



קול עמי

An Intimate and
Dynamic Community

Thoughts From Rabbi Berkowitz....

Making the Old New and the New Sacred

Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, the first chief rabbi in Israel, pre-statehood, once said of the Jewish tradition in modern times: “The old shall be made new, and the new shall be made sacred.” In Hebrew, it provides a beautiful play on words: *ha-yashan titchadesh v’hachadesh titkadesh*.

Every year, as we reenter the cycle of Jewish holidays, we have an opportunity to fulfill this teaching. We can renew and refresh the traditions our people have observed for centuries by looking at them with fresh eyes, and we can create and develop new traditions that will one day feel as beloved and as “traditional” as the ancient ones.

As we prepare to celebrate the New Year together, I want to let you know some of the ways we will be renewing the old and sanctifying the new during these High Holy Days.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

**Friday, September 1
at 6:30 p.m.
(Bornstein)**

Kabbalat Shabbat service

**Friday, September 8
at 7:30 p.m.
(Bornstein)**

Board Installation
“Simcha” Second Friday
Kabbalat Shabbat service

Saturday, September 9

7:30 p.m. – Joint *Havdalah* and *Oneg* with our friends at Beth Sholom (Bornstein)

8:00 p.m. – *Selichot* Program: A Rededication Tour of our Sacred Objects in their New Home (stating in Bornstein)

9:30 p.m. – *Selichot* service (Fischman)

**Friday, September 15 at 8:00 p.m.
(Fischman)**

erev Rosh Hashanah

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WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued)

Saturday, September 16 (Fischman)

10:00 a.m. – *Rosh Hashanah* Adult service

10:00 a.m. – *Rosh Hashanah* Student service and program (grades 3-6)

2:00 p.m. – *Rosh Hashanah* Family service for children grades Pre-K – 2 and their grownups

Sunday, September 17 at 4:30 p.m. (Wall Park)

Tashlich service - Storytime and service followed by BYO picnic dinner

Friday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. (Bornstein)

Kabbalat Shabbat service

Saturday, September 23 at 10:00 a.m. (Price Chapel)

Shabbat service and *Torah* dialogue

Sunday, September 24 at 7:45 p.m. (Fischman)

Kol Nidrei

(continued page 3)

Rabbi's Message *(continued)*

On Saturday, September 9th, at 7:30 p.m., our community will gather for our annual Selichot observance. Selichot is an ancient ritual of preparing for the High Holy Days by offering prayers of repentance “in the middle of the night” (for us, about 9:30 p.m.). A newer, but already time-honored, tradition for us is to offer each person in attendance a private moment of prayer in front of the ark. This service is more intimate than our Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services, and those who participate find it to be a moving way to ready our hearts for the High Holy Days.

This year, as part of our pre-Selichot program, we will perform a ritual that feels long overdue. Now that most of Kol Ami's sacred objects have been installed in our new home, we will gather before Selichot to rededicate them in their new spaces. We will take a “tour” of where these objects came from and where they currently reside—our ark and Torah table, the yartzheit and donor walls, photographs and pieces of art—culminating with a rededication of our three Torah scrolls, which we will dress in white and place in the ark, as we do in anticipation of each new year.

Even if you aren't a regular Selichot-goer, we hope that you will join us for this important moment in the life of our congregation.

So what else will be new this year?

The timing of the holidays makes it possible for us to gather at an earlier time for *tashlich* on Sunday afternoon, September 17th, at 4:30 p.m at Wall Park. *Tashlich* an ancient ritual of casting off the past year by throwing breadcrumbs into a stream (some folks throw leaves or pebbles so as not to disturb the ecosystem). We're hoping the earlier time will give more young people a chance to join us for a story as well as our *tashlich* ritual, followed by a BYO picnic dinner in the park.

(continued page 3)

Rabbi's Message *(continued)*

We are also in the process of reimagining our Yom Kippur Afternoon service, which will take place this year on Monday, September 25, beginning at 3:45 p.m. This service has always posed a challenge to modern Jewish communities: what from the ancient liturgy (mostly dedicated to commemorating the ancient sacrificial service) do we keep, what do we remove, and what do we create to take its place?

