



קול עמי

An Intimate and
Dynamic Community**THOUGHTS FROM RABBI BERKOWITZ****Make for Yourself a Teacher, Acquire for Yourself a Friend**

Rabbi Yehoshua ben Perachia said: “Make for yourself a *rav* (teacher), acquire for yourself a *chaver* (friend), and judge everyone on the side of merit” (Pirke Avot 1:6).

I’ve always liked that *rav* and *chaver* appear together in this teaching. It reminds us that both relationships are essential to learning and growth. Sometimes the roles overlap: the student becomes our teacher, the teacher becomes our friend, or vice versa. In fact, the Aramaic word for “study partner” is *chavruta*, another word for “friend.”

This teaching also reminds us that we need to take an active role in seeking out the teachers and the friends who will help us on our path. We need to play an active role in learning and in building relationships.

Rabbi Rami Shapiro says, “Three things make you worthy of a teacher: the capacity to listen in the beginning, the ability to question in the middle, and the courage to go your own way in the end...A teacher shares what she knows, a friend helps clarify what you know” (*Ethics of the Sages: Pirke Avot Annotated and Explained*, p. 8).

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WORSHIP
SERVICES

Saturday, October 1
at 10:00 a.m. (Price Chapel)

Shabbat service and
Torah study

Tuesday, October 4
at 7:45 p.m.
(Fischman Auditorium)

erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) service

Wednesday, October 5 (Fischman Auditorium)

10:00 a.m.—Yom Kippur Morning service with concurrent Yom Kippur Youth service for Students Grades 3-6 in Room 206

2:00 p.m.—Yom Kippur Children’s Family service

3:00 p.m.—Yom Kippur Afternoon Study session

3:45 p.m.—Afternoon service and Jonah Experience

5:00 p.m.—Yizkor and N’ilah service (approximately 5:00 p.m.)

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WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued)

**Friday, October 7 at
7:30 p.m. (Bornstein)**

*“Simcha” First Friday er-
ev Shabbat service*

**Saturday, October 8 at
10:00 a.m. (Price Chap-
el)**

*Shabbat service and To-
rah study*

**Sunday, October 9 at
7:00 p.m. (Bornstein)**

erev Sukkot service

**Friday, October 14 at
7:00 p.m. (Bornstein)**

*Simchat Torah service
and Consecration with
Student Choir*

**Saturday, October 15 at
10:00 a.m. (Price Chap-
el)**

*Shabbat service, includ-
ing Yizkor and Torah
study*

**Friday, October 21 at
7:30 p.m. (Bornstein)**

Kabbalat Shabbat service

THOUGHTS FROM RABBI BERKOWITZ *(continued)*

This year, I hope that you will seek out teachers and friends by engaging in some of our lifelong learning programs. I, and the other teachers, are looking forward to all we’ll learn with you, and all that we’ll learn from you!

Note: In our recent survey, we received several different responses about convenient days and times for weekday learning. While these dates were already set on our calendar, we will make an effort to hold learning opportunities on a variety of days and times in the future.

**Yom Kippur Afternoon Discussion led by Merle Salkin,
October 5, 3 p.m. Fischman Auditorium**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81338995640?
pwd=VGF5OXBROWhkSXc1dDFrQThZYjEzZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81338995640?pwd=VGF5OXBROWhkSXc1dDFrQThZYjEzZz09)

Public offenses are so...public.

“Sorry” doesn’t make it better.

Join the conversation examining these questions:

What can we expect from public figures who use social media to degrade and victimize others?

What are the steps leading to repentance?

This discussion will incorporate materials from Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg’s new book, On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World.

**“The Fifth Chapter of Jonah” a Yom Kippur Play, Octo-
ber 5, 3:45 p.m., Fischman Auditorium**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89683869437?
pwd=ZjY3L2hnUWdMUU9weFQoZ3RGNlhNdzo9](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89683869437?pwd=ZjY3L2hnUWdMUU9weFQoZ3RGNlhNdzo9)

The Book of Jonah, our most famous reluctant prophet, is four chapters long, and it ends on a cliffhanger. Rabbi Shmuly Yan-kowitz asked us to consider what the fifth chapter of Jonah might look like, and we responded. Come enjoy this short play, performed by our confirmation students, during our Yom Kippur Af-ternoon Service.

