



WORSHIP SERVICES

SATURDAY, Sept. 1, at 9:00 p.m.

Selichot and *Havdalah* Service and
Labyrinth Walk (see page 2)

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

erev Shabbat Service

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

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

SUNDAY, Sept. 9, at 8:00 p.m.

erev Rosh Hashanah Service

MONDAY, Sept. 10, at 10:00 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah Service

TUESDAY, Sept. 11, at 6:00 p.m.

Tashlikh Service (see page 5)

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

erev Shabbat Service

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

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

TUESDAY, Sept. 18, at 8:00 p.m.

Kol Nidrei Service

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 19, at 10:00 a.m.

Yom Kippur Service

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

erev Shabbat Service

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

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

SUNDAY, Sept. 23, at 6:30 p.m.

erev Sukkot Service (see page 9)

continued page 2

HIGH HOLY DAYS CALENDAR 2018 - 5779

<i>Selichot</i>	Saturday, September 1	
	- Labyrinth Walk and Meditation	9:00 p.m.
	- <i>Selichot</i> and <i>Havdalah</i> Service	10:00 p.m.
<i>erev Rosh Hashanah</i>	Sunday, September 9	8:00 p.m.
<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	Monday, September 10	
	- Adult Service	10:00 a.m.
	- Student Service & Program (Grades 3-6)	10:00 a.m.
	- Children's-Family Service	2:00 p.m.
<i>Tashlikh</i>	Tuesday, September 11	6:00 p.m.
<i>Kol Nidrei</i> (see below)	Tuesday, September 18	8:00 p.m.
<i>Yom Kippur</i>	Wednesday, September 19	
	- Adult Service	10:00 a.m.
	- Student Service and Program (Grades 3-6)	10:00 a.m.
	- Children's-Family Service	2:00 p.m.
	- Reflective Reading & Discussion	3:00 p.m.
	- Afternoon Service	3:45 p.m.
	- <i>Yizkor</i> - <i>Neilah</i> Service	5:00 p.m.

CHILDCARE DURING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Child care is available during *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* mornings.
Reservations are not required. ■

SILENCE FOR THE KOL NIDREI SERVICE

Our *Kol Nidrei* service will commence at **8 o'clock on September 18**, preceded by meditative readings and then the kindling of a *neyr n'shamah* – a memorial candle – in the words of the text: “to give us strength and hope in these sacred hours of memory and healing.” We pray in the names of those no longer with us as the holiest day on the Jewish calendar dawns.

Please arrive between 7:45 and 8:00 p.m. **in silence** so that everyone seated in the sanctuary will have time and quietude to read the meditative offerings. As the service commences at 8:00 p.m., we will say the blessings over the *neyr n'shamah* as well as the candles of *Shabbat* and *Yom Kippur*. ■

WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued from page 1)

MONDAY, Sept. 24, at 10:00 a.m.

Sukkot Service (see page 9)

FRIDAY, Sept. 28, at 7:00 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service with
Student Choir

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

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

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

erev Simchat Torah Service
(see page 5)

MONDAY, Oct. 1, at 10:00 a.m.

Simchat Torah and *Yizkor* Service
(see page 5) ■



CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory of:

Sarah Brachah

aunt of Orly (Gabriel) Maravankin

Marilyn Gallagher

mother of Mary LaRue (Gail Garin)

Leon Silverman

husband of Janice Silverman

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

HIGH HOLY DAY DETAILS

START THE HIGH HOLY DAYS PERIOD WITH SELICHOT SERVICES AND A LABYRINTH WALK

Saturday, September 1 - Labyrinth Walk and Meditation at 9:00 p.m., Pre-service *Oneg* at 9:30 p.m. (with delicious pastries to ensure a sweet New Year), and ***Selichot* and *Havdalah* Service at 10:00 p.m.**

Often, the high drama of the High Holy Days catches us off guard. We enter the New Year only to discover that we are not quite ready to begin again. We wish we had more time for introspection, reflection, and spiritual preparation before hearing the *shofar's* call.

The *Selichot* service provides us with exactly that. In the weeks leading up to *Rosh Hashanah*, many Jewish communities rise to pray in the middle of the night (when it is thought that the heavens were open and God would be most receptive). These penitential prayers helped them prepare their souls for the coming year and its changes.

