

# CONNECTINGS

MAY/JUNE 2026 Iyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5786

www.kolaminj.org



## THE RABBI TEACHES

### The Circle Game

By Rabbi Jennifer Frenkel

*And the seasons they go round and round  
And the painted ponies go up and down  
We're captive on the carousel of time  
We can't return we can only look  
Behind from where we came  
And go round and round and round  
In the circle game*

Every spring, this song (“The Circle Game” by Joni Mitchell) is sung as our 10th Grade Confirmation students walk into the sanctuary, up the center aisle, and onto the bimah. While I beam with pride as I watch our teens take their places and prepare to lead our Shavuot morning service, my eyes are always drawn to their parents’ faces as this opening song continues. For behind the smiles and the happy tears, I can see the slideshow playing in the minds of these parents—moments gone by, different stages of life, somehow leading them to this particular moment, and the feeling of being captive on the carousel of time while also wishing it could slow down just a little.

One of the things I love most about Judaism is that there is a prayer for everything. In every moment there is the potential for holiness—for raising what could be just a mundane act to the level of the sacred. We have prayers and blessings we recite when we wake up in the morning, at life cycle events, when we smell a flower, when we sit down to eat a meal, even when we use the bathroom.

Lately I’ve been wrestling with a question that came up in a conversation I was having with a group of friends as we stood around watching our soon-to-be Kol Ami ECC graduates playing together on the playground. We were talking about how fast time has gone and how our kids have truly grown up together here. Kol Ami gave our children their first teachers, their first friends, and it has given each of us a sense of community—as we have grown together, too. We couldn’t help but feel the weight of how these final months of the school year would be filled with “lasts”—the last ECC “Prom,” the last Shabbat morning program, the last day of Pre-K, the last morning drop-off. One of the parents asked me what prayer we recite for “endings,” what blessings we say when we do something for the very last time.

We know *shehecheyanu*—the well-known prayer of beginnings, of  
*(continued; see “The Rabbi Teaches” on page 3)*

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 pm

Join us as we celebrate another wonderful year at Kol Ami and look forward to our future. We will be presenting awards to deserving volunteers as well as voting on the adoption of our 2026-2027 fiscal budget and the slate of Trustees for election. Dessert will be served.

**Your attendance, your vote, and your thoughts are important to us.**  
Please register: [www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)

*Congregants unable to attend in person will be able to view the secure livestream. Watch your email for details.*

Join us for **SHAVUOT** at Kol Ami

**THURSDAY, MAY 21**  
7:00-8:00 pm – Study Session  
8:00-9:00 pm – Erev Shavuot Service  
Dairy oneg to follow.  
Open to the community.

**FRIDAY, MAY 22**  
10:00-11:30 am  
Shavuot and Confirmation Service  
Offices and Schools Closed  
Confirmand listing on page 9.



## FROM OUR LEADERSHIP Steven Weichert, President

As I reflect on my first year as President of our congregation, I am struck by just how much there is beneath the surface that makes our community so special. Taking on this role has been a year of learning, adjusting, and gaining a deeper understanding of the many facets and moving parts that keep Kol Ami thriving. From worship and education to operations and programming, I have come to appreciate even more the passion and commitment

that makes everything we do possible.

I very quickly came to understand that what truly makes Kol Ami special are the people who work tirelessly behind the scenes and on the front lines. From our clergy to our senior staff and office professionals, to our talented teachers and dedicated lay leaders and volunteers—these are the people who do the heavy lifting. Their passion and professionalism are what make Kol Ami not just a place we attend, but a place where we genuinely want to be.

This past year has been marked by vision, investment, and a deep commitment to our future. Notably, we completed substantial renovations to our chapel and library, transforming these sacred spaces into welcoming and inspiring environments for prayer, learning, and connection. We made additional upgrades throughout our facility, including improvements to our religious school flooring and bathroom renovations. We launched a major initiative to modernize our building systems with upgraded HVAC and lighting, along with the installation of a new security system—ensuring that our congregation remains sustainable, comfortable, and safe.

Beyond our physical space, our community life has flourished. We have begun the implementation of our strategic plan and introduced new groups and cohorts, fostering a deeper engagement and connection across all stages of life. Our calendar was filled with vibrant and memorable experiences—from the high-energy Dueling Pianos to our exceptional Scholar-in-Residence weekend with Dr. Daniel Matt, and our signature Tribute Dinner, where we celebrated our honorees and the significance of being a Kol Ami congregant!

Financially, our congregation is as strong as it has ever been. That strength is a direct reflection of our dedicated and generous congregants. To those who have renewed your membership, thank you. Your continued presence and participation sustain and strengthen our community year after year.

