



WORSHIP SERVICES

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

"Simcha" First-Friday *erev Shabbat*
Service with Adult Choir celebrating
March birthdays and anniversaries

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

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue
with Grade 6 Family Learners' Services

MONDAY, March 9, at 7:00 p.m.

erev Purim - Megillah Reading and
Purimshpiel

FRIDAY, March 13, at 7:00 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir
and Grade 5-6 Students participating

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

Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Halpern

FRIDAY, March 20

There is no service this evening due to
our Early Learning Center's Annual
Shabbat Dinner and Silent Auction

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

National Refugee *Shabbat* Service and
Torah Dialogue (see page 8)

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

erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, March 28

10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah*
Dialogue with Carol Nemeroff deliver-
ing the *dvar Torah*

5:30 p.m. - *Bat Mitzvah* of Miranda
Shandell and Grade 6 Family *B'nai*
Mitzvah program attending service

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THOUGHTS FROM RABBI BERKOWITZ

Do It Now: Writing an Ethical Will

I consider myself blessed that I was able to live so close to my father during the last year and a half of his life. Though he was unwell for much of that time, we were able to pack quite a lot into those 18 months. He helped me sift through the paperwork when I bought my first house. We set up a regular "breakfast meeting" at Zake's Café. We celebrated holidays together, and he and my mom came to Kol Ami for *Shabbat* a bunch of times. I was able to be with him at the hospital and at home, watching our favorite movies and trying to tempt him with his favorite foods.

I share this in order to let you know that, even though his life was cut short, there was not much left unsaid or undone. My house is full of gifts he gave me and things he made for me, letters he wrote me when I was younger, and e-mails that I'd collected over the last decade or so. The only thing I wish I had received from him was that final blessing, like our biblical ancestors gave to their children (however problematic those blessings sometimes were!), or some final words of wisdom for me to carry with me going forward. Even though his death was not sudden, his final decline came more quickly than we expected, and we simply ran out of time.

I had a similar thought when my grandmother passed away last year at the age of 97, and my aunt was charged with distributing her jewelry amongst the children and grandchildren. While I treasure these pieces and am proud to wear them, I wish, more than anything, that my grandmother could have set them aside for me while she was alive, so that I would know where they came from and what they meant to her.

Here's the lesson: If you want to give a gift or leave a final message for your children, your grandchildren, or anyone else who matters to you, do it as soon as possible. Even if you are young and/or healthy, prepare your words and gifts now and tuck them away somewhere safe for when the time comes. We never know quite how much time we're going to have for such things.

There is a foundation for this lesson in Judaism: the ethical will. Over the course of history, Jewish figures both famous and ordinary composed

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CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 3, at 10:00 a.m.

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

Rachael Simon

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. ■



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

THOUGHTS FROM RABBI BERKOWITZ

(continued from page 1)

documents to pass down to their descendants. Their ethical wills described the formative experiences of their lives, the lessons they learned from their mistakes and their successes, and the values that mattered to them that they wanted their descendants to uphold.

An excellent resource for this process is Ethical Wills and How to Prepare Them: A Guide to Sharing Your Values from Generation to Generation, by Rabbi Jack Riemer and Dr. Nathaniel Stampfer (Jewish Lights, 2015).

I'll also be offering a lifelong learning course called "Sharing Your Story, Leaving Your Legacy: How to Create an Ethical Will" on three consecutive Thursdays: **March 12, 19 & 26 at 7:00 p.m.** Please join me for an opportunity to examine the final words of those who came before us and to engage in this sacred process ourselves.

Another great learning opportunity is our upcoming Learners' Service on **Saturday, March 7, at 10:00 a.m.** Our sixth-grade families are invited to our *Shabbat* morning service to get more familiar with our morning worship. This is also a great opportunity for those of you who may not come to services frequently to join us for a learners' *t'filah*. We will slow down the service a bit, go through the structure and themes, and reflect on the meaning of many of the prayers. We hope that our "regulars" will join us too, to offer your support to those who are still learning, and hopefully to learn something new yourselves.

Purim in Dollywood!

Kol Ami will celebrate *Purim* with a Megillah Reading and *Purimshpiel* on **Monday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m.**, featuring the celebrated songs of country icon Dolly Parton! Come in costume and bring a box of pasta or rice to shake and then donate to the *Mitzvah* Food Pantry.