Here at Kol Ami, *Selichot* provides a quieter, more intimate spiritual experience than our bigger holiday services. The prayers of this service encourage us to encounter ourselves, each other, and God. Rabbi Berkowitz and Rebecca Schwartz will lead us in singing, prayer, reflection, and discussion centered around the themes of repentance, forgiveness, change, and growth.

Each congregant will also have the opportunity to stand in front of the open ark for a moment of silent encounter, so that each may offer their own prayers for the coming year. We hope you will join us as we officially enter into the High Holy Day season.

Prior to the *Selichot* service on September 1, we will offer an opportunity for congregants to walk a labyrinth, a guided walking meditation that opens us to introspection and reflection as we approach the High Holy Days. The indoor canvas labyrinth is being lent to us at no cost by our neighbors at Glenside United Church of Christ. Labyrinths are a historical and growing part of Jewish meditation and spiritual practice.

HIGH HOLY DAY PROGRAMMING FOR GRADES 3-6



This year during *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, students will “pray and stay” for Youth Services in the Chapel and engaging activities. We will enjoy stories around our Jewish campfire, giving students an opportunity to learn about the holidays. It will only take them a minute to settle back and create discussions stemming from the story. The stories will include art, talking, and acting. Activities led by faculty will bring the creative ideas that were discussed into projects. Students will travel down to the Sanctuary to join in the Morning Service to make the High Holy Day experience really special. A mid-morning snack will be served.

continued page 5

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Leah R. Berkowitz

WELCOMING GUESTS, WELCOMING EACH OTHER

Shana tova! It's hard to believe that when you read this, we will be only about a week away from welcoming the New Year together. I am so looking forward to learning and praying with you throughout the High Holy Day season, as we prepare to welcome the year 5779 together for the first time.

As I'm writing this, I've just returned from a week at our brand-new URJ summer camp, Six Points Creative Arts Academy (CAA). I am so grateful for the time I was able to spend at this camp during its inaugural summer, and I hope that some of our young people will join us next summer for their programs in visual art, music, theater, dance, AND culinary arts (i.e., cooking and eating delicious food!).

During my time at CAA, I helped the theater program rehearse a play they had written for their end-of-session showcase. In their play, a modern-day party host accidentally summons our biblical ancestors to her *Simchat Torah* celebration. Hospitable Rebecca brings a cake, Miriam starts a dance party, Joseph shows off his "designer" coat and entertains the crowd with his dream-interpreting skills. Judah requests *latkes* while Eve demands apples, much to her companions' horror. Then, with a flourish, they all disappear, leaving their host in a state of delighted awe.

Whether they realized it or not, their acting troupe was invoking an ancient custom called *ushpizin*, the Aramaic word for "guests." During the holiday of *Sukkot*, which we celebrate this year at the end of September, we remind ourselves that everything we have is a gift from God, meant to be shared. We are encouraged to step out of our closed-off homes, build open dwellings in the yard, and invite people in. We do this in the physical sense, of course, welcoming our friends, our neighbors, and people in need to share in the bounty of our harvest. This *mitzvah* is called *bachnasat orchim* or "welcoming guests."

But we are also encouraged to make spiritual invitations. Many of us are familiar with the popular icebreaker—whom would you most like to have at a dinner party: current or historical, alive or dead, real or fictional? The 16th-century Kabbalists took this question quite seriously, inviting a different patriarch into their *sukkah* each night: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, and David. Today, those who participate in this tradition might also invite the matriarchs: Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, Rachel, Miriam, Ruth, and Esther.

Each biblical guest was said to embody a spiritual attribute, such as loving-kindness, strength, splendor, glory, holiness, eternity, or sovereignty. In some communities, a chair is left empty for each spiritual guest, and what would have been spent on feeding a physical guest is donated to those people in need.

continued page 4

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office

215-635-3110

Rabbi Leah R. Berkowitz

215-635-4182

Rabbi Elliot Holin, Founding Rabbi

215-882-0017

Ruben Honik, President

215-327-9166

Barbara Fink, Vice President

215-886-2297

Jeffrey Margasak, Vice President

215-635-9332

Lorie B. Slass, Secretary

215-635-0920

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

Susan Levey

Interim 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 to **Janet Falon** at jfalon@english.upenn.edu. Articles may be edited as needed. ■



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

(continued from page 3)

The concept of *ushpizin* is particularly relevant to us during this time of getting to know one another. This *Sukkot*, our Transition Committee has prepared a series of welcoming events in our *sukkah*, designed to give us a chance to gather, in a relaxed way, after the high drama of the High Holy Days. There will be opportunities to share food, play games, and tell stories. Events will be designed for different age and interest groups, and I hope that one or more of them will pique your interest.

