ Please list the names in your group on the back of this form
- ♦ Make checks payable to **Congregation Kol Ami**



Congregation Kol Ami Children's Book Swap!

Sunday, March 12, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

This is a terrific opportunity for your child to get rid of their books and swap them out for some new ones!

The event will include:

- Table Games
- Interactive children's Reading and Music half hour (Pre-K , Kindergarten).

This swap is open to all Kol Ami members and prospective members Pre-K to 15 year olds.





ALWAYS AN ADVENTURE: Some of our Early Learning Center children in the playground, enjoying the sunshine and each other's company.

“Fun-for-Kids” erev Shabbat Services

This 6:00 p.m. service is appropriate for all ages. It's a happy half-hour with lots of music and our terrific student choir.

- **March 17**
- **April 7**
- **May 5** ■



We don't see things the
way they are.
**We see them the
way WE are.**

~ Talmud

Congregation Kol Ami Presents: Intergenerational Conversations on Liberty, Community, and (Everyday) Heroes

Calling all families, seniors, and everyone in-between!
Please join us on **March 19, 2017, from 2:00-5:00 pm**,
at the National Liberty Museum for an inspirational tour,
followed guided conversations across-the-generations.



While the museum visit will be a collective event, as the Talmud suggests, our perspectives will be unique to our personal experience as school age children, teens, and adults. We look forward to learning from (and with) you.

Just the Facts:

Cost: \$7.00/adult; \$5.00/child

Location: 321 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Date/Time: March 19, 2017, from 2:00-5:00 pm

To Register: Contact Elaine Stevens (215.635.3110) or

<https://goo.gl/forms/MxYvyIR4SLp7mGVw1>

If you answer yes
to any of these
please register for
the Event!

Are you between
the ages of 6-106?

Do you enjoy
sharing ideas with
people older and
younger than you?

Do you appreciate
contemporary art?

Do you value civic
engagement and
personal liberties?





EARLY LEARNING CENTER ANNUAL EREV SHABBAT DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Friday, March 31, at 6:45 p.m.

We need your help with the Early Learning Center sponsored event. Here's how: 1) donate items to be auctioned, for example, gift certificates, museum tickets, art items, etc. and/or 2) attend the auction and bid on baskets. We would love to see you attend and support our event. Please contact Sheri Cutler at 215-635-4180 for more information.

"ADULTS-ONLY" MARTINI HAVDALAH SERVICE

Saturday, April 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

We'll supply the hors d'oeuvres and you supply the mixing devices, hard liquor, and mixers (beer, wine).

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

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

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

You are invited to join us for dinner after the *Havdalah* service at Park Plates in Elkins Park. To sign up for the dinner ONLY, please contact Joel Edelstein at dryankel@yahoo.com. Joel will confirm receiving your dinner reservation. The cost of the pre-fixed menu is approximately \$35.00 per person. This will be a wonderful way to extend the joy of the service by spending the evening together.

ASTONISHING PRAYER: ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL AND THE SPIRIT OF WONDER

Sunday, April 2, at 10:00 a.m.



The entire congregation is invited to hear Joshua Gutoff, EdD, Assistant Professor of Jewish Education at Gratz College, teach us about the unique views of spirituality taught by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. Abraham Joshua Heschel was a Polish-born American rabbi and one of the leading

theologians and Jewish philosophers of the 20th century. A professor of Jewish mysticism at the Jewish Theological Seminar of America, Heschel authored many widely read books on Jewish philosophy and was active in the Civil Rights Movement.

Says Rabbi Gutoff -- who has hanging in his office a photograph of Rabbi Heschel participating in a famous Civil Rights walk -- "No one understood the difficulty of prayer as well as Heschel, but no one saw its possibilities as well, either. Let's explore how prayer can help us both see the world, God, and ourselves with new eyes."

This program is being sponsored by the Spiritual Growth Group to honor the memory of our beloved Sara Chernoff, a longtime and active member of the Group and an enthusiastic fan of Heschel.

Rabbi Joshua Gutoff is director of the MA program in Jewish Education at Gratz College in Philadelphia. For close to 30 years, his research has explored the intersection of reading strategies, spiritual practice, and ethics; and he is currently writing a book on *Talmud* and the moral imagination. He received both his rabbinic ordination and his EdD from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

HEALING SERVICE

Sunday, April 2, at 1:00 p.m.