Note: While we encourage y'all to get into the *Purim*/Parton spirit with cowboy hats, wigs, glitz and glamour, please do not modify your physique in any way that objectifies women. Let's focus on the big hair. ■



ABOVE: Attending the 2019 URJ Biennial in Chicago are Rabbi Leah Berkowitz, Morgan Selkirk, Shelley Chamberlain, and Ellen Friedman.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Rachael Simon

Four New Questions for Passover and More

For hundreds of years, the Passover *Seder* has been an opportunity for families to teach children about a fundamental event in the Jewish story: the exodus from Egypt. Since the focus of these holiday is freedom, consider making your *Seder* both an educational and engaging experience with these alternative four questions:

- **What does it mean to be free?** This basic question can pull you into depths that you didn't know your child could explore. An understanding of the idea of freedom is crucial to gaining meaning from the holiday of Passover. Push your child to think about what freedom looks like and feels like and whether or not all members of our society experience freedom to the same degree.
- **What keeps you from being free?** Your child may think of the obvious, such as rules that are meant to keep them safe. Push your older children to think deeper: Does your self-doubt hold you back? What about friends with whom they have complicated relationships?
- **What in our society keeps people from being free?** Your child has likely observed that many people lack the resources to be truly "free" in our society. Discuss why that is and what they think a person needs to feel the most free in our world.
- **How can you help someone else experience greater freedom?** Use Passover as an opportunity to get involved in a social action issue that is important to your child.

Focusing on the major theme of the holiday will allow your child to grow from the *Seder* experience in a way that relates to our modern world.

Leading up to Passover, we have a lot happening at the Kol Ami Religious School! And we need your help! On **Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 a.m.**, we will host an Open House for Prospective Students. We encourage you to participate in the Pancake Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. that morning to meet prospective families and tell them what you love about Kol Ami. We also hope that you will spread the word about our open house with families with children in grades kindergarten through fourth who would love our community. Please see the flyer on page 10 for more information.

Here Is What We Have Coming up at Religious School:

MARCH

Sunday, March 1, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Grade 7 Family Education Program
Tuesday, March 3, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Confirmation Academy *Pisgab* (Teen Summit) on Racial Justice at Keneseth Israel

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WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued from page 1)

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

Simcha" First-Friday *erev Shabbat*
Service with Adult Choir celebrating
April birthdays and anniversaries

SATURDAY, April 4

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

6:00 p.m. - "Adults Only" Mar-
tini *Havdalah* Service hosted by the
Interfaith Relationship Dialogue
Committee (see page 14)

FRIDAY, April 10, at 7:30 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, April 11, at 10:00 a.m.

Passover-*Yizkor* Service

FRIDAY, April 17, at 7:00 p.m.

erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir

SATURDAY, April 18

9:00 a.m. - "Fun for Kids" *Shabbat*
Service

10:00 a.m. - "Earth Day Appreciation"
Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue

SUNDAY, April 19, at 1:00 p.m.

Healing Service

FRIDAY, April 24, at 7:30 p.m.

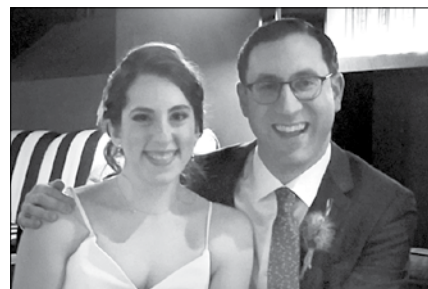
"Interfaith Relationship Dialogue"
erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, April 25, at 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service and *Torah* Dialogue
with Carol Nemeroff delivering the
dvar Torah ■

MAZAL TOV

Congratulations go to **William and Betty Shapiro** on the wedding of their son, Matthew, to Natalie Savits on December 21.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

(continued page 3)

Saturday, March 7, 10:00 a.m.: Grade 6 Family and Student Learners' Service

Sunday, March 8

- **9:30 a.m.:** Pancake Breakfast for Current and Prospective Members
- **10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.:** KARS Celebrates *Purim*—Come in costume!
- **12:15 p.m.:** *Purim* Carnival at Keneseth Israel

Monday, March 9, 7:00 p.m.: *erev Purim* - Megillah Reading and *Purimshpiel*

Wednesday, March 11, 6:45 p.m.: Post-Confirmation Meets

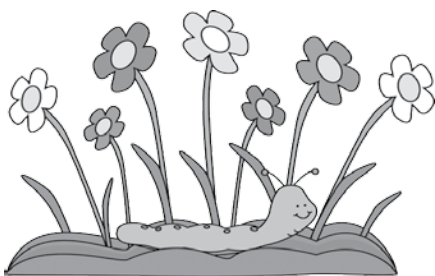
Friday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.: Grade 5 and 6 *erev Shabbat* Service with Student Choir

Sunday, March 15, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Grade 3 and 4 Family Education Program

Sunday, March 22, 10:00 a.m.: KARS visits the Jewish Relief Agency. Meet at the JRA warehouse

Sunday, March 29

- **10:00 a.m.:** Grade 6 Family *B'nai Mitzvah* Program
- **12:15 p.m.:** Youth Group Chocolate *Seder*



APRIL

Wednesday, April 1, 6:45 p.m.: Post-Confirmation Meets

Sunday, April 5-Wednesday, April 15:
NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: Spring Break