To our new members, we extend the warmest welcome. We are truly delighted that you have chosen to join us and look forward to sharing in prayer, learning, and community together. Your membership ensures that we can continue to provide meaningful worship, vibrant programs, and opportunities for connection for all who call Kol Ami home. Most importantly, it allows us to continue building a warm and inclusive community for generations to come.

As we look ahead, there is so much to be excited about. We have new programs, events, and opportunities on the horizon, and I am confident that our best days are still to come.

On a personal note, it is an honor to serve this extraordinary community. I am fortunate to participate in so many of our congregational families' life cycle events—and equally meaningful, to have you share in mine, including my son, Jacob's wedding this past summer and my daughter, Jessica's wedding next year.

Everything we do to create a warm, inviting and vibrant community happens because of one another. *Lo levad*—we are not alone. Together, we are stronger.

## FROM THE EDITOR Marlene Dworkin



I think of my life as an untitled musical comedy, usually without an audience. Most things aren't so serious that we can't find some humor, and just about everything reminds me of a song (at least one if not more). This issue's theme brings to mind two: Neil Sedaka's "Calendar Girl" and "I Just Called to Say I Love You" by Stevie Wonder. Each lists the months of the year and links holidays with people and (romantic) events.

In order to review my Kol Ami year, I needed to look at my calendar. There were so many things I had forgotten, so many meetings, a lot of phone calls, too many emails!

We produced six issues of *Connections* this past year. Debbi Sunshine Caine put together beautiful, eye-catching issues each time, usually under a time constraint. This is the first year that Laura Maron was the staff liaison and she was wonderful to work with.

Wearing my other hat as chair of the Arts & Culture Committee, we went to see "Parade" at the Broadway Theatre of Pitman, followed by a Q&A with the cast. It was a great production, and we all learned a lot about antisemitism in the early 1900's in Georgia. This committee also produced the very entertaining Cabaret in March. Special thanks to Maxine Pinzur, the Cabaret co-chair, for her excellent organizational skills, and to Amy Stanley, Jason Richek, and Cantor Callis for their support. The Cabaret was a labor of love for our performers. Despite nature's lack of cooperation (all of our rehearsals had to be rescheduled due to this winter's weird weather), the actual performance did not get snowed out! Thank you to the Arts & Culture Committee of Judy Lubetkin, Amy Bodofsky, and Maxine Pinzur; it's true, if you want something done, ask a busy woman!

Something I have been hoping to see, the Small Groups Initiative, finally launched in April, after a lot of planning with Amy Stanley, Paul Chernin, and David Olinsky. It was worth waiting for as it was well received. Please read more about it on page 4.

Kol Ami may be only four years old but we are vibrant, innovative, warm, and busy; there is something for everyone.

## THE RABBI TEACHES

(continued from page 1)

first-time celebrations and experiences. What do we say to mark the end, to bless the sacredness inherent in doing something for the final time?

So often in life we don't know when we are doing something for the last time. We don't always know when we will talk to someone for the last time, share a final hug or a meal, or take one last picture together. We don't always know when we will pick up and carry our child for the last time, dance to our favorite song or visit our favorite place for the last time.

There are also endings that loom large, that we see coming—endings that we wish we could put off for a little while longer, even if they are also moments to celebrate—when a teenager leaves for college, when we move out of the house where we raised our family, or, in the case of that group of parents I happened to be talking with last month, when we prepare for our newly-turned-five-year-olds to graduate from preschool.

The irony is that every blessing for “last times” within Judaism reminds us how each ending contains the seeds and promise of new beginnings.

On Saturday nights, as we say goodbye to Shabbat with our ceremony of *Havdalah*, the blessings we recite are meant to encourage us to take some of the beauty and holiness of Shabbat with us into the new week just starting.

When we conclude a book of Torah, we recite the words *Chazak! Chazak! V'nitchazek!*—Strength! Strength! May we be strengthened! Yes, we may have finished the book, but we are encouraged to feel empowered to go on, to turn the page and continue. Every Simchat Torah, as we read the final verses of Deuteronomy, rolling the Torah scroll to its end, in the very next moment, we open another scroll to the opening words of Genesis and begin reading all over again.

Typically, in modern culture, we pride ourselves on finishing something. We step back and admire what we have done, what we have accomplished. We pat ourselves on the back, and then move on. In Judaism, when we finish a unit of study, the series of prayers we recite are referred to as *Hadran Alach*, which means, “we will return to you.” The prayer goes on to say how deeply we will remember what we have learned and how what we have learned will also, somehow, remember us. Our experiences, our learning, the people in our lives, leave an imprint on us, and we, in turn, leave our imprint on the places, people, and teachings we encounter. They become part of us, and we become part of them—and there is more to learn.