I look forward to welcoming you into our *sukkah* and to getting to know each of you better throughout the holiday season. Let me know who you would like to meet in the *sukkah*. And who knows? Maybe one of our biblical ancestors will decide to make an appearance. ■

MAZAL TOV

Congratulations go to:

- **Shari Johnson** on the engagement of her daughter, Jessica, to Matt Grayson on May 19. The wedding is planned for September 2019.
- **Ben and Karen Sanchez** on the birth of their son, Benjamin Venancio Sanchez, Jr., on August 16 as he joins his big sisters, Marisa and Brooke.



- **Kara Schmidt** on her engagement to Daniel Gonzalez. ■

FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Welcome to what will be a great Kol Ami Religious School year! It was a whirlwind of a summer so far here in the Religious School. Congregants stopped in to meet me and to find out about the school year and our plans for a fabulous Kol Ami 2018-19.

While families are on vacation, or students off to camp, summer is hectic for educators. It is the time to review existing curricula, put a fresh, new overlay on a wonderful system, read new textbooks, and meet families and faculty. I spent much time searching for the three “C’s” – creativity, content, and community – to add to your study time. Planning the school year by grade level has been exciting, and each time I think I am close to the end of my to-do list, there are 10 more items that need immediate attention.

I could not do this alone – so many “*todie rabodie*” (thanks) go out to caring and committed KOL AMI-niks: Our wonderful new Rabbi Berkowitz, Executive Director Elaine Stevens, Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz, Congregational President Ruben Honik, Past President Shelley Chamberlain, the Executive Committee, Religious School Chair Tamara Sniad, Morgan Selkirk, and the Religious School Committee, Barb Fink, Merle Salkin, Sarah Cohbra, Neal Beatus, and so many more.

Also, Kol Ami is known throughout the educational community as a synagogue school with a strong commitment to Jewish experiential and substantive education. You are also fortunate to have several enthusiastic and qualified faculty members returning with a mission to plan great learning activities. With so much support and these wonderful resources, I feel like I am home.

Look for an e-mail with your handbook. It has important information that you will need to review, print, and return before school. There will be easy access to important dates that are also available on the Kol Ami website.

If you still need to register, go to our website and click on the link – and in no time at all, you will have filled out the information we need for your student to be ready for the first day.

I look forward to meeting and greeting you the first two days of school:

- **Wednesday, September 12, for Grades 3-6 at 4:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, September 16, for Grades K-7 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Classroom lists and room information will be posted on the first brightly covered bulletin board you see when you enter the school.

Looking ahead, please check the High Holy Day schedule for services for particular age groups. RSVPs are needed for the morning program, so be certain to read and understand if your student should come and join the *Rosh Hashanah* or *Yom Kippur* morning program for grades 3-6.

For the first days of school, we need a few items for important projects, including a photo of your student; if there is a special story with it, that's great. If

continued page 5

HIGH HOLY DAY DETAILS (continued from page 2)

TASHLIKH SERVICE - THE BRIDGE TO YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, September 11, at the home of Guy and Karol Appel in Meadowbrook; BYODinner at 5:15 p.m. Bring a dessert to share! *Tashlikh* Service by the water from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.



This will be a short, family-friendly holiday experience, and all are welcome. Children and young adults are encouraged to bring Frisbees, baseballs and beach balls to toss on the large lawn, and they will be given chocolate *shofars*! Bring a friend!

Tashlikh, from the Hebrew word meaning “to send forth,” is a time-honored ritual of casting pieces of bread into a moving body of water as a way of symbolically “sending forth” our mistakes and regrets from the past year. As the water carries away the crumbs, may the challenges of the past be carried

away in the New Year, giving us the opportunity to move forward in a positive way. You can bring your own bread crumbs, or we’ll have some to share.

Because this year *Tashlikh* occurs on the anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks, we will recite a brief memorial prayer in addition to our usual ceremony.

REFLECTIVE READING & DISCUSSION ON YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON

Wednesday, September 19, at 3:00 p.m.