Sunday, April 19

- **10:00 a.m.:** Religious School Resumes
- **12:30 p.m.:** Youth Group Spring Picnic

Sunday, April 26, 10:00 a.m.: Grade 6 Family *B'nai Mitzvah* Program ■

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY AT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

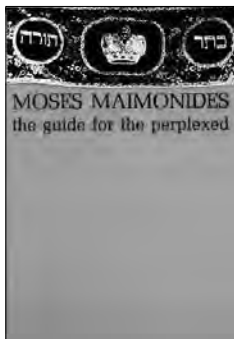


Study at the *Shul* for Adults

Musings on Maimonides

with Rabbi Howard Bogot

Sundays; March 1, 8, 15 & 29 at 10:30 a.m.



In this seminar, we will study ethical opinions designed as a Guide for the Perplexed. The author, Moses Maimonides, who is often considered radical, is embraced as an unparalleled sage by Orthodox and Progressive Jewish thinkers alike.

Rabbi Howard I. Bogot, DD, currently serves as Lecturer for the Jewish Studies program of Penn State University's Abington College. Previously, Rabbi Bogot served as the Director of Curriculum Development and Religious Education for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

(URJ) as well as an administrator and faculty member for Gratz College in Philadelphia, PA. He is a principal author of many books for children, families, and guides for teacher education.

Sharing Your Story, Leaving Your Legacy: How to Create an Ethical Wall

with Rabbi Leah Berkowitz

Thursdays; March 12, 19 & 26 at 7:00 p.m.

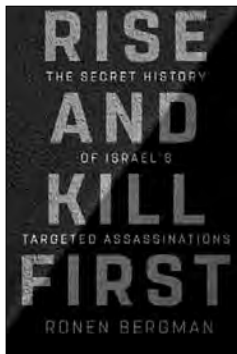
Join Rabbi Berkowitz for an opportunity to examine the final words of those who came before us and to engage in this sacred process ourselves.

Please RSVP to Elaine Stevens no later than March 9.

Israel's Security Today

with Ira Cooperman

Mondays; March 16, 23 & 30 and April 6 at 7:30 p.m.



The *Talmud* says, "If someone comes to kill you, rise up and kill him first."

According to Ronen Bergman's fascinating book, Rise and Kill First: The Secret History of Israel's Targeted Assassinations: "This instinct to take every measure, even the most aggressive, to defend the Jewish people is hardwired into Israel's DNA." But is it?

Please join Ira, a former intelligence officer who has lectured at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the Chautauqua Institution, as we discuss Israel's security

and what is necessary to protect the nation. Reading Bergman's book, which was published in 2018 and highly praised by, among others, a former chief of the Mossad and a former prime minister, is highly recommended.

Please RSVP to Elaine Stevens no later than March 9. ■



CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory of:

Bernard Cohen

uncle of Julie (Nigel Blower) Cohen

Rhoda Schwartz

mother of Joel (Rebecca) Schwartz

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

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue

Tuesday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m.

Home of Chairs: Vincent Pace and Jane Katzer-Pace, 215-699-9497

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Subgroup

Thursday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m.

Home of Chairs: Gary and Cheryl Turetsky, 267-346-1456

Religious School Committee

Sunday, March 1, at 12:15 p.m.

Chairs: Tamara Sniad, 215-782-3848, and Emily Stein, 215-375-4807

Shomrei Adamah Committee (Environmental Stewardship)

Sunday, March 1, at 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Mark Kaplan, 215-906-6200

Social Action Committee

Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Chairs: Shelley Chamberlain, 215-680-7408 and Rocky Weinstock, 215-782-3848

Worship Enhancement Committee

Sunday, April 19, at 9:30 a.m.

Chairs: Mindy Levy, 215-570-4304, and William Shapiro, 215-517-8666 ■



Casino Night

A big thank you goes out to all those who helped to make Denim & Diamonds Casino Night a great success! Appreciation goes to Full House Casino Entertainment, Chef Vargas Caterers, Sue Parisi's staff, sponsors, and all the vendors and members who donated goods and services to the raffle baskets. A special shout-out to our staff and volunteers who made it all happen!

CLUB BEVERAGE SPONSORS

Fuhrman Management Associates
Ruben Honik
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
David and Patty Ann Long
Elaine Stevens

SPADE TABLE SPONSORS

Ben Adams and Gail Korostoff
David Hyman and Farah Jimenez
Ben and Beth Long
Craig and Sharon Myers
Cyana Perry
Rosen Schafer & DiMeo LLP
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser
Work. Life. Leader.