This year, we will shift around some of our liturgy in order to add a Healing Service to our afternoon rituals. This service is meant for anyone who wishes to offer prayers of healing for themselves, their loved ones, our community, or the world. It will be similar to the one Rebecca has led with me (and previously with Rabbi Holin) a few Sunday afternoons each year. Holding this service on Yom Kippur Afternoon will give more people the opportunity to experience it, and will give us a chance to pray for healing together in person, as in recent years this service has mostly been held online.

Every year we have both time-honored rituals and new experiences to celebrate. The new year is also an opportunity for us to see how we, ourselves, have stayed the same, and how we have changed. May we find many ways to make the old new, and the new sacred, as we enter a New Year.



WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued)

Monday, September 25 (Fischman)

10:00 a.m. – *Yom Kippur*
Adult service

10:00 a.m. – *Yom Kippur*
Student service and program (grades 3-6)

2:00 p.m. – *Yom Kippur*
Family service for children
grades Pre-K – 2 and their
grownups

3:00 p.m. – Reflective
Readings and Discussion

3:45 p.m. – Afternoon service – including a special
Healing service

Approximately 5:00 p.m. –
Yizkor-Neilah service

Friday, September 29 at 7:00 p.m. (Sukkah)

Shabbat Sukkot service,
with a special reading (and
giveaway) of Rabbi
Berkowitz's new book, *The
Moving Box Sukkah*

Saturday, September 30 at 10:00 a.m. (Price Chapel)

Shabbat Sukkot service and
Torah dialogue

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office

215-635-3110

Rabbi Leah R. Berkowitz

215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot Holin

Founding Rabbi

215-882-0017

Justin Krik, Co-President

Ben Long, Co-President

Linda Jacobs, Vice President

Gary Sender, Treasurer

Ronit Sugar, Secretary

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

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

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[https://www.facebook.com/
kolamielkinspark](https://www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark)

NEWS FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION – RACHAEL SIMON

Welcome back to another Religious School year! We are thrilled to be welcoming several new students this year and to have many exciting events planned for this year, including multigenerational learning, offsite trips, and mitzvah opportunities.

As a reminder, Religious School begins on **Sunday, September 10**. If your child is attending Religious School, you should have received their class assignment, the handbook, and the school calendar via email last month. Please contact me if you have not received this important information!

Please be aware of the many changes in our calendar in September and October due to the fall holidays. I encourage you to participate in holiday services and events with your children while they are not in class. The High Holy Days are a perfect opportunity to be involved in the synagogue as a family. In addition to the Youth Service that we offer concurrent to the main services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning, we hold afternoon Family Services that allow children and parents to have an interactive experience together.

Please also be on the lookout for information about our special Sukkot events. While our older students will visit a residential Sukkah, our younger students will have dinner and a special program in our synagogue Sukkah. We will also be hosting the Kol A-Minis (students ages 0-5) for a Sukkot celebration! More details are forthcoming.

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NEWS FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION – RACHAEL SIMON

(continued)

Be sure to mark your calendars for the important dates below:

- Sunday, September 10, 10:00 a.m.: First Day of Religious School for grades K-7; Briar Bush presents “Honeybees as Pollinators” at 11:00am
- Wednesday, September 13, 6:30 p.m.: First Day of Class for Confirmation Academy, Grades 7-10
- Saturday, September 16, 10:00 a.m.: Rosh Hashanah Youth Service, Grades 3-6
- Saturday, September 16, 2:00 p.m.: Rosh Hashanah Family Service
- Sunday, September 17: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- Sunday, September 24: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- Monday, September 25, 10:00 a.m.: Yom Kippur Youth Service, Grades 3-6
- Monday, September 25, 2:00 p.m.: Yom Kippur Family Service
- Wednesday, September 27, 6:30 p.m.: Confirmation Academy Sukkot Program and Dinner, location TBA via email
- Sunday, October 1: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- Tuesday, October 3, 10:00 a.m.: Kol A-Minis Sukkot Celebration
- Wednesday, October 4, 4:30 p.m.: Sukkot Program for grades three through eight
- Sunday, October 8: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



Mazal tov

Abby Binder and Jane Tausig on the marriage of Abby's daughter, Elizabeth, to David Shapiro on August 5, 2023 in Washington, DC.