Our High Holy Day Reflective Reading discussion provides a meaningful interlude between the Children’s-Family Service and the Afternoon Service.

YIZKOR-NEILAH SERVICE ON YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, September 19, at 5:00 p.m.

Our *Yizkor* booklet lists the names of loved ones to be remembered that you provided on your membership form. 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 10.

EREV SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICE

Sunday, September 30, at 5:00 p.m. BYOD in our *Sukkah* followed by a 6:30 p.m. Service in celebration of *Simchat Torah*.

Join us as we complete our cycle of reading *Torah* and go back to the beginning. Rabbi Berkowitz will lead us on a short “*Torah* Tour,” along with music led by Rebecca Schwartz and dancing in celebration of the *Torah*. If you are interested in reading a small section of *Torah* (such as a piece of your portion from your *bar* or *bat mitzva*), please contact rabbi@kolamielkinspark.org. Our morning service will be held on Monday, October 1, at 10:00 a.m. and will include both a continuation of our *Simchat Torah* celebration and a recitation of the *Yizkor* prayers in honor of our loved ones who are no longer with us. ■

FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

(continued from page 4)

you don’t want to send a photo, have your student draw a self-portrait and attach a story if applicable.

We also need nifty items for creating hanging Sukkot decorations, such as meaningful things associated with a story from your home; Something from the garden, for instance, like a magnificent branch, or an old part from your doll house, a wooden frame, silk flowers, some old Judaica items, etc.

There will be a *Sukkah* collection table on 9/16. Please label the bag in which you are sending your treasure. Most important, talk about this project as a family. Maybe take a *Shabbat* hike around the house to find a *Sukkot* treasure.

Feel free to communicate with me at any time for any reason. I want to hear from you and help. I hope to be a source of information and action as well as a good listener. A Jewish educator available for the congregational community: That’s what I hope you’ll think of me.

Susan Levey
215-635-7106 ■



Early Learning Center: Miss Tiffany for Teeny Yogini meets with the classes for some relaxing yoga.

2018-2019

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.

Beginnings: A Deep Dive into the Book of Genesis

Three Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

October 11, 18 & 25

Instructor: Rabbi Leah Berkowitz

Even within the first *Torah* portion of Genesis, we encounter some of the most complex stories of human (and divine) behavior in our people's narrative. Dive deep into these rich passages as we discuss these enduring questions: Are there two creation stories – and why? Who is at fault for our expulsion from Eden? What led to the first murder – and the first cover-up?

- **OCTOBER 11** - Creation Story(ies): Where do we humans fit into the divine plan?
- **OCTOBER 18** - Expulsion from Eden: Fall from Grace or Necessary Step Forward?
- **OCTOBER 25** - Cain and Abel: The Ellipsis Heard Round the World

(Rabbi Berkowitz will also offer a Winter/Spring course and is hoping to learn more from YOU about what you'd like to learn before finalizing the dates/times/topics. Be in touch at rabbi@kolamielkinspark.org to share your ideas.)

Defending America: The United States Security Strategy

Four Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

October 29 and November 5, 12 & 19

Instructor: Ira Cooperman

The four pillars or themes of the current Administration's security and defense strategy are:

- Protect the homeland,
- Promote America's prosperity,

- Preserve peace through strength, and
- Advance America's influence in the world.

This class will examine these themes and compare them with the strategies of the former occupants of the White House. Do they make sense to you? Do you agree with these goals? Come join our discussion of our national-security strategies as we consider what should be our nation's security goals.

Ira Cooperman lectures primarily for retired adults on national security topics at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Abington Public Library, and the Center for Life Enrichment in Highlands, NC. As a former Air Force intelligence officer, Cooperman has worked with the CIA and the NSA and has been invited to give talks at the United States Military Academy at West Point and at the State University of New York. He has been a reporter for The Los Angeles Times and have been published as well in The New York Times and other publications. He is a graduate of San Francisco State University and has done graduate work at Harvard.