HEART CASINO SPONSORS

Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Joel Edelstein and Betsy McKinstry
William England and Lorie Slass
Jonathan Shandell and Robin Shane

VENDERS, DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Karol Appel
Irene Levy Baker
Ben & Irv's
Rabbi Leah Berkowitz
Berta Sawyer, Inc.
Big Burrito Restaurant Group
Jodi Bloch
Brandywine River Museum of Arts
Café Ole in the Valley
David and Shelley Chamberlain
Julie Cohen
Congregation Kol Ami
Board of Trustees
Curds 'N Whey
Designer Bag Bingo
DiBruno Brothers
The Dovetail Artisans
Extreme Karate & Fitness
Janet Falon
Barbara Fink
Fill A Bagel & Breads
Jane Finkle
Fitness 19
Floral Perspectives by Tracy
Jennifer Friedman Designs
Elaine Gershenson
In Her Shoes
Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant
Jenkintown Building Services, Inc.
Ellen Kovnat
Lisa Landau
Linda's Loft

LSL Brands
Luigi's Pizzarama II
Luv2Knit & More
Dr. Michael Matz
MAJic Creative
Marzano Ristorante
Kenny Moss and Sandy Glatter
Cory Newman
Northeast Racquet Club
& Fitness Center
Open Book Bookstore
Painting With A Twist
Patkin Landscaping, Inc.
Penny's by Plaza Flower
Petunia's Consignment Boutique
Janine Pratt
Reading Fightin Phils
Rosnov Jewelers
Salon Zen
Morgan Selkirk
Robin Shane
Lorie Slass
Sparrow & Hawk Apothecary
Ronit Sugar
Joey Tate's Restaurant
Jane Tausig
The Little Gym of Abington
Trader Joe's
Upper Crust Pizza & Grill
Vargas Café
Velvet Sky Bakery
Brooke Welsh
White Horse Coffee & Creamery ■



Social Action Activities

SHARE: Self Help & Resource Exchange

Join us to help **Share** reduce hunger

Sort, organize, and pack boxes of non-perishable food for those in need in Philadelphia. Seasonal gardening. Assistance with Office duties.

Ages 8 and up welcome

Family-friendly social action afternoon

Sunday, March 15, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

"If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, who am I? If not now, when?"
- Ethics of the Fathers, 1:14

The Share Food Program is a nonprofit organization serving a regional network of community organizations engaged in food distribution, education, and advocacy.

Located at 2901 W. Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia

Questions? Call Cheryl Turetsky 267-210-9981

RSVP by March 12th to Elaine Stevens @ exccdir@kolami.info

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THROUGH THE INTERFAITH HOUSING ALLIANCE

Join us to help families overcome homelessness by building relationships!

Support homeless families in Montgomery County as they transition to self-sufficiency by providing and sharing dinner with families who are temporarily living at Trinity Episcopal Church of Ambler and sleeping overnight at the host church. This is a rewarding and unforgettable experience.



NEXT OPPORTUNITY:

Week of April 26 (evening) through May 1 (morning).

Ages 8 and older for dinner volunteers; adults for sleeping overnight.

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church of Ambler, 708 S. Bethlehem Pike, Ambler, PA

There will be a SignUpGenius e-mailed to our members in the near future for selecting to prepare/share a meal or sleep overnight.

Toys and books can be purchased for children at the shelter, and household items can be donated to support families moving into permanent housing.

For more information, contact Laurie Jubelirer Langman directly at laurierobin@verizon.net or at 610-608-4293. ■

YEDIDAY KOL AMI 2020

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

Jeffrey Abrams and Margaret Barry
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Michael Chernoff
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Janet Felgoise
Rabbi Elliot and Susan Holin
David Hyman
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Alex and Nancy Miller
Robert Schiowitz and Ronit Sugar
Gary Sender
Stanley and Rita Siegel
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser ■

WINNER, FOR THE THIRD TIME!



The *Shomrei Adamah* Environmental Stewardship committee is pleased to announce that Congregation Kol Ami was awarded the 2019 Hazon Seal of Sustainability for the third consecutive year. The award certifies our tangible achievements this past year in the areas of environmental education, food sustainability, and community building programs.

All of those involved in our community efforts can take pride in our commitment to sustainability, to building a stronger and healthier Jewish community as part of the *Hazon* Seal Network and to renewing this process for coming years. ■

Kol Ami Events

BAR MITZVAH OF ISAAC HALPERN SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 10:00 A.M.

Isaac is a seventh-grade student at Cedarbrook Middle School who lives with his parents, Jason and Rebecca, brother Eli, and three cats. Isaac is a member of the Boy Scouts and plays soccer. His favorite subject is Latin. He enjoys reading, traveling, and playing video games.

For his *mitzvah* project, Isaac has been making and delivering meals for the homeless in Philadelphia. During his deliveries, he has spent time talking with them to better understand their challenges and how we can help. Please come celebrate with Isaac's family by joining us for this special *Shabbat* morning service (*Shacharit*). ■

BAT MITZVAH OF MIRANDA SHANDELL SATURDAY, MARCH 28, AT 5:30 P.M.