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PRESIDENT GARY TURETSKY ENCOURAGES THAT SPIRITUAL PARTICIPATION CONTINUE AFTER THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

As I write this message for the October Kol Ami Bulletin, August is winding down: The weather is hot and sunny, the happy memories of my vacation in July with Cheryl out west where we visited with our children and grandson, Oliver, are very fresh, and the High Holidays are still several weeks away. October, with its colder temperatures and falling leaves, feels quite distant, but the reality is that unless we experience an unanticipated autumn heat wave, you are likely reading this while sipping on a pumpkin spice coffee, or perhaps, and even better, a hot toddy, to help lessen the early fall chill in the air. Hopefully, the Eagles are also now 3-0, which should give us all a warm glow. With those positive, autumnal thoughts in mind, what follows is my best attempt to write a message appropriate for October while the oppression of summer heat continues.

What I am certain of, even as I sit before my computer in late August, is that the Rosh Hashanah services we experienced this past week were, as always, a combination of moving and inspirational prayers, sermons, and songs -- offered by our Rabbi, our Cantorial Soloist, and our Volunteer Choir -- supplemented by beautiful readings and poetry contributed by many of our members. I know first hand of all the hard work our staff and our dedicated volunteers did this summer to ensure that your High Holy Days experience in our not-so-new home on Old York Road would be meaningful, comfortable, and accessible, whether you attended services in person or on Zoom. I am confident that by the services with Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur in just a few days, you will agree with me that our congregation remains a vibrant and caring community of friends which, having weathered the twin storms of COVID-19 and relocation, has much to look forward to as we complete our transition from High School Road, forever retaining our special and Reform identity.

I am also certain that, once the High Holy Days end, you will find much spiritual enrichment in the Friday night and Saturday morning Shabbat services led by Rabbi Berkowitz and Rebecca throughout the year. I encourage you to put those services on your calendar and to come as often as you can. The opportunity these services afford to remove oneself from the tumult of the week, to pray and sing with friends and then, to catch up with them in conversation at the Oneg (yes, our Onegs are back!), is not to be missed.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued)

Saturday, October 22 at 10:00 a.m. (Price Chapel)

Shabbat service and Torah study

Friday, October 28 at 7:30 p.m. (Bornstein)

Kabbalat Shabbat service with guest speaker, Bob Seltzer

Saturday, October 29 at 10:00 a.m. (Price Chapel)

Shabbat service and Torah study



THOUGHTS FROM RABBI BERKOWITZ *(continued)*

Simchat Torah Celebration, Friday, October 14, 7 p.m. Bornstein Auditorium

We have so much to celebrate this Simchat Torah. We finish reading the Torah scroll and start the cycle all over again. This year we will also celebrate the consecration of our newest students in the Kol Ami Religious School and hear a story from Rabbi Berkowitz's new book of *midrash: Maybe It Happened This Way: Bible Stories Reimagined*. KARS families will receive a signed copy of the book at this service. A limited number of additional copies will be available, or you are welcome to bring your own copy to have it signed.

“Chai Tea” in the Sukkah, Tuesday, October 18, 11 a.m. in the Atrium

Join me for some snacks, schmoozing, and a little bit of study in a relaxed setting. We'll talk about the Jewish values of *Tzedek* (justice) and *chesed* (kindness), how the rabbis understood them, and how we might practice them in our lives today.

Would the Rabbis Forgive Your Student Loans?