We may not be able to “return” in the literal sense to moments that have gone by. As the seasons of our lives push us forward, we recognize, acknowledge, and bless the fact that each season of our lives has led us to this moment in time, and this moment, too, will propel us forward like the ponies on the carousel. Judaism reminds us that endings are what allow for new beginnings to occur.

As another synagogue year comes to a close (Kol Ami's 4th year!), as memories shared are filed away, as we celebrate our graduates (Hebrew High School and Preschool), and as our Confirmands walk into the sanctuary as “The Circle Game” is sung in the background, may we each be blessed in our endings and new beginnings.

## CONGREGATION KOL AMI LIFE CYCLE קול עמי

### Mazal Tov...

**Nadine & Doug Cohen**  
on the aufruf of their daughter, Briya,  
and Tyler Santangelo

**Steve Friedman**  
on celebrating his Second Bar Mitzvah

**Audrienne Levene**  
on the engagement of her  
granddaughter, Rena Levene,  
to Steven Moskowitz

**Myra Kaplan**  
on the engagement of her grandson,  
Ethan Bloom, to Ariana Manelis

**Sid Maletzky**  
on celebrating his 90th birthday

**Jessica & Alex Manelis**  
on the engagement of their daughter,  
Ariana, to Ethan Bloom

**Brittany Maugeri**  
on her conversion

**Laura & Cory Zimmerman**  
on the birth of their son,  
Hugo Edward Zimmerman

*Life Cycle lists are inclusive from the last issue  
of Connections through April 10, 2026.*

### We Mourn...

**Marvin Baron**  
father of Rob (Lori) Baron

**Helene Cohen**  
mother of Barbara (Stewart) Abrams

**Irwin Cohen**  
brother of Karen (Marvin) Ginsburg

**Richard D'Eustachio**  
father of Laura (Jon) Maron

**Judy Franken**  
cousin of Mark (Janine) Sobel

**Theodore “Ted” Ginsburg**  
father of Kenny (Rosie Li) Ginsburg

**Bernice London**  
mother of Michele (Stephen)  
Leightman

**Barry Howard Rappaport**  
father of Brandi (David) Horowitz

**Betty Schwartz**  
mother of Joel (Julie) Schwartz

**Dr. Richard Slosberg**  
brother of Marylee (Stuart) Alperin

**Lula Stebbins**  
mother of Ahlise (Adam) Greenbaum

## SMALL GROUPS

We have officially launched our **Small Groups Initiative**, and our initial gathering was met with a great deal of excitement and energy. At this time, we are moving forward with the following groups. Please reach out to the identified point of contact about getting involved.

### Pooch Pride

*Dog walking and park meet-ups*  
Sue Fenick: sepress@hotmail.com

### Active Community

*Hiking, walking, biking*  
Paul Chernin: paul.chernin@gmail.com

### Theatre Enthusiasts

*Community theatre & Broadway group trips and discussions*  
Susan Witte: susan.heather.witte@gmail.com  
Marion Jacobson: msjacobson@verizon.net

### DIY

*Crafts, home renovation, etc.*  
Betty Steinberg: b3ahn@aol.com

### Yoga

Judy Lubetkin: morahjudyl@aol.com

### Fun with Food

*Cooking together, themes, holiday recipes*  
David Olinsky: davidolinsky@gmail.com

### Judaism & Theology

Gail Donner: gaildonner@gmail.com

The goal of this initiative is to provide YOU with the opportunity to create your own community within our Kol Ami family. These groups are self-led and planned; we simply ask that you contact Amy Stanley (amy@kolaminj.org or 856-489-0029) when you are planning something so that we can advertise to our members.

## EMAIL BLASTS

We hope you are enjoying our weekly emails! On Tuesdays we share upcoming programming, and our Shabbat Message reaches inboxes on Fridays. If you are not receiving these emails (and wish to!), please contact the synagogue office at 856-489-0029 to make sure we have the correct email in our system.

## ADULT EDUCATION

*Gail Donner, Ira Miller, and Mark Pinzur, Co-Chairs*

What an amazing programming year it's been for Congregation Kol Ami! So many ways to participate and to build relationships within our community. The same can be said for the Adult Education Committee.

We are blessed to have an incredible clergy team to learn from and study with, along with gifted congregants willing to share their passions with the rest of us. We are grateful to Rabbi Jennifer Frenkel, Rabbi Ariel Milan-Polisar, Rabbi Jerry David, Rabbi Richard Address and Rabbi Lewis Eron for leading Shabbat morning Torah Study, to Cantor Justin Callis for bringing his musical Shabbat Zimrah services to us on three Saturday mornings, and to everyone who led Spice Up Your Judaism and First Thursday programs. Special thanks to Rabbi Frenkel, Rabbi Milan-Polisar and Rabbi Address for leading our Wednesday morning classes, Rabbi Eron for leading Talmud Talks, Norman Rednik for coordinating our twice-monthly Yiddish Shmooze sessions, and Rabbi Milan-Polisar for continuing our Monthly Mussar Moments. We are so appreciative that Rabbi Address remains an active member of our committee and, in addition to teaching himself, works with us to plan First Thursday sessions and our annual day-long Shabbaton or Weekend Retreat.