Miranda is a seventh grader enrolled at Abington Friends School. In her preparation for her *bat mitzvah*, she is supported by her mother, Robin; her father, Jonathan; and her sister, Cecily. She has been enrolled at Kol Ami Religious School since Kindergarten. She is an avid, passionate, and dedicated competitive dancer and also enjoys attending and performing in musicals. For her *mitzvah* project, Miranda is working with the Montgomery County Women's Center to benefit women and families in our area and help spread awareness of healthy relationships. Please join us in celebrating with Miranda and her family at our *Shabbat Mincha* Service. ■



CALLING ALL SOFTBALL PLAYERS!



The Kol Ami softball team - aka the "Kol Amigos" - seeks new players who wish to take to the diamond on behalf of the Congregation. Join us as we square off against other area congregations in the Delaware Valley Softball League.

The season runs from mid-April through July, with one game each week on Monday through Thursday evenings. Experience and ability are always desirable, but not required. Whatever the final score, our games are full of fellowship and fun! To sign up, or if you want more information, contact team captain Jonathan Shandell at jonathan.shandell@aya.yale.edu.

LOCAs' DINE-THEN-PRAY TRADITION CONTINUES

Calling All Ladies of a Certain Age to share dinner, followed by *erev Shabbat* Services. Both LOCAs and MOCAs (Men of a Certain Age) are welcome.

- **Friday, March 6**, at 5:30 p.m. - Marco Polo in Elkins Park
- **Friday, April 3**, at 5:30 p.m. - White Elephant in Huntingdon Valley

Please RSVP to Joan Greenberg, jgreenbe53@gmail.com or 215-530-1166 so she can make dinner reservations.

COOK FOR A FRIEND

Sunday, March 15 at 10:00 a.m.



Come help us prepare a nutritious meal for home bound seniors. No cooking experience needed, just a desire to do a *mitzvah* and have fun with Kol Ami friends in the kitchen! Any questions, call Ronit Sugar at 215-208-7027

NATIONAL REFUGEE SHABBAT SERVICE AND TORAH DIALOGUE

Saturday, March 21, at 10:00 a.m.

We will be observing National Refugee *Shabbat*, a project of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS). Through prayer and study, we will bear witness to the plight of refugees, and talk about how we can help during our *Shabbat* morning service.

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Dear Friends of Kol Ami,

On behalf of Beth Sholom Congregation,

We acknowledge with thanks your contribution of Produce to the Mitzvah Food Pantry at Beth Sholom Congregation.

We serve residents of Montgomery County & Philadelphia and your generous donations will help us supply them with much needed items. The generosity of people like you enables us to perform this vital service to our community.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Beverly McFadden Stuart Warsetsky
Beverly McFadden and Stuart Warsetsky
Directors, Mitzvah Food Pantry



25 YEARS OF KOL AMI MEMORIES

- In April 1997, at Kol Ami's Second, Second *Seder*, we presented our *Tikun Olam* Award to Sister Mary Scullion, a Philadelphia advocate for homeless and mentally ill people. In March 2010, we presented the award to Mazon – A Jewish Response to Hunger.
- In March 1998, Rabbi Holin taught an introductory course to Kabbalah. The next month, he led a Kol Ami trip to Israel.
- Kol Ami sponsored its first Blood Drive in April 1999 – member Jean Ettinger still oversees it – and had its first Family Camp Weekend later that month.
- In April 2000, book *maven* Beverly Rosen spoke at a *Shabbat* service, a tradition that has continued over the years. Also that month, Rabbi Holin taught a course entitled “What is a *D'var Torah* and How Can I Get One?”
- In March 2006, we hired our first-ever director of Kol Ami's brand-new nursery school and summer program, Sheri Cutler. Kol Ami's new website debuted soon after. ■



CELEBRATING CONGREGATION KOL AMI
25TH ANNIVERSARY
SAVE-THE-DATE
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020
COMMUNITY DINNER EN BLANC

Join us on **Saturday, May 16th**, as Kol Ami hosts our first Dinner En Blanc on our meadow, followed by *Havdalah* and entertainment.

More details and registration coming soon.
BYO everything. Invite family and friends.
Don't miss this adult-community event —
Mark your calendar now!



CONGREGATION KOL AMI
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST

*Inviting All Prospective Families of Children
Grades Pre-K to 4 to Celebrate Purim and
Discover Our Intimate and Dynamic Community!*

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM

Register at tinyurl.com/kolamiopenhouse2020

Congregation Kol Ami
8201 High School Road
Elkins Park, PA
<http://www.kolamielkinspark.org>



ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PANCAKES

WITH COFFEE, TEA, JUICE, AND FRESH FRUIT

JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS BREAKFAST
FOR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE KOL
AMI FAMILIES!