The Conscience of a Conservative Rabbi

Friday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m. (during *Shabbat* Services)

Instructor: Rabbi Seymour Rosenbloom

Rabbi Seymour Rosenbloom is the Distinguished Service Rabbi of Congregation Adath Jeshurun in Elkins Park, where he served for 36 years as rabbi. A graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary, he was active in the Conservative rabbinate for 42 years when he retired four years ago. All that time, he belonged to the Rabbinical Assembly and abided by its strict rule that no RA member may officiate at an interfaith service. The penalty for violating the stricture is expulsion. Rabbi Rosenbloom had long questioned the efficacy of that policy, increasingly becoming convinced that it alienated members of his own congregation, and

Jews in general, from their community. When his step-daughter became engaged to someone who is not Jewish and

continued next page

they asked him to officiate, he agreed. Since then, he has officiated for a number of couples that are related to him by kinship, friendship, or loyalty. After writing about his experience and urging the Rabbinical Assembly to change its policy, he was expelled from the organization despite having served in numerous leadership capacities through the years.

At *Shabbat* Services, Rabbi Rosenbloom will share his experience with us as well as his thoughts on interfaith marriage and the Conservative movement.



Finding the Deep Meaning in Passover

Tuesday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Shelly Barnathan

How do we bring the deep meaning of *Pesach* to our *Seders*? Our pre-*Pesach* evening will be a weave of learning, song, poetry, and hands-on *Pesach* customs, all aimed at bringing meaning and joy to our *Seder* tables.

Rabbi Shelly Barnathan is a 2015 graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. Rabbi Shelly is the rabbi of Or Zarua, a new spiritual community in the Western suburbs of Philadelphia, aimed at the needs of baby

boomers and empty nesters. Rabbi Shelly has a passion for blending music, poetry, text, and practice to make deep meaning of Judaism in our lives.



Loss, Mourning, and Love: Psychoanalysis and the Book of Ruth

Three Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.; April 30, May 7 & 14

Instructor: Neal Beatus

The beautiful Book of Ruth is an emotional tale of traumatic loss, grief, and, ultimately, hope. It tells the story of Naomi, who loses her husband and two sons and who begins to heal with her daughter-in-law, Ruth. It is a story of coping with life's losses – death and aging. One of its wonderful messages is how we need each other to heal. Renowned psychoanalyst and theoretician Donald W. Winnicott once wrote, "Naturally, if what I say has truth in it, this will already have been dealt with by the world's poets." We will examine how the ancient and poetic Book of Ruth contains many truths about dealing with life's challenges that psychoanalysis has addressed only more recently. We will examine how the Book of Ruth provides a loving and hopeful map for our journeys through the grieving process.

Neal Beatus MSS, LCSW, is a psychotherapist in private practice at GKSJ/Crystal Group Associates with offices in Wyndmoor and Philadelphia. He sees clients of all ages, from preschoolers to senior citizens. He has studied Psychoanalytic Object Relations theory extensively and has taught many trainings to other therapists. He attended Haverford College and did graduate school at Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. He has enjoyed exploring Bible stories and thinking about them through a psychoanalytic lens. He teaches at Congregation Kol Ami's Hebrew School and has taught several classes over the years at the Study at the *Shul* program. ■



A Hazon Seal of Sustainability Initiative presented by the Shomrei Adamah Environmental Stewardship Committee at Congregation Kol Ami

Introduction to Backyard Beekeeping Tuesdays (3 Sessions)

October 30, November 6 & 13
from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Jane Tausig

Backyard beekeeping is fascinating, fun, and good for the environment. These “To Bee or Not To Bee”: Honeybees and the Environment Initiative classes will explore the life cycle of a honeybee, life inside the hive, tasks required of a backyard beekeeper, and threats to honeybees’ health and well-being using a combination of media, discussion, and “show-and-tell” activities. Learn how to set up your own backyard beehive! Timing of the class allows for ordering bees in time for spring 2019. Class size is limited to 15 people, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Contact Jane at jetausig@gmail.com with questions and/or to sign up. Registration closes on October 5, 2018.

From home...



To



WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED: AN UPDATE FROM THE TRANSITION COMMITTEE

by Co-chairs Barry Boise and Ilene Schafer



Summer is usually a quiet time at Kol Ami with a typical focus on preparations for High Holy Day services, but this summer, Rabbi Berkowitz joined us on July 1, and your Transition Committee has been working hard to create an environment where Rabbi Berkowitz can connect with each member and with our larger Jewish community.