We were happy to work with Amy Stanley to offer the opportunity to the congregation to visit the Holocaust Museum in Washington, and to support Rabbi Milan-Polisar in bringing Alan Morinis to a recent Mussar session and Rabbi Vanessa Harper and her "Loaves of Torah" to the Kol Ami community in January.

We are proud of the wide range of programs we offer, and most satisfied by the continually growing community who participate. We welcome everyone who wishes to attend—whether it's once in a while or more frequently. Let us know if there is something we aren't doing that you would like to see, or if you have a passion you want to share.

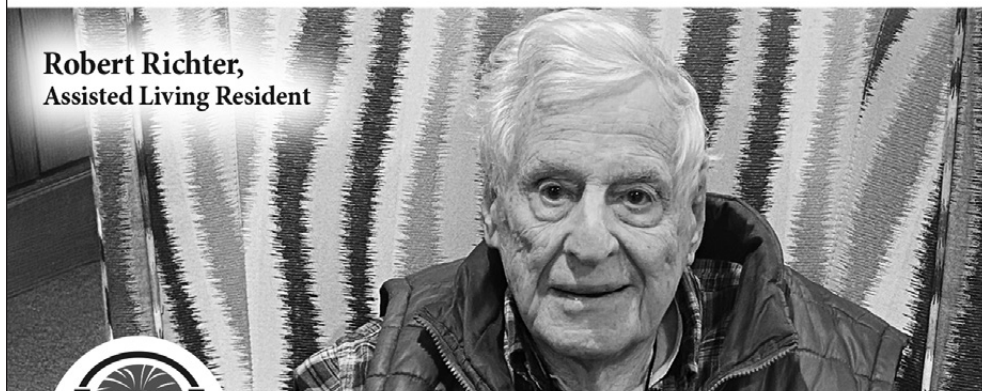
*Todah rabah* (thank you very much) to all the teachers and their students.

PS. We are excited to announce a new member of our leadership team for the upcoming year, Adam Skrzynski.



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**Robert Richter,**  
Assisted Living Resident



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# Upcoming Events

To register, or for more information on these and other programs, visit:

[www.kolaminj.org/events](http://www.kolaminj.org/events)

## MAY

### First Friday

Friday, May 1, 6:15 pm

Enjoy pre-service refreshments.

### Shabbat Evening Service: Shabbat Morim & Hebrew High School Graduation

Friday, May 1, 7:00 pm

We celebrate our teachers, Grade 12 graduates, and May anniversaries.

### Torah Study

Saturdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23 (Zoom) & 30, 9:00 am (Hybrid)

### Spice Up Your Judaism

Saturdays, May 2, 9, 16 & 30,

10:15 am (Hybrid; no session May 23)

### Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, May 2, 10:30 am

Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Gutman

### Last Sunday of Religious School

Sunday, May 3, 9:15 am

### Blankets of Hope

Sunday, May 3, 10:00 am

### Talmud Talks

*Led by Rabbi Lewis John Eron, Ph.D.*

Tuesdays, May 5, 12 & 19,

11:30 am (Zoom)

### Peace, Long Life, and Health: A Look at How Jewish Texts Approach Some Issues That Impact Us All

*Led by Rabbi Richard Address*

Three Wednesdays, May 6, 13 & 20,

10:30 am (Hybrid)

### Men's Club Lunches

Wednesdays, May 6 & 20, 12:30 pm

(Off-site; contact [allanpep@yahoo.com](mailto:allanpep@yahoo.com))

### Small Groups: Yoga

Wednesday, May 6, 7:00 pm

### Tikkun Olam at BookSmiles

Thursday, May 7, 10:00 am

### Yiddish Shmooze Group

*Facilitated by Norman Rednik*

Thursday, May 7, 10:30 am (Zoom)

Special Guest: Rukhl Schaechter

### First Thursdays: Exploring a Celebrated Short Story by a Well-known Jewish Writer

*Presented by Judy Nadell*

Thursday, May 7, 7:30 pm (Hybrid)

### Shabbat Evening Service: Sisterhood Shabbat

Friday, May 8, 7:00 pm

*Sisterhood Member Wine & Cheese, 6:30 pm*

### Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, May 9, 10:30 am

Bat Mitzvah of Molly Johnson

### Shabbat Havdalah Service

Saturday, May 9, 5:45 pm

Bar Mitzvah of Ari Seshasai

### Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10

### Monthly Mussar Moments

*Led by Rabbi Ariel Milan-Polisar*

Monday, May 11, 12:00 pm (Zoom)

### Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 13, 1:00-6:00 pm

Appointments available.