MARCH 8, 2020
9:30AM-10AM

**\$5
INDIVIDUAL**

**\$7 DOLLARS AT THE
DOOR**

\$20 FAMILY

\$25 AT THE DOOR

**FREE FOR
PROSPECTIVE
MEMBERS**

RSVP TO ELAINE STEVENS BY
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
EXECDIR@KOLAMI.INFO

Help Local Jewish Families This Passover

Congregation Kol Ami Social Action Committee Passover Food Drive

Please purchase any or all of these Passover items for donation to the *Mitzvah* Food Project Pantries for *Pesach* and bring to the Kol Ami office by **Wednesday, April 1st**.

All FOOD MUST BE KOSHER FOR PASSOVER

- Matzo
- Matzo Meal
- Gefilte Fish
- Horseradish
- Matzo Ball Soup or Mix
- Honey
- Macaroons
- Nuts
- Dried Fruit
- Jelly



PLEASE JOIN US AND BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

CONGREGATION KOL AMI SECOND SEDER

Thursday, April 9, 2020
6:00 p.m.
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 March 29, 2020**
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 267-992-7000
or e-mail at bfink3@gmail.com.



PLEASE RETURN THIS HALF OF THE FORM

I/we will attend the Congregation Kol Ami Second Seder on
Thursday, April 9, 2020.

Name of Reservation: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Due to rising food costs, it was necessary to increase our prices. If you have financial need, please contact Rabbi Berkowitz at rabbi@kolamielkinspark.org.

Member prices:

Number of adults	_____	@ \$40.00	= \$	_____
Number of children age 6 - 17	_____	@ \$18.00	= \$	_____
Number of children age 5 and below	_____	@ \$5.00	= \$	_____
Number of vegetarian meals	_____	@ \$35.00	= \$	_____

Non-Member prices:

Number of adults	_____	@ \$50.00	= \$	_____
Number of children age 6 - 17	_____	@ \$30.00	= \$	_____
Number of children age 5 and below	_____	@ \$5.00	= \$	_____
Number of vegetarian meals	_____	@ \$50.00	= \$	_____

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: _____

"ADULTS-ONLY" MARTINI HAVDALAH SERVICE

hosted by the Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Committee
Saturday, April 4, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

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

6:00 p.m. - Martinis and hors d'oeuvres

6:45 p.m. - *Havdalah* service

TALK THROUGH THE ISSUES AND RECEIVE SUPPORT AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIP DIALOGUE (IRD)

Thursday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Gary and Cheryl Turetsky.

Kol Ami's IRD group has for many years provided an inclusive and open environment in meetings with the rabbi to discuss challenges unique to interfaith relationships. This year, the group has expanded its mission to provide support to all members, whether in interfaith relationships or not, who may nevertheless find that interfaith relationships within their families generate questions for which it would be good to have the opportunity to seek answers while sharing experiences and resources.

If you are a parent of a child in an interfaith relationship, have grandchildren being raised in an interfaith family or in a different religion, are adoptive parents of a child born into a different religion, or if you are simply anticipating being in one of those categories at some point, and have questions or concerns, IRD hopes you will consider joining our group discussions.

The next meeting's topic will be "The Do's and Don'ts of Dialogue between Parents and their Children in Interfaith Relationships." Please RSVP to 267-346-1456 or gsturet@gmail.com. The Turetsky's will have hot and cold beverages, and if you want to bring a dessert, it would be greatly appreciated. ■

BELOW: Painting by Barbara Handler - "Plate-billed Toucan"



ARTIST OF THE MONTH

BARBARA HANDLER: FEBRUARY 18-APRIL 6



Barbara Handler's work is driven by her interests in color, texture, shapes, and pattern. It is influenced by what she observes in the world around her and reflected in both her figurative and abstract paintings/prints. One of her friends, who is strictly a figurative artist, suggested that perhaps her creative brain was divided into two distinct sections, and while she enjoys working in both genres, she can't work on both at the same time.

Barbara selected the theme of (mostly) birds for this show because of the enormous diversity within the bird kingdom. Once she began to research this topic, she was completely captivated by the wealth of color and patterns of the markings on so many different species. "The challenge," she says, "was to capture the beauty of the plumage without getting overly fussy with the details." She wanted each subject to express a bit of personality and, in the larger pieces, to tell a humorous story.

Barbara received a BFA and an MEd from UNC at Greensboro and taught in a public school there for five years before going back to school and receiving an MFA in jewelry and metalsmithing from SUNY at New Paltz, NY. In addition to doing craft fairs, she taught jewelry and enameling at Pratt Institute and at Arcadia University (then Beaver College). She retired in 2012 from teaching art for 23 years at Abington Friends School.