Our tradition offers moving and powerful prayers for loved ones in hospitals, recovering at home, or in hospice care, and for ourselves as well: healers who are in need of healing, and those in mourning. This brief worship service includes the *Mi'Shebbeirach* ("May The Holy One Who Blesses...") prayer as well as the hope that we will find *menuchah* (tranquility) within ourselves during trying times.

PASSOVER-YIZKOR SERVICE

Monday, April 17, at 10:00 a.m.

The *Yizkor* Memorial service that immediately comes to mind occurs on *Yom Kippur*, and yet there are three other dates of observance on the Jewish calendar: *Simchat Torah*, *Pesach* (Passover), and *Shavnot*.

Yizkor, from the Hebrew verb "to remember," is observed throughout the first year following the death of a loved one; traditionally, a parent, sibling, spouse, or child.

It is believed that *mitzvot* performed by loved ones help the souls of the departed on their way to the *olam ha'ba*, "the world to come." One *mitzvah* is committing *tzedakah* funds to help people in need, and since the *Torah* reading on the last day of the pilgrimage festivals mentions the importance of doing so, *Yizkor* was added to these holy day services as well.

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PLEASE JOIN US AND BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

CONGREGATION KOL AMI SECOND SEDER

Tuesday, April 11, 2017
6:00 pm
Congregation Kol Ami

Delicious Kosher-Style *Seder* Dinner
Songs and Passover Story

Tables of 8 are available for family seating
BYOB

Please return the right half of this form by April 3, 2017,
with your check payable to Congregation Kol Ami to:

Barb Fink
721 Meetinghouse Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027

For additional information, call Barb Fink at 215-886-2297
or email at bfink3@gmail.com



PLEASE RETURN THIS HALF OF THE FORM

I/we will attend the Congregation Kol Ami Second Seder on
✂️ **Tuesday, April 11, 2017**

Name of reservation: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Member prices:

Number of adults	_____	@ \$35.00	=	\$	_____
Number of children age 6 - 17	_____	@ \$16.00	=	\$	_____
Number of children age 5 and below	_____	@ \$5.00	=	\$	_____
Number of vegetarian meals	_____	@ \$35.00	=	\$	_____

Non-Member prices:

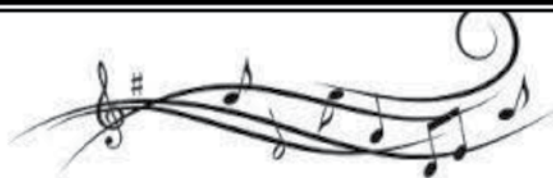
Number of adults	_____	@ \$45.00	=	\$	_____
Number of children age 6 - 17	_____	@ \$25.00	=	\$	_____
Number of children age 5 and below	_____	@ \$5.00	=	\$	_____
Number of vegetarian meals	_____	@ \$45.00	=	\$	_____

TOTAL # PEOPLE _____

\$ _____

MITZVAH OPPORTUNITY: I would like to help defray the Congregation's subsidy of
the cost of this *Seder* meal by making a contribution of \$ _____ to Elijah's Plate.

If possible, please seat me with: _____



Congregation Kol Ami Members "Our House" Concert

Featuring

Cory Newman at the Piano

A Musical Tribute to the Memory of Sara Chernoff



Sunday, April 30, 2017

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Congregation Kol Ami Lobby



*We invite you to a "Congregants Connection" house concert in our lobby.
Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres, home baked desserts, and your BYOBeverage from
5:00 - 5:45 p.m. with the back drop of beautiful art by Rie Jones*

Concert begins at 5:45 p.m.



*Please join us! No charge but RSVP required ensuring plenty of food for all.
Don't forget -- it's BYOB!*

*RSVP by April 24th to Elaine Stevens, 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolami.info
Need a ride? Let Elaine know and we'll arrange!*



SAVE THE DATE
ISH MYSTERY NIGHT

Saturday, April 22, at 7:00 p.m. - Location TBD
More details forthcoming.

SAVE THE DATE

CANTOR LISA LEVINE VISITS KOL AMI

Friday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m.



Congregation Kol Ami will welcome artist-in-residence Cantor Lisa Levine. Lisa will bring her mix of lively, soulful songs and spirit to our *erev Shabbat* Service, also featuring our Adult Choir. This is a service you won't want to miss!! For more info, please visit <http://www.cantorlisalevine.com/>.