Vincent and Jane Pace on the marriage of their daughter Sarah Elizabeth to Deepak Premkumar on July 22, 2023

MESSAGE FROM CO-PRESIDENT, JUSTIN KRIK

Greetings,

As this is the first Bulletin message I'm writing as Co-President of Kol Ami, I thought I would introduce myself to our Congregation.

(Actually, for those people who attend High Holy Day services, you already know me: I'm the shofar blower!)

I joined the Board of Directors several years ago hoping to help wherever I was needed and where my skills were useful. I admit I was intimidated despite the fact that in my professional life as a real estate and small-business attorney I often worked closely with companies and boards. But being on the Kol Ami Board opened my eyes to the incredible commitment and efforts of our Congregation, lay leadership, clergy, and staff, and I accepted the position of Co-President with the intention of continuing the strong tradition of leadership before me. I am thankful to my Co-President, Ben Long, for accepting the presidential mantle once again.

Although I am proud of my new position at Kol Ami, my most important titles are father of two amazing young ladies, Sophia (13) and Rebecca (12), and husband of 15 years to the greatest wife ever, Julia. (I am also "parent" of Midnight, our 17-1/2 year-old cockapoo.) We are residents of Lower Moreland, but joined Kol Ami over 10 years ago when we were searching for a congregation near our home at that time, and one that would welcome a growing interfaith family. Fast forward, and now we're approaching the Bat Mitzvahs! The Kriks' experience with Kol Ami has been wonderful, and we look forward to continuing our connection in the future.

As summer winds down we are eager to celebrate the High Holy Days with friends and family. I always appreciate the time for spiritual self-reflection guided by our Rabbi, our Cantorial Soloist, and our volunteer choir, both the beautiful words of prayer and the sounds of our songs. On a practical note I am grateful that the new sound systems have been installed that will amplify our prayer, both in person and online.

If we have not crossed paths, or if it has been a while since we've spoken, please introduce yourself to me and say hello. L'shanah Tovah!

Justin L. Krik

HIGH HOLY DAYS CALENDAR 2023 - 5784

Saturday, September 9

7:30 p.m. – Joint *Havdalah* and *Oneg*
with our friends at Beth Sholom

8:00 p.m. – *Selichot* Program: A Rededication Tour of our Sacred Objects in their New Home

9:30 p.m. – *Selichot* service

Friday, September 15

8:00 p.m. - *erev Rosh Hashanah*

Saturday, September 16

Rosh Hashanah

10:00 a.m. - Adult Service

10:00 a.m. – Student Service and Program (Grades 3 - 6)

2:00 p.m. - Family Service for Children Grades Pre-K – 2 and their grownups

Sunday, September 17

Tashlich Service

4:30 p.m. – Storytime and Service followed by BYO picnic dinner

Wall Park

600 Church Road

Elkins Park, PA

Sunday, September 24

7:45 p.m. - *Kol Nidrei*

Monday, September 25

Yom Kippur

10:00 a.m. - Adult Service

10:00 a.m. - Student Service and Program (Grades 3 - 6)

2:00 p.m. - Family Service for Children Grades Pre-K – 2 and their grownups

3:00 p.m. - Reflective Readings and Discussion

3:45 p.m. - Afternoon Service – including a special Healing Service

Approximately 5:00 p.m. - *Yizkor-Neilah* Service



Home Grown Honey for Sale for High Holy Days

L'Shana Tova! Once again, we are selling locally sourced raw honey from Honey Creek Apiary, Elkins Park, for the High Holy Days. Apples dipped in honey signifies the hope for a healthy and sweet new year. Dipping your apples and challah in honey during celebratory meals, or anytime, is also a sweet reminder to take care of our honey bees and all pollinators. Let's thank them for doing their part to help sustain the environment and our food supply.