### Boomers Plus Brown Bag and Good Stories Lunch

Thursday, May 14, 12:30 pm

### GenXtra at LaScala's Fire

Thursday, May 14, 6:00 pm

### Tot Shabbat

Friday, May 15

5:15 pm Tot Family Dinner

6:00 pm Tot Shabbat Service

### Shabbat Evening Service

Friday, May 15, 7:00 pm

### Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, May 16, 10:30 am

Bar Mitzvah of Ari Watson

### Men's Club Brunch

Sunday, May 17, 9:30 am

### Sisterhood Tour of the Alice Paul Center for Gender Justice

Sunday, May 17, 11:00 am

### Boomers Plus Book Club: We Would Never

Sunday, May 17, 7:00 pm (Zoom)

### Annual Congregational Meeting

Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 pm

### Yiddish Shmooze Group

*Facilitated by Norman Rednik*

Thursday, May 21, 10:30 am (Zoom)

### Erev Shavuot Study Session & Service

Thursday, May 21, 7:00 pm (Yizkor)

### Shavuot

Friday, May 22 (*Offices/Schools closed*)

### Shavuot & Confirmation Service

Friday, May 22, 10:00 am (Yizkor)

### Shabbat Evening Service

Friday, May 22, 7:00 pm

We celebrate May birthdays.

### Memorial Day

Monday, May 25 (*Offices/Schools closed*)

### Maimonides Chavurah

Wednesday, May 27, 7:00 pm

### Tikkun Olam at MANNA

Thursday, May 28, 10:00 am

### Tikkun Olam Potluck Dinner

Friday, May 29, 5:30 pm

### Shabbat Evening Service

Friday, May 29, 7:00 pm

### Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, May 30, 10:30 am

Bat Mitzvah of Mia Ernenwein

## JUNE

### ECC Graduation

Wednesday, June 3, 10:00 am

### Men's Club Lunches

Wednesdays, June 3 & 17, 12:30 pm

(Off-site; contact [allanpep@yahoo.com](mailto:allanpep@yahoo.com))

# Upcoming Events

To register, or for more information on these and other programs, visit:

[www.kolaminj.org/events](http://www.kolaminj.org/events)

**First Thursdays:**  
**Sondheim: Jew or No Jew**  
*Presented by Mark Pinzur*  
 Thursday, June 4, 7:30 pm

**First Friday**  
 Friday, June 5, 6:15 pm  
 Enjoy pre-service refreshments.

**Shabbat Evening Service:**  
**Installation Shabbat with Koleinu**  
 Friday, June 5, 7:00 pm  
 Our choir joins us as we install our Officers and Board of Trustees and celebrate June anniversaries.

**Torah Study**  
 Saturdays, June 6, 13, 20 & 27,  
 9:00 am (Hybrid)

**Spice Up Your Judaism**  
 Saturdays, June 6, 13 & 20,  
 9:00 am (Hybrid; no session Jun. 27)

**Shabbat Havdalah Service**  
 Saturday, June 6, 5:45 pm  
 B'not Mitzvah of Leni & Sasha David

**Monthly Mussar Moments**  
*Led by Rabbi Ariel Milan-Polisar*  
 Monday, June 8, 12:00 pm (Zoom)

**Boomers Plus Closing Lunch**  
 Thursday, June 11, 12:30 pm

**Shabbat Evening Service:**  
**Pride Shabbat**  
 Friday, June 12, 7:00 pm

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
 Saturday, June 13, 10:30 am  
 Bat Mitzvah of Charli Madanick

**Cool Off with Clergy:**  
**Iced Coffee with Rabbi Milan-Polisar**  
 Sunday, June 14, 9:30-11:00 am  
 (Off-site: Saxbys, Haddonfield)

**Sisterhood Closing Dinner**  
 Monday, June 15, 6:30 pm (Off-site)

**The Sacred Struggle:**  
**Jewish Responses to Trauma**  
*Led by Rabbi Benjamin David*  
 Tuesday, June 16, 7:30 pm (Hybrid)

**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
 Wednesday, June 17, 7:30 pm

**Juneteenth Observed**  
 Friday, June 19 (Offices/Schools closed)

**Shabbat Evening Service:**  
**Men's Club Shabbat**  
 Friday, June 19, 7:00 pm

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
 Saturday, June 20, 10:30 am  
 B'nai Mitzvah of Brady Ryan and Michael Shapiro.