KOL AMI IS GOING TO COOPERSTOWN!

Sunday, May 7, through Monday, May 8

It's spring training time and baseball is in the air! This is an invitation to bring your family and friends for an overnight trip to Cooperstown, NY, for a private tour of all three floors of the National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum.

We will leave on Sunday, May 7, shortly after noon (after the Kol Ami Annual Meeting) and return to the synagogue Monday evening, May 8. Depending on our group's size, we will either charter a bus or carpool from Elkins Park to Cooperstown. Sunday evening, we will stay at the Lake Front Hotel (www.cooperstownlakefronthotel.com), which overlooks Lake Otsego and is just two short blocks from where baseball legends live. Single rooms are \$99 and doubles are \$115.

Kol Ami member Ira Cooperman, a frequent speaker at the Hall of Fame, has arranged for an extremely knowledgeable museum tour guide to be with us exclusively starting Monday morning. Group admission to the Hall is \$13.50 for Seniors (65+), \$21 for Adults (19-64), and \$11 for youth (13-18).

You won't want to miss this special experience to learn about baseball and its history at the home of our national pastime. Contact Ira at 585-739-4050 or iracooperman@gmail.com by March 31 for further information or to reserve a spot on this trip, which is open to all Kol Ami members as well as friends in the community.



SAVE-THE-DATE

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PTO
DINE-AROUND**

Wednesday, May 10, 12:00-8:00 p.m.
at Cosi in Elkins Park

Look for more information in the May-June bulletin.

**BOOK REVIEWER EXTRAORDINAIRE
BEVERLY ROSEN TO SPEAK AT KOL AMI**

Friday, May 12, at our 7:30 p.m. *erev Shabbat* Service



Beverly Rosen will speak about *An Island Called Home: Returning to Jewish Cuba* by Ruth Behar, with photos by Humberto Mayol. Ruth Behar left Cuba as a child when Castro came to power. She has returned many times to the island, curious about the Jews who stayed behind. Who were they? Why had they stayed? What

was life like for them in the 1920s, 30s, 40s, and today?

Behar answers these questions in her enlightening work, part memoir, part interviews, part history, as she tries to find answers to her questions. The photos of noted photographer Humberto Mayol, who accompanied her on her journey, bring life in Cuba alive.

This evening is sure to be extremely entertaining!

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES

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

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



Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Congregation Kol Ami whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2771426> and support us every time you shop.

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ARTIST FOR NEXT MONTH MARCH 21 - APRIL 24

JULIE ANN KRING



Julie received a BS from Kutztown University and an MEd from Penn State University in Art Education with a concentration in Museum Education.

As an art educator for over 25 years, Julie has taught in public and private schools in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Washington. Working with UrbanPromise, Julie began an art program for the Grade K-12 students, providing them with opportunities to discover their artistic potential and to exhibit their work in a variety of locations in the area.

Throughout her career, she has found great reward in providing experiences for students in schools and neighborhoods that have been underserved in the area of arts education.

Since 2012, Julie has enjoyed pursuing painting and printmaking and exhibiting her work throughout the area. Her subjects include botanical prints, landscape paintings, and works of abstraction inspired by nature. Recently she has begun exploring her dream life as a source of inspiration and the opportunity it provides to add insight to her interior life.

Julie is currently working as a teaching artist at Cornerstone Christian Academy in SW Philadelphia and DePaul Catholic in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia. She also enjoys leading workshops on spirituality and art and preparing the liturgical environment for her parish, St. Vincent de Paul, in Germantown.

Please join us for Julie's open house on Sunday, March 26, at 1:00 p.m. ■

ARTIST FOR THIS MONTH APRIL 25 - JUNE 12

RIE JONES



PORTALS, ELEMENTS, EMANATIONS: My mission with this collection is to present compelling photographs that foster a journey of contemplation about the importance of looking beyond the familiar.

Rie Jones grew up in Chapel Hill, NC, where she spent much of her childhood exploring the woods behind her family home and in the mountains of North Carolina during summer vacations. When not in the woods or mountains, she could be found fostering her love of horses.

She began her career as a commercial equine photographer after studying photography at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Her work was published in multiple national and international trade publications.

While at RIT, she was captivated by the works of Claude Monet, Georges Seurat, Franz Marc, and Elaine de Kooning, among others.