We want to make sure that you know what the Transition Committee is doing and that you can find a way to connect – in your own way and time. During spring and early summer, we listened to you through conversations, meetings, and Pulse surveys; and in our two surveys dedicated to Transition, we received more than 100 completed responses! We have been communicating through letters from our Rabbi and Synagogue leadership, monthly ListServes, e-mails, and articles like this one. Your feedback and questions have been terrific and shaped our programming and communications. Please keep it coming. While our planning and preparations have taken place over years, we are just getting started to cross our Bridge to the Future – together.

Here are some of the events that have been happening this summer:

- *Shabbat* on the Meadow Services have been full of prayer, song, and people. The energy and excitement have been palpable, as has been the connection and work that Rebecca and the Rabbi put into the services.
- The Worship Enhancement Committee *Shabbat* Potlucks remained part of our summer traditions. The first this summer – the first one with Rabbi Berkowitz, at the home of Bill and Betty Shapiro – enjoyed record crowds.
- Committee co-chairs met individually with Rabbi Berkowitz by the end of August and provided the opportunity for Rabbi Berkowitz to learn in greater detail about what the committees do and to help plug her into our full calendar of programming.
- Before we could even send out a Pulse survey, five members volunteered to host small-group gatherings over the summer, and through the Pulse, dozens more have offered to help by hosting gatherings, supporting adult education, or just helping Rabbi Berkowitz get to know our community. We will continue to reach out about these and other opportunities throughout the year.
- You can see from the September Calendar on page 11 of this Bulletin that we have something for everyone during *Sukkot*, including activities from Rabbi Berkowitz’s new children’s book, The World Needs Beautiful Things.

If you have a question, concern, idea, or just encouragement, please contact any member of the Transition Committee (Barry Boise, Ilene Schafer, Elaine Stevens, Amy Bierhoff, Michael Chernoff, Larry Cohbra, Adena Johnston, Carol Laskin, Sara Lazrow, Casey Lyons, Eric Pelletier, Bill Shapiro, Tamara Sniad, Jane Tausig, and Gary Turetsky). Questions can also be e-mailed to questions@kolamielkinspark.org. ■

Kol Ami Events



BE OUR GUESTS: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE KOL AMI SUKKAH (SEPTEMBER 23-29)

Ushpizin is the Aramaic word for “guests,” and during *Sukkot*, we are told to welcome real – and “spiritual” – guests into our *sukkah*. This year, we are embracing this theme with a wide range of events led by Rabbi Berkowitz and planned by the Worship Enhancement, Religious School, and Transition Committees.

Our week in the *Sukkah* will include songs and sips, games, and storytelling; and we hope you will be our guests. And for our Religious School students: Pizza in our Hut! Here is the rundown of events.

- **Sunday, September 23, 6:30 p.m.** – All are welcome to the *Sukkot* evening service; preceded by a 5:00 p.m. BYOD.
- **Monday, September 24, 10:00 a.m.** – *Sukkot* morning service followed by *Kiddush* lunch in the *Sukkah*
- **Wednesday, September 26, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** – “Pizza in our Hut” for K-12 students and families. Join us for joyful prayers, songs, and pizza.
- **Thursday, September 27, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** – “Crafts and Cookies,” featuring a reading of Rabbi Berkowitz’s new children book *The World Needs Beautiful Things*. This book is geared toward children in Pre-K to Grade 2. Bring your children and grandchildren! Come in your PJs!
- **Thursday, September 27, 7:30 p.m.** – Mah-jongg / Adult Game Night
- **Friday, September 28, 7:00 p.m.** – “Songs and Sips in the *Sukkah*.” Enjoy shakes and other treats following the service, which features our Student Choir. All ages welcome!

BOOK LAUNCH/CREEKSIDE CO-OP FUND-RAISER: “UNIQUE EATS & EATERIES OF PHILADELPHIA” BY IRENE LEVY BAKER

You’re invited to the launch of Congregant Irene Levy Baker’s second book, *Unique Eats & Eateries of Philadelphia*. The event will be held at Creekside Co-op and will be a fund-raiser for the Co-op.

Unique Eats & Eateries of Philadelphia tells the sweet and spicy stories of 90 of the region’s most fascinating chefs and restaurants. Learn about the engagement of two chocolatiers; a dinner interrupted by a bungled mob hit; restaurants that survived an earthquake, a fire, and even Prohibition; a secret restaurant that started in a backyard tent; and more. The book includes the scoop on bistros, bars, bakeries, and breweries plus tips on how to get reservations at the city’s trendiest restaurants, where to find secret speakeasies, who makes the most sinful desserts, where senior citizens dine with seniors in college, and where to spot celebs.