She has exhibited her work at Abington Art Center, Wayne Art Center, Cheltenham Center for the Arts, MCGOPA, the Philadelphia Sketch Club, PA Watercolor Society, Art of the State at the State Museum in Harrisburg, New Grounds Print Workshop, ADM Gallery, Brownsville Museum, Arts at Ardley, Studio Montclair, and the New Hope Artists' League

The Kol Ami gallery hours are Wednesday from 4:30-8:00 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 ■

EARLY LEARNING CENTER ACTIVITIES

The students and staff celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as 100-year-olds. ■



KOL AMI **MARCH 2020** AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Shomrei Adamah Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Grades K-1-2 to Abramson Center 10:00 a.m. - Grade 7 Family Education Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:30 a.m. Religious School Committee Meeting 12:15 p.m.	2	3 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Academy Teen Summit 6:30 p.m. at Keneseth Israel	4 Religious School 4:30 p.m. No 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Academy	5 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	6 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 10:00 a.m. LOCA Dinner at Marco Polo 5:30 p.m. "Simcha" First-Friday erev Shabbat Service with Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	7 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue with Grade 6 Family and Student Learners' Service 10:00 a.m.
8 Pancake Breakfast for Current and Prospective Members 9:30 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Celebrate <i>Purim</i> 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Focus Group Meeting 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:30 a.m.	9 erev Purim - Megillah Reading and Purimshpiel 7:00 p.m.	10 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	11 Religious School 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m. - Post Confirmation	12 "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Leah Berkowitz 7:00 p.m.	13 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rabbi Berkowitz 10:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service with Student Choir and Grades 5 & 6 students participating 7:00 p.m.	14 Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Halpern 10:00 a.m.

KOL AMI **MARCH 2020** AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Grade 3 & 4 Family Education Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Cook for a Friend 10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:30 a.m. Share Food Program 1:00 p.m. in Philadelphia	16 "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Ira Cooperman 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Religious School 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	19 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Leah Berkowitz 7:00 p.m.	20 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rebecca Schwartz 10:00 a.m. Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Dinner and Silent Auction 6:00 p.m. (no erev Shabbat Service this evening)	21 National Refugee Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
22 Religious School - School-wide JRA Program at warehouse in Philadelphia	23 "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Ira Cooperman 7:30 p.m.	24 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Social Action Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	25 Religious School 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	26 "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Leah Berkowitz 7:00 p.m.	27 Early Learning Center erev Shabbat Service with Rachael Simon 10:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	28 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue with Carol Nemeroff delivering the dvar Torah 10:00 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Miranda Shandell 5:30 p.m. Grade 6 <i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Program Families attending service
29 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Grade 6 <i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Family Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Rabbi Howard Bogot 10:30 a.m. Youth Group Chocolate Seder 12:15 p.m.	30 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m. "Study at the Shul" for Adults with Ira Cooperman 7:30 p.m.	31 Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Meeting 7:30 p.m. Home of Vincent and Jane Pace				

KOL AMI **APRIL 2020** AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Religious School 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m. - Post Confirmation	2 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	3 Early Learning Center <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service with Rabbi Berkowitz 10:00 a.m. LOCA Dinner at White Elephant 5:30 p.m. “Simcha” First-Friday <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service with Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.	4 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and <i>Torah</i> Dialogue 10:00 a.m. “Adults Only” Martini <i>Havdalah</i> Service hosted by the Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Committee 6:00 p.m.
5 Religious School Closed - Spring Break	6 “Study at the <i>Shul</i> ” for Adults with Ira Cooperman 7:30 p.m.	7 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Early Learning Center <i>Seder</i> 10:00 a.m.	8 Early Learning Center Closes at 3:00 p.m. Religious School Closed - Spring Break First Night of Passover	9 Early Learning Center Closed Congregation Second <i>Seder</i> 6:00 p.m.	10 Early Learning Center <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service with Rebecca Schwartz 10:00 a.m. <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m.	11 Passover-Yizkor Service 10:00 a.m.
12 Religious School Closed - Spring Break	13 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m.	14 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m.	15 Early Learning Center Closed Religious School Closed - Spring Break	16	17 Early Learning Center <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service with Rachael Simon 10:00 a.m. <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service with Student Choir 7:00 p.m.	18 “Fun for Kids” <i>Shabbat</i> Service 9:00 a.m. “Earth Day Appreciation” <i>Shabbat</i> Service and <i>Torah</i> Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
19 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. Security Workshop 10:30 a.m. Youth Group End of Year Picnic 12:30 p.m. Healing Service 1:00 p.m.	20	21 Early Learning Center Fitness 9:30 a.m. Religious School Teen Summit at Kol Ami 6:30 p.m.	22 Religious School 4:30 p.m. No 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	23 Early Learning Center Yoga 9:30 a.m.	24 Early Learning Center <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service with Rebecca Schwartz 10:00 a.m. “Interfaith Relationship Dialogue” <i>erev Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m.	25 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and <i>Torah</i> Dialogue with Carol Nemeroff delivering the <i>dvar Torah</i> 10:00 a.m.
26 Religious School 10:00 a.m. - Noon 10:00 a.m. - Grade 6 <i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Family Program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:25 a.m. Inclusion Committee Meeting 12:15 p.m.	27 Early Learning Center Music 9:30 a.m.	28	29 Early Learning Center Chick Hatching Program 9:30 a.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	30 Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Subgroup Meeting 7:30 p.m. Home of Gary and Cheryl Turetsky		