Jewish Texts on Wealth, Poverty, and Tzedakah

Three Thursdays at 7 p.m. October 20, 27, and November 3 (Beth Sholom Conference Room)

The road to pursuing justice is paved with complicated decisions. How do we determine who qualifies for assistance and how much? Whom do we help first? And what do we do if we suspect that someone is faking it? Don't miss this three-part course on poverty and tzedakah in the Bible and Rabbinic Texts. (Each session will stand on its own if you cannot attend all three.)

Session 1: Systems and Structures for Caring for the Poor: What Do We Owe to Each Other?

Session 2: Upgrades and Downgrades: Are we required to maintain someone's standard of living?

Session 3: Fakers and Frauds: How do we know if someone is *really* in need?

Congregant “TAG” Talks....Torah (Learning), Avodah (Service), Gemilut Chasadim (Lovingkindness) — Kol Ami’s Variation on the “TED” Talk

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



Bob Seltzer

Reflections and Stories from a Career in Fundraising: It’s Not What You Think!

Bob Seltzer is an attorney by trade, who has devoted most of his career to the Jewish non-profit sector—in civil rights, Israel advocacy and major gift development/planned giving. He is the author of three published books. Most important, he is Susan Seltzer’s husband.



CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory of:

Schmulik Bar
Brother-in-law of Orly Maravankin

Martha Katzer
Mother of Jane Katzer Pace

May their memories forever be a blessing in the midst of our people.



SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

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Rabbi Leah R. Berkowitz

215-635-4182

Rabbi Elliot Holin

Founding Rabbi

215-882-0017

Gary Turetsky, President

Justin Krik, Vice President

Ben Long, Treasurer

Ronit Sugar, Secretary

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

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

Elaine Stevens

Executive Director

215-635-3110

Rachael Simon

Director of Education

215-635-7106

Rebecca Schwartz

Cantorial Soloist

215-572-6094

**Please send correspondence
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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR HELPS YOU “BRIDGE” HOME AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Despite the interruptions of the Jewish holidays, we are beginning to settle into a routine at Kol Ami Religious School. As we ease into a rhythm, you may wonder how you can support your child’s Jewish education and the development of their Jewish identity. Here are four things I recommend to construct and maintain a bridge between your home and our Religious School:

Celebrate Shabbat: Choose one way to honor Shabbat each Friday night or Saturday. This could mean lighting Shabbat candles together, having a Friday night meal as a family, or even choosing a period of time to unplug and devote time to being together. Observing or creating Shabbat traditions will certainly have an impact on your child’s Jewish identity.

Do a mitzvah: With your child, commit to a regular volunteer activity, such as helping to pack food at a food pantry or volunteering to clean up a local park. Frame this good deed as a mitzvah, part of the Jewish obligation to be active citizens in the world. Making sure that you are doing a mitzvah on a regular basis will build a connection between your child’s religious education and the “real” world.

Participate in local Jewish organizations: We are fortunate to live in an area with an abundance of Jewish organizations that serve families with children of all ages. Many of you may have received books for your younger children from PJ Library, but you may not realize that their program for older students -- PJ Our Way -- continues to provide free books while allowing students to choose which books they will receive. JKidPhilly offers programming for families with young children, while several organizations, such as BBYO, welcome Jewish teens of all backgrounds. As always, we will have representatives of various youth organizations speak to our students throughout the year, but in the meantime, please reach out if you are looking for ways for your student or family to participate in the Jewish community beyond our Religious School.

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR HELPS YOU “BRIDGE” HOME AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOL *(continued)*

Participate in our synagogue community! Make sure you check the listserv each week for our synagogue events! This month, you can start by joining us for our Sukkot and Simchat Torah services.

Make sure to also mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- Wednesday, October 5, 10:00am: Yom Kippur Youth Service for grades 3-6
- Wednesday, October 5: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- Thursday, October 13, 10:30am: Kol A-Minis Sukkot Party for Ages 0-5. Register at tinyurl.com/kolaminis
- Friday, October 14 at 7:00 pm: Simchat Torah service and Consecration with Student Choir (each KARS family will receive a signed copy of Rabbi Berkowitz’s new book!)
- Sunday, November 6, 10:00am: Grade K/1 Family Education Program
- Sunday, November 13, 10:00am: Seventh Grade Family Education Program



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE *(continued)*

Friday night services in the Bornstein Auditorium are very special, and feel even more like our Kol Ami home, now that our Ark is adorned with a beautiful Ner Tamid, the handiwork of our own, very talented, Vice President, Justin Krik, and our Yahrzeit memorial cabinet has been installed in the Bornstein for all our congregants to view.