What.....	Book Launch/Fund-raiser
When	Monday, September 24, at 7:00 p.m.
Where:	Creekside Co-op, 7909 High School Rd.
How:	Tickets are available at Creekside Co-op or online at www.UniqueEatsPhilly.com .
Attendees receive..	A signed copy of the book plus a \$10 Creekside gift certificate, and a portion of the proceeds benefit Creekside Co-op
Co-Sponsor:	Open Book Bookstore will make a donation to the Co-op for every copy purchased in the store through <u>October 24</u> .

Creekside Co-op is a full-service grocery store in Elkins Park that makes grocery shopping a joy rather than a chore. Congregant Bill Hyman is president of the Board of Directors and other Kol Ami congregants on the board include Ben Adams (past president), Jeff Cohen, Robin Rifkin, and Sandy Glatzer.

For more information about the book, including a list of additional book talks/signings, visit www.UniqueEatsPhilly.com.

continued page 10

PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Kol Ami Blood Drive**
Monday, October 29, from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- **Cheltenham Touring Ensemble**
Sunday, October 21, at 2:00 p.m.
- **“In-house Concert” featuring the Avanti String Quartet**
Rescheduled for Sunday, November 11, at 5:00 p.m. ■

ADULT AND STUDENT CHOIR AT KOL AMI!

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

- **Adult Choir:** Meets Sunday mornings from 10:25-11:25 a.m. Students in Grades 8-12 may also participate.
- **Student Choir:** Meets Sunday afternoons from 12:00-12:30 p.m. (after Religious School). Students in Grades 2-7 may participate.

Choir members will receive dates of participation (*erev Shabbat* services and some community events) and 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!

Adult Choir starts on September 16 and Student Choir starts on September 23. If you are interested or have questions, contact Rebecca Schwartz at rebeccasongs@verizon.net or 215-572-6094. ■

A NEW NAME FOR THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP

The Spiritual Growth Group has a new name: **The Spiritual Exploration Group**. According to co-chairs Janet Falon and Meryle Gurmankin, the new name more closely captures the spirit and intent of the group. The word “growth” connotes a destination to be reached, while “exploration” is more focused on action, in the present.

The Spiritual Exploration Group has many exciting activities planned for the year, including programs about female characters in the Bible, Judaism in nature, and a class in which you can write short pieces to include in your Passover *Seder*. ■

ARTIST OF THE MONTH:

DEBRA KAPNEK

SEPTEMBER 4 - OCTOBER 15



Debra Kapnek – whose portraits, landscapes, and still-life paintings are part of private collections throughout the United States and Israel – studied art at Temple University before moving to Israel in 1974. Five years later, the city of Haifa sponsored her first one-person exhibit. She attended George Washington University on a full fellowship for merit where she won numerous awards, and graduated with her Master’s degree in Fine Arts in 1981. Kapnek’s many commissions include Hebrew graphic designs for the Jewish Federations of Baltimore and Allentown, and a Levines’ family generational portrait. Her series of portraits of Ethiopian Jews commissioned by the American Association for Ethiopian Jews in 1990 was purchased for permanent exhibit at the University of Tel Aviv. Her first large composition of six Holocaust survivors was purchased in 2001 and is now part of the permanent collection of the Florida Holocaust Museum. “Chai”, her second large composition of women who survived the Holocaust, was permanently installed in the Brodsky Enrichment Center of the JFCS, in Bala Cynwyd, PA, in April, 2017

Debra has taught drawing and design at the Haifa Community College and at the Montgomery County Community College in Rockville. She has also taught private art lessons in her studio over the past 30 years. Debra currently works and resides in Elkins Park, PA.