**Young Families: The Golden Hour**  
**Playground Gathering**  
 Saturday, June 20, 3:00 pm  
 (Off-site: Laurel Acres Park, Mt. Laurel)

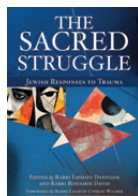
**Father's Day**  
 Sunday, June 21

**Cool Off with Clergy: Ice Cream**  
**with Rabbi Milan-Polisar**  
 Wednesday, June 24, 6:30-7:30 pm  
 (Off-site: Cups & Cones, Marlton)

**Shabbat Evening Service:**  
**Shabbat Unplugged**  
 Friday, June 26, 7:00 pm  
 We celebrate June birthdays.

**Boomers Plus Book Club: The**  
**Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post**  
 Sunday, June 28, 7:00 pm (Zoom)

## THE SACRED STRUGGLE



On Tuesday evening, June 16 at 7:30 pm, we welcome Rabbi Benjamin David to Kol Ami as our teacher for a meaningful session based on his recent book. We will hear his story and look at Jewish tools to help us survive and thrive.

*The Sacred Struggle: Jewish Responses to Trauma* is a powerful anthology of personal stories, offering a deeply moving exploration of how Jewish wisdom can help us navigate life's most difficult moments, and revealing the profound ways Judaism offers tools for reflection, connection, and healing. *The Sacred Struggle* is a companion for anyone seeking comfort and hope in the face of trauma.

Registration is required, and the book will be available for purchase.

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## BOOMERS PLUS

By Karen Ginsburg & Judy Lubetkin, Co-Chairs

The Boomers Plus Social Group is a vibrant, engaging, multi-event group. In the past four years, we have lunched together in the sukkah and at many local restaurants. We have hiked the Blueberry Hill Trail, Kresson Trails, and Cooper River Park, toured Mikveh Israel synagogue and the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. Along with the Arts & Culture Committee, we went to the theatre and took the Mural Arts Tour. We participated in the Boomers Plus Shabbat. We discussed many engaging books, enjoyed movie nights and most importantly forged friendships and connections within our Kol Ami family.

Still to come this year we will be joining Sisterhood on a tour of the Alice Paul Center for Gender Justice on May 17, and that night at 7:00 pm, our book group will be discussing *We Would Never* by Tova Mirvis. To end our year, we will have a catered lunch at Kol Ami on June 11, and discuss *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post* in person (outside) on June 28 at Lynn Branfman's house.

We have had the great pleasure to co-chair this group this year, but it is time for new leadership to take the reins, so here is our want ad for next year:

**WANTED: One or two people to co-chair the Boomers Plus Social Group.**

Yearly activities: Three or four book discussions and three lunches (one in the sukkah, one Chanukah lunch, and one end-of-year lunch).  
Contact Amy@kolaminj.org.

In addition, there may be other wonderful events the new co-chairs and planning committee will decide on.

It has been our honor and pleasure to watch this group grow and thrive!

## SHALOM FROM SISTERHOOD

By Bobbie Israelsky, Co-President Kol Ami Sisterhood

Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day) and Yom Ha'atzma'ut (Independence Day) are holidays that have been added to the Jewish calendar. These days are national holidays in Israel. Around the world, they are observed in various ways by Jewish communities.

Shavuot, or the conclusion of the counting of the Omer, is directly linked to Passover. On Shavuot, the people of Israel were given the Torah. Here at Kol Ami and Sisterhood, we celebrate this spiritual holiday and we strive to learn more about the giving of the Torah and what it means to us today.

Sisterhood honors all of these holidays. Confirmation is an important ceremony for teens that is directly tied to Shavuot. It is an individual and group affirmation of commitment to the Jewish people. We would especially like to extend a hearty *mazal tov* to the Kol Ami Confirmation class of 2026!

It has been my honor and pleasure to write these *Connections* articles this year. I want to mention that our wonderful members of Sisterhood, including, of course, my Co-President Debbie Thomson, have presented so many special programs and events this past year and we all have been working hard to plan for many more exciting events for next year. On May 8, we will participate in Sisterhood Shabbat. On May 17, join us for a tour of the Alice Paul Museum, and on June 15, we will all join together for our closing dinner and announce our board members for the upcoming year. Look for some amazing summer events including, but not limited to, our annual July pool party and our book discussion in August. We hope that many more will choose to be a part of our wonderful Kol Ami Sisterhood.



**A Real Treat...** In April, Sisterhood enjoyed "More Joy, Less Oy," a two-day retreat offering members time to connect, relax, and renew.