She is now an emerging artist working in digital photography. In her medium- and large-scale photographs, she employs natural colors and elements in an impressionistic and expressionistic manner.

Rie is inspired by our shared connection to the one source found in all things. Her work reflects this inspiration.

Currently she lives with her husband on their horse farm near the Shenandoah mountains in Culpeper, VA.

Please join us for Rie's open house on Sunday, April 30, at 1:00 p.m. ■

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

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

(continued from page 2)

Spring makes us more aware of transition and sustenance. With the announcement of Rabbi Holin's retirement in July 2018, our congregation is also focused on transition and the continued life of our community. As we acknowledge our sadness and perhaps uncertainty and fear, we also anticipate opportunities for growth. Thank you for participating in the three congregation "conversations" in January, and your willingness to participate in forums to together determine: Who we are today; who we want to be in the coming years; and what we need/want in our new spiritual leader. It is our shared values that will guide us through the process of selecting our new rabbi.

Please continue to read the communications, participate in focus groups, get involved in committees, participate in surveys, and call me or anyone on the Board. Additional questions, thoughts, or concerns can be e-mailed to questions@kolamielkinspark.org.

Careful thought and inclusion is the key to making this transition successful. I am confident in not only the outcome, but in the process. Join us in charting Kol Ami's path forward.

March and April are busy programming months. I'm so grateful for our members who plan events, providing something for everyone to enjoy. Read on! Remember that you can conveniently download events from the website to your calendar and register/pay for programs.

As spring approaches, I look forward to brighter days and times shared with all of you. We continue to build a stronger community every day!

Shelley Chamberlain
215-635-1738
srchamberlain@comcast.net ■

FASTS IN THIS MONTH & NEXT



Join Rabbi Holin in fast days – or virtual fast days – every month by sending funds that you would have spent on food to help men, women, and children in need:

NATAL (nah'tahl) – the Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War - addresses Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder of combat veterans and former prisoners of war, as well as those who have lost loved ones in battle or suicide bombings, and anyone who suffers the sustained emotional and mental pressure of living with the fear and uncertainty that war and the threat of war bring. In addition, NATAL reaches out to families and relatives of victims and bereaved families through on-site counseling, a national hotline, and free or subsidized psychological assistance and treatment by highly trained professionals. "For some children, the color red is not just a color."

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

Fast days to benefit **NATAL** will be on the first Wednesday of the month: **March 1** and **April 5**.

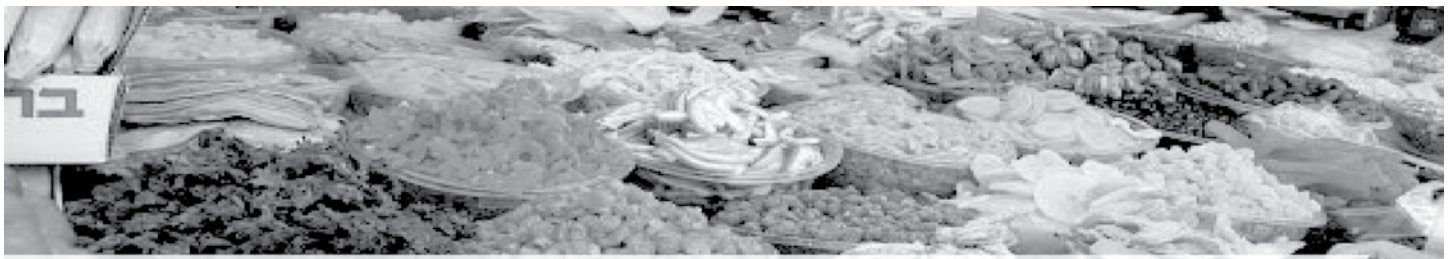
Phast for Philadelphia is on behalf of unemployed workers in Philadelphia who are struggling to make ends meet by helping them pay their mortgages, address health care needs, and pay electric bills.

Phast for Philadelphia fast days will be on the fourth Thursday of the month: **March 23** and **April 27**.