How Your Contributions Are Applied

CONGREGATION KOL AMI FUNDS

Below is a list of the available Congregation Kol Ami funds:

- **ADULT EDUCATION FUND:** Enables us to provide lifelong educational programming focused on Jewish history and contemporary issues.
- **ARTS AND CULTURE FUND:** Enables us to provide funding for cultural programs, including music and arts, the preservation and maintenance of artwork within the synagogue, and the beautification of the meditation garden.
- **BAR/BAT MITZVAH AND CONFIRMATION FUND:** Enables us to provide appropriate gifts (books, *kiddush* cups, and *Shabbat* candlesticks) when our young adults celebrate their *Bar/Bat Mitzvahs* and Confirmation.
- **"DISCOVER ISRAEL" FUND:** Enables us to provide scholarships to children of our members to participate in approved peer-group trips to Israel.
- **FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND FUND:** Enables us to underwrite the cost of Family Camp Weekend programs and to welcome specialists on a "weekend away" to explore a Jewish theme with our rabbi.
- **HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND:** Enables us to offer age-appropriate programs to our Religious School students. A variety of educational initiatives will be sponsored, including but not limited to speaker programs, intolerance awareness, and travel to memorial museums/sites – all with a focus on its current relevance.
- **LIBRARY FUND:** Enables us to purchase educational material for our members.
- **ONEG SHABBAT FUND:** Enables us to provide refreshments following *Shabbat* services.
- **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:** Enables Rabbi Berkowitz to perform *mitzvot* for those in need, in the name of the Congregation.
- **RABBI'S EMPOWERMENT AND VISION FUND:** Enables Rabbi Berkowitz to create meaningful experiences rooted in the Jewish story. Creates a giving opportunity where funds can go to our general operations and support Rabbi Berkowitz to fulfill her passions and Kol Ami's vision.
- **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND:** Enables us to provide resources and programs for the benefit of our children in the Religious School.
- **SYNAGOGUE FUND:** Enables us to provide for the general well-being of the Congregation.
- **YOUTH FUND:** Enables us to provide scholarships to enable children of our members to participate in Jewish enrichment experiences at camps, youth enclaves, and other programs. ■

Kol Ami Contributions

We thank the following individuals 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:

**Marriage of Nancy Kirsh to
Russell Cooke**
Ira Cooperman

**Marriage of Matthew Shapiro
to Natalie Savits**
Ira Cooperman

In Memory of:

Kalman Fine
Ira Cooperman

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Honor of:

**Rebecca Schwartz in appreciation
and gratitude for the beautiful
music at our wedding**
Russell Cooke and Nancy Kirsh

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Honor of:

Aufruf of our marriage
Russell Cooke and Nancy Kirsh

**Jewish Disability and
Inclusion Awareness**
Benny Shoham and Lisa Ney

In Memory of:

Steven Isaacman
Marshall and Ilene Schafer

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Berkowitz in appreciation
and gratitude for officiating at our
wedding**
Russell Cooke and Nancy Kirsh

**Rabbi Berkowitz in appreciation for
performing our wedding ceremony**
Matthew Shapiro and Natalie Savits

**25th anniversary of the Bat Mitzvah
of Rabbi Berkowitz**
Stanton and Merle Salkin

**Birth of Noah Wesley Levine,
grandson of Ruben Honik**
Benjamin and Beth Long

In Memory of:

David Berkowitz
*Michael and Janet Goldman
Mark and Karin Kaplan
Fran Surkin*

RABBI'S EMPOWERMENT & VISION FUND

In Memory of:

David Berkowitz
*Lisa Landau
Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz*

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Honor of:

**Birth of Noah Wesley Levine,
grandson of Ruben Honik**
David Hyman

SYNAGOGUE FUND

*Gregory Brown and Sara Reiter
David Katz
Stanley and Rita Siegel
Carol Wit*

In Honor of:

**Wedding of Russell Cooke and
Nancy Kirsh**
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

**Birth of Isacco Shahr Jacobassi
Dyen, grandson of James and
Natalie Dyen**
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

Janet Felgoise
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

**Birth of Noah Wesley Levine,
grandson of Ruben Honik**
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

In Memory of:

David Berkowitz
*Alan and Elaine Gershenson
Gary Sender*

Benjamin Longer
Rhea Applebaum

Irwin Natov
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

Jane Schiowitz
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

Maurice Turetsky
Alvin Turetsky ■



*Thank you to all our past
and present contributors!*