## LATHER – RINSE – REPEAT

By Doug Cohen, Men's Club President

These words used to appear on shampoo bottles (and perhaps they still do), but I thought about the words when I started to write this piece to wrap up the Men's Club year. I remember all the questions that I had when I assumed the role of Men's Club President. After just about a year in the role, I now have so many more questions and fewer answers. The one question that has been answered, however, is whether the role will be demanding. In a word, YES, it is demanding, but in the best of ways.

Every event we held this year was the same for me (LATHER – RINSE – REPEAT). As soon as we put it on the calendar (a Sunday brunch, Scotch & Steak, Guys' Night Out, Men's Club Seder, Horseradish making), I was already behind in the planning. I needed to fill out a communications form so we could advertise the event and initiate a registration link. Then I had to figure out how much food we needed and how to set up the room. I had to fill out a room set up form. After that, I had to reach out to the membership and send reminders. Finally, I had to seek volunteers (there are too many incredible volunteers to list). Once all that was done, on event day, I had to hope that everything worked out well. I trust that our members are being honest with me, but, so far, comments about the events have been positive.

Now, as I stand on the precipice of the second year of my two-year term, I know what to expect, and I know a little more about how to prepare. I am sure I will approach each event in the same manner and hope that the results are better than the preparation. LATHER – RINSE – REPEAT. Just words, but they seem to be appropriate for my first year.





**Shushan State of Mind...**

The Purim holiday brought fun times, hamantashen, a silly service, a lively carnival (with a few obvious "Waldos"), an ECC costume parade, and a Broadway-worthy Shpiel featuring our Religious School students' retelling of the story of Esther set to the music of Billy Joel.



**Leaving the Nest...** Our Empty Nesters hit the club—Little Mill Country Club, that is—to enjoy dinner and shmoozing.



**What's Cooking...**

Participants in the March session of our Journey into Jewish Food series savored time in the kitchen with friends and made an entire menu of beet & goat cheese dip, chopped salad, charred eggplant with tahini, challah rolls, and rugelach.



**Raise Your Cup...**

Our Passover-themed Rosh Chodesh Experience for the month of Nisan had us learning about—and decorating our own—Miriam's Cup, a symbol of the sustaining source of water for the Israelites in the desert.



**Learning in Session...** In March, we were fortunate to have Dr. Daniel Matt (second from left) lead a wonderfully illuminating Scholar-in-Residence Weekend.



**Tremendous Tribute...** April's Tribute Dinner, was a wonderful evening filled with love and appreciation for our honorees.

**Trivia Pursuit...** With teams such as "Cobra Chai" (pictured), "Whammy," and more, stacking up points for their vast knowledge of minutiae, Game Show Palooza was a blast!



# Mazal Tov to our 2026/5785 Confirmands and Graduates!

## Confirmation Service

Friday, May 22, 10:00 am

**Marley Ernenwein** daughter of Sara & Don Ernenwein  
**Ellie Friedlander** daughter of Lisa & Seth Friedlander  
**Benjamin Fromkin** son of Stephanie & Bryan Fromkin  
**Ryan Goldenberg** son of Adrienne & Richard Goldenberg  
**Aliyah Gutman** daughter of Jill Roth Gutman & Scott Gutman  
**Dani Herzfeld** daughter of Cheryl Herzfeld  
**Mirabelle Megdal** daughter of Rachel & Howard Megdal  
**Talia Seshasai** daughter of Rebecca & Satwik Seshasai  
**Jeremy Taylor** son of Lisa & Chris Taylor  
**Jack Towbin** son of Kristen & Patrick Towbin  
**Eli Weinstein** son of Stephanie & Seth Weinstein

## Hebrew High School Graduation

### Shabbat Evening Service

Friday, May 1, 7:00 pm

**Kieran Barasch** son of Patricia Barasch & Paul Furtaw  
**Cary Bloom** son of Jayne Feld & Craig Bloom  
**Edward Firstenberg** son of Melissa Firstenberg  
**Abigail Frey** daughter of Deborah & Steven Frey  
**Joshua Hammer** son of Ginene Raechel Hammer & Michael Perry  
**Joey Lieberman** daughter of Caryn & Larry Lieberman  
**Benjamin Sautter** son of Jessica & Todd Sautter  
**Micah Schwartz** son of Julie & Joel Schwartz

# May/June B'NAI MITZVAH



## Dylan Gutman

May 2

Son of Jill Roth-Gutman & Scott Gutman  
 Sister: Aliyah

I am a 7th grader at Rosa Middle School, and I love playing soccer, practicing guitar, and cooking. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I partnered with BookSmiles to give new life to books. They distribute the books to promote childhood literacy, inspire readers, support educators, and strengthen communities. The books are donated throughout our community directly to other children, as well as to teachers and school librarians. I volunteered with my family where we sorted books. I also held a donation-based yard sale and I made empanadas to sell. Becoming a Bar Mitzvah means that I am passing a Jewish tradition from generation to generation and becoming a Jewish adult.