American Friends of NATAL
1120 Avenue of the Americas, Fourth Floor
New York, NY 10036

Unemployment Information Center
112 N. Broad Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

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



CONGREGATION KOL AMI'S CULINARY, WINE AND AGRICULTURE TRIP TO ISRAEL



NOVEMBER 5 - 15, 2017

led by Kobi Cooper under the auspices of Keshet, who led our last Israel trip to great acclaim

FROM MELTING POT TO FUSION CUISINE

"Israel has undergone a long journey from its early "melting pot" days where the culture was being established, until today, where diversity is once again celebrated. This process is witnessed beautifully in Israel's rich cuisine scene, offering numerous authentic restaurants and an emerging unique Israeli fusion kitchen, celebrating the fascinating mosaic that is Israel's society. This is your unique opportunity to experience Israel with all your senses, and via a different path than typical."

Taste authentic dishes and meet with local vendors at the open air unique markets

Meals at acclaimed chef restaurants around Israel

Tour of the vineyards and wine tasting at many of Israel's prize winning wineries

Hands-on cooking, chocolate making and cheese workshops

Home hospitality meals at homes of people from different ethnic communities

Visit the Salad Trail farm for a tasty tour of the fields, where acres of vegetables grow in the sand!

Stay at Israel's newest and most upscale boutique spa hotels from Tel Aviv to the Golan, from Akko to Jerusalem, and from Mitzpe Ramon in the Negev to the Judean Hills



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org
or at (215) 635-3110

who will send you the complete itinerary as planned

Registration
open until
April 5, 2017

Registration is now open at: <https://www.keshetisrael.co.il/forms/keshet-groups-registration>

KOL AMI TEENS ON CAPITOL HILL

(continued from page 5)

also our personal and political ones. The part of the trip that changed me the most was the power it gave me. Walking around the capitol with a speech I had written, I felt empowered! Several people from Pennsylvania legislative offices took time to listen to what we had to say. I spoke about criminal justice reform, and I also learned about disability rights and reproductive rights over the weekend. The Religious Action Center taught us about current legislation on the topics, and we did something about it. There is a reason the RAC's name has ACTION in it and that is a beautiful thing!"

Isabelle Beatus: "I decided to go to the RAC *LTaken* program because during these intense political times, I thought this could be a stepping-stone for myself and many others to make our voices heard and learn how to properly do so. The events that have occurred since the inauguration have made me extremely upset, and the trip to DC was one that helped me learn more about certain issues; how to communicate them; and how, no matter my age, I can make a difference. I wanted to go particularly because I felt as though I would be able to have a greater influence on our country than if I were just to sit and complain. The experience of discussing and researching the topics was one that provided me with even more information and empowered me to want to take even more action after this experience. Talking to a staff member of Congressman Brendan Boyle, and getting to hear his stance on the issue I lobbied about, Reproductive Rights, empowered me then and empowers me now. It was reassuring to know that there are representatives and other people from across the country with similar views who are equally as upset about current politics. I felt as though I wasn't alone and that I was really making a difference, all of which made this an extremely gratifying experience for me." ■



YEDIDAY KOL AMI 2017

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

David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Carol Baron
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Barry and Allison Boise
David and Shelley Chamberlain
Michael Chernoff
Arthur Gordon
Raymond and Elizabeth Grenald
David Hyman
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Eric and Adena Johnston
Charles Langman and Laurie Jubelirer Langman
David and Patricia Ann Long
Stuart and Deborah Poppel
Marshall and Ilene Schafer
Robert Schiowitz and Ronit Sugar
Gary Sender
William and Betty Shapiro
Michael Silverman and Robin Rifkin
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser ■

JEWISH SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

If your son or daughter plans to attend a Jewish summer camp in 2017, our Congregation is pleased to award needs-based scholarships through the Youth Fund. Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of requests received.

If your child plans to participate in a trip to Israel through a peer-led organization, we are pleased to offer incentive scholarships depending on the length of the trip. The Discover Israel Fund exists through the generosity of Stewart and Sally Eisenberg.

Application forms are available by contacting Elaine Stevens, at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org. ■

WELCOME TERRY SIMS

We are delighted to introduce to our congregation Terry Sims, our new custodian. Terry began his employment with Kol Ami in November and moved into the third-floor apartment in January. When asked what he would like our congregation to know about him, he said the following:

"I'm a good person and a people person. I take pride in my work and am happy to be here. My brother works for Temple Beth Am and has been there 13 years. I love my family and we are very close. In addition, I'm going back to school soon for my degree. This is a good place to work and everybody respects each other."