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. A percentage of all displayed purchased works will be donated to Kol Ami ■

KOL AMI SEPTEMBER 2018 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Selichot Service 9:00 p.m. - Labyrinth Walk and Meditation 9:30 p.m. - Social Repast (Oneg) 10:00 p.m. - Selichot and Havdalah Service
2 	3 Early Learning Center CLOSED	4 	5 	6 	7 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat service with Rabbi Berkowitz 10:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	8 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Carol Nemeroff will give dvar Torah
9 erev Rosh Hashanah Service 8:00 p.m.	10 Early Learning Center CLOSED Rosh Hashanah Services 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. - Children's-Family Service	11 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Tashlikh Service 6:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. – BYOD Home of Guy and Karol Appel	12 Religious School 4:00 p.m. First Day for Grades 3-6	13 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	14 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rabbi Berkowitz 10:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	15 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
16 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon First Day for Grades K-2 plus Grades 3-7 Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m.	17 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m.	18 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Early Learning Center Closing at 3:00 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service 8:00 p.m.	19 Yom Kippur Services 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. - Children's-Family Service 3:00 p.m. - Reflective Readings and Discussion 3:45 p.m. - Afternoon Service 5:00 p.m. - Yizkor-Neilah Service	20 	21 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Susan Levy 10:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	22 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
23 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. erev Sukkot Service 6:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. – BYOD	24 Early Learning Center CLOSED Sukkot Service 10:00 a.m. Followed by Kiddush lunch	25 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	26 Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Sukkot "Pizza in the Hut" 5:30 p.m.	27 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. "Crafts and Cookies" in the Sukkah 6:30 p.m. "Mah-jongg / Adult Game Night" in the Sukkah 7:30 p.m.	28 erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir 7:00 p.m. Followed by "Songs and Sips in the Sukkah"	29 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Sukkot in the Field 12:30 p.m.
30 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. erev Simchat Torah Service 6:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. – BYOD						

Kol Ami Contributions

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

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In Honor of:

B'nai Mitzvah of Shelley Chamberlain

*Rick Gilkey and Susan Baker
Herbert and Barbara Kreindler*

Rabbi Elliot Holin

The Fourth B'nai Mitzvah Class

Rosalind Holtzman

The Fourth B'nai Mitzvah Class

In Memory of:

Marilyn Gallagher

Fran Surkin

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

Rebecca Schwartz

The Fourth B'nai Mitzvah Class

**Betty Shapiro and her participation
with the ParkinSingers**

David Hyman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz

*Herb and Barbara Jacobowitz
Rabbi Dean Shapiro*

Rabbi Elliot Holin

*Janet Felgoise
Carol Laskin*

**Our wonderful Rabbi Elliot Holin
and all he's blessed Kol Ami with!**

Paul and Mindy Levy

**Rabbi Elliot Holin for officiating,
which helped make our children's
wedding so beautiful and memorable**

Gary and Cheryl Turetsky

**Marriage of Stephanie Jacobson
to Kyle Western**

Paul and Mindy Levy

B'nai Mitzvah of Lisa Landau

*Valerie Ross
The Stone/Hargadon Family*

Retirement of Dr. William Shapiro

Sue Duberstein

My art opening on June 6, 2018

Cheryl Turetsky

In Memory of:

Arthur Alexander

Elaine Alexander

Maurice Turetsky

William and Betty Shapiro

Elaine Wit

*Jeff Allen and Barbara Krekstein
William Sickles Bloom*

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Mark Turetsky and Donna Landes

Nadine Liez-Weiner

Rena Weizger Weiss

Vera Wiessman

Sarah Werntz

Stewart and Jill Wolman

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Leah Berkowitz as our
new Rabbi**

David Hyman

**Shelley Chamberlain as our
outgoing president**

David Hyman

Ruben Honik as our new president

David Hyman

Special birthday of Janine Pratt

William, Maya, and Lia Hyman

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class

Rosalind Holtzman

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz

Arthur Zabell and Louise Schmidt

B'nai Mitzvah of Shelley Chamberlain

Pamela Feldman-Hill

**Shelley Chamberlain on her B'nai
Mitzvah and as outgoing President**

Michele Rifkin

Our College Graduates

Elaine Stevens

Our Graduating Confirmands

Elaine Stevens

Our High-School Graduates

Elaine Stevens

Our LAMED Graduates

Elaine Stevens

Birthday of Carol Laskin

Ira Cooperman

B'nai Mitzvah of Deborah Poppel

Stacey Groder

Arlene Poppel

Elaine Stevens

The Fourth B'nai Mitzvah Class

In Memory of:

Melvin Fleisher

Alvin Turetsky

Mildred Levin

Alvin Turetsky

Leon Silverman

Elaine Stevens

Isidor Turetsky

Alvin Turetsky ■