8 oz Jars are \$7.50 each. 100% of the sale proceeds go to Congregation Kol Ami. The honey is donated by Abby Binder and Jane Tausig.

Pickup Details:

Date/Times: Tuesdays, September 5 or September 12 from 4:30-6:00 pm

Pick up location: Kitchen at Congregation Adath Jeshurun, 7763 Old York Road, (at Ashbourne Road) Elkins Park, PA 19027

Advance orders required. Supply is limited. Please complete the order form below and e-mail the form back to Jane Tausig at jetausig@gmail.com by 08/29/2023.

Payment Details:

Advanced payment preferred.

Prepay by Venmo to @Jane-Tausig1.

Or personal check, payable to Congregation Kol Ami, to be collected at time of pickup.

Please return the following information to Jane Tausig at jetausig@gmail.com by or before

8/29/2023. Number jars requested @ \$7.50 each: _____ Amount due: _____

Payment method: ____ Venmo or ____ Check (payable to Kol Ami.)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

CSA member? (circle one): Yes No

Preferred pickup date (circle one): September 5 or September 12 (*If neither of these dates/times work for you we can try to make other arrangements.) [mail-](mailto:jetausig@gmail.com)

[to:jetausig@gmail.com](mailto:jetausig@gmail.com)

High Holy Days Food Drive to Benefit The Beth Sholom Food Pantry

When you come to services during the Jewish High Holidays, consider bringing some food to help community members who struggle to feed their families.

Items requested: (Kosher or meat-free please)

Peanut butter

Canned tuna and salmon

Canned vegetables and fruit

Diapers

Baby food and formula

Baby wipes

Another option: \$20-\$25 gift cards to Acme, Giant, ShopRite

Where to drop them off:

**Food donations may be left in the Fischman
lobby as you enter the Auditorium for
services.**



ADULT AND STUDENT CHOIR

Adult Choir: Meets Sunday mornings from 10:25 – 11:25 AM. Students in grades 8–12 may also participate. Co-led by Fran Surkin (who also arranges choral music specifically designed for our choir, including Rebecca Schwartz's original music).

Student Choir: Meets Sunday afternoons from 12–12:30 PM (after Religious School). Students in grades 2–7 may participate. Solos galore!!

Choir members/student parents receive dates of participation (for High Holy Day/erev Shabbat services and some community events) and updates via e-mail. To remain active, attendance at rehearsals and services is very important. All rehearsals are held in Bornstein unless an alternate location is needed.

Our choirs are gems within our Kol Ami community and choir members have a lot of fun! If you're interested in joining or have questions, please contact Rebecca at rebeccasongs@verizon.net or call 215-572-6094.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences in loving memory of:

Carole Hoffman

Mother-in-law of Lisa Landau

Luis Maravankin

Father of Gabriel Maravankin

Lillian Schafer

Mother of Marshall Schafer

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



COMMITTEE MEETING

Membership Committee

Thursday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Abby Binder



Champions for Cheltenham is a multi-faith-based group whose mission is to support families in the Cheltenham School District. Participating congregations are Beth Sholom, KI, Kol Ami, and Calvary Presbyterian Church.

We are working with the School District's social workers to provide items to families experiencing need. There is a staggering number of families who do not have stable housing, let alone school supplies.

Kol Ami has been asked to provide:

Hand Soap

Lysol wipes

Dry Erase Markers (Expo, black)

Fidgets, small prizes from Dollar Store or Five Below for rewards/incentives

In addition to this, we have a group of tutors who are working with students in grades K-8. This is a much-needed service, and more volunteers are always welcome. Toby Grubman is the coordinator for the tutors. She can be reached at tobgru@aol.com. Please let her know you are from Kol Ami.