Please extend the warm Kol Ami welcome to Terry when you see him around the building. ■

CONGREGATION KOL AMI'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY FUND-RAISER

AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION – SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2017

DENIM & DIAMONDS CASINO NIGHT & SILENT AUCTION

Thank you to all who attended, donated, helped with the planning, and worked at the event. It was another evening of fun while raising funds for our Congregation.

Please support the sponsors and vendors that supported us.

With much gratitude,
Sharon Myers, Event Chairperson

DIAMOND EVENT SPONSORS

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Congregation Kol Ami Ladies of a
Certain Age (LOCA)
Craig and Sharon Myers

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"Kol Amigos" Kol Ami Softball Team
Dr. Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz
Matz
John Miles and Sheryl Cohen
Wes and Michelle Myers
Rosen, Schafer and DiMeo, LLP
Michael Silverman and Robin Rifkin
Elaine Stevens

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Wolff Shoe Company

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The Bucks County Children's Museum
Camden Children's Garden
Chaddsford Winery
Shelley Chamberlain
Chili's
Julie Cohen
Sheryl Cohen
Comedy Cabaret
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Jean Ettinger
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Park, Inc.

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Ghost Tours of New Hope
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Humpty's Dumplings
David Hyman
William Hyman
Inline 309
IronPigs Charities
Joshua's Catering
Alan and Norka Kagel
Keswick Theatre
K'NEX Brands L.P.
Ellen Kovnat
Lace Silhouettes Lingerie
Mindy Levy
Ben Long
Jody Smith Long
Luda's World
Luigi's Pizzarama II
Mad Mex
Marco Polo Ristorante and Bar
Marmi
John Miles
Millers Ale House - Willow Grove
Mod Pizza
Moe's Southwest Grill
Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs
Craig Myers
Erin Myers
Sharon Myers
National Museum of American
Jewish History
New Hope & Ivyland Railroad
Cory Newman
Northeast Racquet Club & Fitness
Center
Painting with a Twist/Skipack
Painting with a Twist/Warrington
Panera Bread
Park Plates

continued page 24

2017 CASINO NIGHT

(continued from page 23)

Eric Pelletier
Heather Pelletier
Penny's Flowers
People's Light
Philadelphia Flyers
Philadelphia Soul
Pittsburgh Steelers
Please Touch Museum
Deborah Poppel
Janine Pratt
Rack Room Shoes
Reading Fightin Phils
Rebounderz Trampoline Park
Rodan + Fields - Joie Lazaroff,
Consultant
Romp N' Roll
Rosnov Jewelers
Marsha Rothman
Sack's
Merle Salkin
Stanton Salkin
Ilene Schafer
Rebecca Schwartz
Abbey Shuster
Lorie Slass
Stampin' Up
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser and
Family
Ronit Sugar
Supercuts Somerton
Joey Tate's
Ted's Montana Grill
Thunderbird Bowling Centers
Tiffin Indian Cuisine
Tony Roni's
Trenton Thunder
Turning Point
QVC
Walt Disney World Co.
WaWa Fulfillment Center
Wegmans Food Markets
West Avenue Grille
Whole Foods Market
Wilmington Blue Rocks
Yards Brewing Company ■

"WE THANK GOD FOR THE GIFT OF LIFE, AND SO TOO FOR THE GIFT OF MEMORY"



On January 23, 2015, Rabbi Holin at the *erev Shabbat* service dedicated our beautiful *Yahrzeit* Wall in recognition of the need to remember: to consciously recall moments and loved ones.

There are different ways to remember our loved ones: thinking about someone whose soul is in the *olam ha'ba*/"the world to come" and saying *kaddish* is a time honored way to do so; establishing a fund in his or her name is another; and one of the most tangible ways to do so is the dedication of a *yahrzeit* plaque. The sight of a *yahrzeit* plaque in memory of a loved one connects us to those we loved, and especially the knowledge that it is here, in the sanctuary, the house of God, that a plaque has been dedicated in their memory.

Memory is such an important part of our tradition, Biblical narratives, and ritual observance. *Zachor u'shmor*: "Remember and observe" we read in the Book of Deuteronomy (5:15). However, our *avote v'imabote* – our ancestors – were wise enough to know that memory alone is not enough: it must be harnessed to deed.

The dedication of a *yahrzeit* plaque is personal and profound. It is meaningful and moving. The presence of memorial plaques dedicated to our loved ones inspires us to consider what they mean to us even as space and time from the dates of their deaths expand. This is one of the ways that they remain close.