If you come on Saturday, those services are conducted in the cozy and intimate Price Chapel. Of course, if you can’t attend some Shabbat in person, our Zoom link will continue to allow you to worship from home or elsewhere (Cheryl and I enjoyed services while in Washington State in July over Zoom, although we did have to keep reminding ourselves that services started at 4:30PM PST!)

I try to attend as many services as I can, so if you are present and are new to Kol Ami, or even if you have belonged for many years, I would be happy to meet you, answer any questions you might have about our synagogue and upcoming events and programs, and wish you a Shabbat Shalom. In the meantime, as I reach for my iced tea, let me wish all of you, again, a very happy and healthy New Year.

Warmly,
Gary

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, 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 and indicate to which fund it should be applied, or visit our website at

<https://www.kolamielkinspark.org/donate>

ARTS & CULTURE FUND

In Memory Of:

Martha Katzer
Joe and Marcia Bannon

DISCOVER ISRAEL FUND

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Gerry Seltzer
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SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor Of:

Retirement of Robert Seltzer
Deborah Seltzer Cohen

In Memory Of:

Martha Katzer
Rosalind Holtzman
Craig and Sharon Myers
Elaine Stevens
Gary and Cheryl Turetsky

Isador Turetsky
Alvin Turetsky

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The Need is Great!

Please support the Blood Drive at Beth Sholom Congregation.

Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022—2:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Beth Sholom Congregation
8231 Old York Road in Elkins Park

Please register on line at: **redcrossblood.org**

Phone: **1-800-RED-CROSS**

SPONSOR CODE: BETH SHOLOM

For further information or assistance please e-mail

Rene Feitelson, rfeitelson@aol.com

Support Local Farms Join the CSA Fall Season

On sale NOW. The fall season provides amazing seasonal produce and local products. Join the Kol Ami Hazon CSA at Congregation Adath Jeshurun. This CSA proudly partners with Lancaster Farm Fresh Co-operative (LFFC), a non-profit cooperative of over 120 Amish and Mennonite organic farmers.

Lancaster Farm Fresh offers a variety of share types and sizes of organic vegetables*, fruits, eggs, cheese, flowers, and herbal medicines. The 8-week season begins **November 1** and runs through December 20th. Pick up is **Tuesday evenings (4:30-6pm) from Adath Jeshurun's kitchen**. Please share this opportunity with friends and neighbors as anyone in the community may enroll.

Our CSA, now in its 16th season, was the first in our region to align with *Hazon*, a national nonprofit that links Jewish traditions with environmental action. Through its CSA network, *Hazon* is using Jewish purchasing power to support local organic farmers and foster vibrant Jewish communities who care about environmental and educational issues.

Our support of LFFC keeps our land and food safe for future generations and provides us with a variety of fresh seasonal produce each week. We do not distribute meat shares due to kashruth observance. Learn more and register at: [Shop Fall Shares | Lancaster Farm Fresh](#) When selecting a location, choose **Pa: Kol Ami Hazon, 7763 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 (Adath Jeshurun kitchen)** as first choice.

For questions, contact Robin @ Robinrifkin@comcast.net or Shelley @ Srchamberlain@comcast.net

*What might you expect in a fall share? (Variety changes according to growing season and harvest) Beets, broccoli, carrots, cabbage, kale, lettuces, winter squash, onions, turnips, peppers, potatoes, spinach, herbs, mustard greens, eggplant, fennel, cucumbers, peas, collards, mushrooms, and more. The fruit share is for apple and pear lovers and may include apple cider, jams, jellies.