A collection point, shared with Beth Sholom, will be near the office. Look for the Champions for Cheltenham sign.

For more information or questions, contact Ellen Friedman, ejf0254@gmail.com.



KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP

We will look forward to seeing you at our next Knitting/Crochet Group on **Monday, September 11, from 5-7pm**. Please bring your own dinner. And your project, if you're working on something.

Take care! Linda George and Shari Johnson

Please RSVP: Shari Johnson (mommyone@aol.com) or 215-805-5286 by September 8.

Jewish Values..Sustainable Agriculture..Great Lunch..Family Friendly

Sukkot in the Fields-Our Annual Farm Trip to Lancaster IS BACK!

**Shabbat Sukkot, Saturday, October 7th 12:45 -
4:00pm**

**Congregation Kol Ami CSA* invites
you to a family-friendly, incredibly rich experi-
ence at the Lapp Family's Maple Lawn Farm**



We are proud of our 17-year partnership with Lancaster Farm Fresh farmers, who supply our community with organic vegetables each week. Each year we look forward to our visit with an Amish farm family to celebrate Sukkot, share our cultures over a wonderful lunch!

- Celebrate the holiday with Rabbi Berkowitz, Congregation Kol Ami and CSA members.
- Enjoy a pot-luck lunch and local ice cream with farmers and their family, sharing insights about food, farming and the land.
- Potluck is vegetarian/dairy; we will be in touch after you register to coordinate a menu
- Shop for pumpkins at a farm stand on your way to or from home!
- Open to CSA and Kol Ami families and friends.
- No charge, but contributions are welcome for Lancaster Farm Fresh's Fresh Food Fund providing discounted shares to families with lower incomes.
- Driving time: 1 ½ hours. Carpooling available.

Quotes from CSA and Kol Ami members:

"What better way to experience the Sukkot harvest festival than a visit to one of our CSA farms? Building friendships with each member of the Lapp Family and sharing the land from where our delicious produce gives us a profound connection. The mutual understanding, admiration & gratitude between our community and our Amish hosts deepens each year."

"There is nothing like Maple Lawn. The farm and fields are beautiful. The family is so warm and welcoming, and wants to get to know us, share customs and perspectives. I was struck by the family commitment, including very long workdays, in order to provide us with the best quality produce money can buy. This is one of my family's favorite days of the year, and well worth the drive. We always come back home inspired."

Questions? Email Robin Robinrifkin@comcast.net or Shelley Srchamberlain@comcast.net or 215-680-7408.

RSVP by September 28 to Robin @ Robinrifkin@comcast.net or Elaine Stevens @ exedir@kolami.info

* CSA = Community Supported Agriculture

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 [://www.kolamielkinspark.org/donate](http://www.kolamielkinspark.org/donate)

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory Of:

Adam Hoffman – Thank you Rabbi for your ongoing support following the loss of Adam and his mother

Lisa Landau

Carole Hoffman

Caring Congregants Committee

Abe Levin

Alvin Turetsky

Mildred Levin

Alvin Turetsky

SYNAGOGUE FUND

*Bob Doyle and Linda Freimark
Barry and Michele Steinbrecher*

Luis Maravankin

*David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Caring Congregants Committee*

In Memory Of:

Angela Barry

Caring Congregants Committee

Lillian Schafer

*Caring Congregants Committee
Craig and Sharon Myers
Elaine Stevens*

Adam Hoffman – Thank you to the Kol Ami community for your support

Lisa Landau

Jewish Climate Action Alert

Congress is currently drafting an updated version of the Farm Bill, up for renewal this fall. This package of legislation has enormous impacts on all of us and on the planet. Join us in advocating for a just and climate-friendly 2023 Farm Bill. Check out [this webinar](#) and [supplementary PDF](#) to learn more about how critical the Farm Bill is to our food system and how you can weigh in to make a difference. Make it easy and quick by using [this handy script](#)