The names of our loved ones, engraved on memorial plaques, dwell in our minds and hearts, and here in our sanctuary, in the *makom*/the place where God is most manifest.

Our executive director, Elaine Stevens (215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org) will gladly answer all of your inquiries about purchasing a memorial plaque for your loved one. ■

KOL AMI MARCH 2017 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. - Grades 7-10 Family Education Program	2 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. Membership Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	3 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rabbi Holin 11:00 a.m. "Shabbat Across America" erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	4 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Carol Nemeroff will give the dvar Torah Designer Bag Bingo 7:00 p.m.
5 Trope Class 9:10 a.m. Member-to-Member Conversations with Andy Cassel 10:00 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m.	6	7 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Barbara Rosenthal 7:30 p.m.	8 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	9 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. Caring Congregants Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.	10 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. LOCA at Marco Polo 5:15 p.m. "Second-Friday" erev Shabbat Service with Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	11 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue with Grade 8-9 participation 10:00 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Lauren Cheiken 5:30 p.m.
12 Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - The <i>Purim</i> Banquet Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. Book Swap 1:00 p.m.	13 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Religious School Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	14 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. B'nai Mitzvah Class 7:00 p.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Barbara Rosenthal 7:30 p.m.	15 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	16 "Conversation" 7:30 p.m. Home of David and Shelley Chamberlain	17 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rabbi Holin 11:00 a.m. "Fun-for-Kids" erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir 6:00 p.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	18 Bar Mitzvah of Nate Quigley 10:00 a.m.
19 Trope Class 9:10 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Religious School PTO Meeting 12:00 - Student Choir Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. Social Action Committee SHARE Food Program 1:00 p.m. Artist Open House Kenny Moss 1:00 p.m. National Liberty Museum 2:00 p.m.	20 Spiritual Growth Group Meeting 7:00 p.m.	21 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Barbara Rosenthal 7:30 p.m.	22 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	23 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	24 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service with Grade 2-4 participation 7:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. - BYOD	25 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Followed by potluck lunch Bar Mitzvah of Andy Langman 5:30 p.m.
26 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. Artist Open House Julie Ann Kring 1:00 p.m.	27	28 B'nai Mitzvah Class 7:00 p.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Barbara Rosenthal 7:30 p.m.	29 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	30 "Study at the Shul" for Adults with David Monblatt 7:30 p.m.	31 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with David Monblatt 11:00 a.m. Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Dinner and Silent Auction 6:45 p.m. (no erev Shabbat Service)	

KOL AMI **APRIL 2017** AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Martini Havdalah 5:30 p.m.
2 BAKE SALE Spiritual Growth Group Heschel Program 10:00 a.m. Trope Class 9:10 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. Healing Service 1:00 p.m.	3 Social Action Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m.	4 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. B'nai Mitzvah Class 7:00 p.m.	5 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. - Chocolate Seder for Grades K-6	6 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with David Monblatt 7:30 p.m.	7 Early Learning Center Seder with Rabbi Holin 11:00 a.m. "Fun-for-Kids" erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir 6:00 p.m. "First-Friday" erev Shabbat Service with Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	8 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
9 Religious School CLOSED	10 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m.	11 Early Learning Center CLOSED Congregation Second Seder 6:00 p.m.	12 Religious School CLOSED	13	14 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	15 "Earth Day" Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
16 Religious School CLOSED	17 Early Learning Center CLOSED Passover-Yizkor Service 10:00 a.m.	18 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	19 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	20 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	21 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with David Monblatt 11:00 a.m. Interfaith Relationship Dialogue erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	22 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. ISH Mystery Party 7:00 p.m.
23 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Religious School PTO Meeting 10:00 a.m. - Grade 4 Family Education Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m.	24 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. Spiritual Growth Group Meeting 7:00 p.m.	25 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. B'nai Mitzvah Class 7:00 p.m.	26 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	27	28 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service with Guest Artist Cantor Lisa Levine and our Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	29 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
30 Worship Enhancement Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. Artist Open House Rie Jones - 1:00 p.m. House Concert with Cory Newman 5:00 p.m.						

Kol Ami Contributions

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

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

**The marriage of our son, Jesse,
to Genna Giacobassi**
James and Natalie Dyen

Rebecca Schwartz
William and Betty Shapiro
Gary and Cheryl Turetsky

In Memory of:

Mina Hart
Karen Gurmankin

Henry Pollack
Karen Gurmankin
Johanna Kluger
Joel and Rebecca Schwartz

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

Sharon Myers

In Memory of:

Steven Isaacman
Marshall and Ilene Schafer

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Toni and Russ Montague

In Honor of:

**The engagement of their
daughter, Stephanie Jacobson,
to Kyle Western**
Paul and Mindy Levy

**The naming ceremony for our
granddaughter, Olivia Myers**
Craig and Sharon Myers

Robert Seltzer

Spiritual Growth Group

In Memory of:

Flora Harrison
David and Phyllis Harrison

Fred Harrison
David and Phyllis Harrison

Arthur Hutkin
Robert and Susan Seltzer

Leonid Karetny
Carol Baron

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Mark and Karin Kaplan

Henry M. Pollack
James and Natalie Dyen

Reba Levin Rosenblatt
David and Phyllis Harrison

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Memory of:

Frances Turetsky
Gary and Cheryl Turetsky

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

**Special birthday of
Jonathan Cutler**
Elaine Stevens

**Special birthday of
Rabbi Elliot Holin**
Elaine Stevens

Rabbi Elliot Holin

Gary and Cheryl Turetsky

**Special anniversary of
Jack and Morgan Selkirk**
Elaine Stevens

**Robert Seltzer and his newly
published book**
David Hyman

In Memory of:

Samuel Cooperman
Ira Cooperman

Marty Goldstone
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen

Nancy Goodman
Sue Elkins

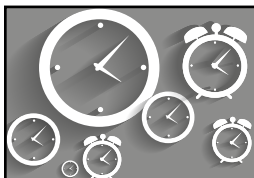
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Elaine Stevens

Henry Rubin
Ira Cooperman

Frances Turetsky
Alvin Turetsky ■



FUTURE



EVENTS



MAY

- **MONDAY, MAY 1, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee Meeting
- **TUESDAY, MAY 2, at 7:30 p.m.**
Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Meeting
- **THURSDAY; MAY 4, 11, 18 & 25, at 7:30 p.m.**
“Study at the *Shul*” for Adults with Rabbi Bogot
- **FRIDAY, MAY 5, at 6:00 p.m.**
6:00 p.m. - “Fun-for-Kids” *erev Shabbat* Service with Student Choir and Grades K-1 participation
- **SUNDAY, MAY 7, at 10:00 a.m.**
Congregation Annual Meeting and Committees Expo
- **TUESDAY; MAY 9 & 23 AND JUNE 6 & 13, at 7:00 p.m.**
B’Nai Mitzvah Class
- **FRIDAY, MAY 12, at 7:30 p.m.**
erev Shabbat Service with book reviewer Beverly Rosen
- **SATURDAY, MAY 13, at 5:30 p.m.**
Martini Havdalah
- **FRIDAY, MAY 19, at 7:30 p.m.**
erev Shabbat Service honoring our Volunteers
- **SATURDAY, MAY 20, at 10:00 a.m.**
Bat Mitzvah of Anna Goldstone
- **SUNDAY, MAY 21**
Last Day of Religious School
- **MONDAY, MAY 22, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group Meeting
- **TUESDAY, MAY 30, at 7:30 p.m.**
erev Shavuot Service
- **WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, at 10:00 a.m.**
Shavuot-Yizkor Service

JUNE

- **SUNDAY, JUNE 4, at 9:30 a.m.**
Worship Enhancement Committee Meeting
- **MONDAY; JUNE 5, 12, 19 & 26, at 7:30 p.m.**
“Study at the *Shul*” for Adults with Reena Friedman
- **TUESDAY; JUNE 6, 13 & 20, at 10:30 a.m.**
“Study at the *Shul*” for Adults with Rabbi Holin
- **TUESDAY, JUNE 6**
Annual Fund-raiser at Cairnwood
- **SATURDAY, JUNE 10, at 10:00 a.m.**
Bat Mitzvah of Farren Levitt
- **MONDAY, JUNE 12, at 7:30 p.m.**
Religious School Committee Meeting
- **SATURDAY, JUNE 17, at 10:00 a.m.**
Bat Mitzvah of Kate Lundeen
- **MONDAY, JUNE 19, at 7:00 p.m.**
Spiritual Growth Group Meeting
- **FRIDAY, JUNE 23, at 6:30 p.m.**
erev Shabbat Service on the Meadow ■