## Molly Johnson

May 9

Daughter of Jasmine Zucker  
 Brother: Rebel



## Ari Seshasai

May 9

Son of Rebecca & Satwik Seshasai  
 Sister: Talia

I am in 7th grade at Haddonfield Middle School. I play soccer and tennis, enjoy acting with my town theater company and participate in Seaperch, an underwater robotics club. I am also an avid Philadelphia sports fan. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I raised over \$1,000 for Arden for All, a program through Arden Theater that provides art and theater education for Philadelphia 3rd-5th graders who do not otherwise have this opportunity. I also volunteered in the younger classes to help them with memorizing lines, improv and singing. I have enjoyed preparing for my Bar Mitzvah this year, which included exploring my Jewish identity and giving back to my community. Becoming a Bar Mitzvah means to me that I will be taking on more responsibility and carrying on Jewish traditions with my family.



## Ari Watson

May 16

Son of Monica & Vashon Watson  
 Sister: London

I am a 7th grader at Voorhees Middle School. I enjoy lacrosse, flag football, basketball, music, video games, and hanging out with friends. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I have been volunteering at Saltzman House. Becoming a Bar Mitzvah means that I am becoming a Jewish adult who is responsible for my own mitzvot, for helping my community, and for trying to make the world a better place.

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**SAT. JUNE 20 3:00 pm**

**RSVP BY JUNE 19**

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# May/June B'NAI MITZVAH

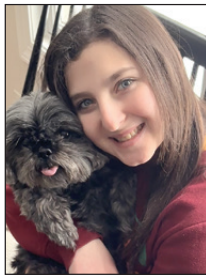


## **Mia Ernenwein**

**May 30**

*Daughter of Sara & Don Ernenwein  
Sister: Marley*

My name is Mia and I am a 7th grader at Voorhees Middle School. I love hanging out with my family and friends, singing, dancing, acting, and anything related to theater. For my Bat Mitzvah project, I couldn't decide on just one thing. I made and sold shell jewelry holders at the Woofstock Festival and donated the proceeds to Voorhees Animal Orphanage. I also picked up trash on the beaches of Long Beach Island. Lastly, I participated in the show *Number the Stars* and educated younger kids about the Holocaust. Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means that I am continuing my Jewish journey and sharing this huge Jewish milestone with my friends and family.



## **Leni David Sasha David**

**June 6**

*Daughters of Nikki & Adam David*

We are Leni and Sasha David. Our favorite family member is Piper, our little Shih Tzu. We are twins and normally very different, but right now, we both enjoy hanging out with friends, playing volleyball and shopping.

*Leni:* For my Bat Mitzvah project, I volunteered at ZZ Jams for two years as an assistant. The Jams dance class is for kids of all ages who have special needs. Becoming a Bat Mitzvah is a rite of passage for me. It's something my friends have done, my parents and family, and now it's my turn.

*Sasha:* For my Bat Mitzvah project, I will help some of the residents of Weinberg Commons

get ready for their annual formal dance. I'm excited to do makeup and hair for my aunt and her friends on their special night! Becoming a Bat Mitzvah is important to me because it's a tradition—my parents, all my cousins, and many of my friends all became B'nai Mitzvah.



## **Charli Madanick**

**June 13**

*Daughter of Natalie Madanick &  
Doug Madanick*

*Brother: Jackson*

I am in 7th grade at Voorhees Middle School. I enjoy soccer and track (sports in general) and hanging with friends. For my Bat Mitzvah project, I volunteer to help people at Penn Medicine Cancer Center. Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means a lot because I get to pass down the traditions from generation to generation. I love being able to spread my religion!



## **Brady Ryan**

**June 20**

*Son of Terrence & Kammy Ryan*

*Sister: Emily*

My name is Brady Ryan. I am a 7th grade student at Clearview Middle School. I enjoy playing basketball, swimming and participating in track. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I donated clothes and toys for people in homeless shelters to give back to the community. To me, being a Bar Mitzvah means carrying on the traditions of my family and completing such a special milestone in my Jewish journey.



## **Michael Shapiro**

**June 20**

*Son of Sofya & Igor Shapiro*

*Siblings: Becky & Sam*

My name is Michael Shapiro. I like swimming, riding my bike, walking my dogs, and playing video games with my friends. I go to school at Marlton Middle School, and I am in seventh grade. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I am helping students at Kol Ami as part of the Ezer Team. In addition, I am making dog treats to help dogs in need. To me, becoming a Bar Mitzvah means following in my family's footsteps, and connecting to my ancestors.

## **BRANFMAN CHILDREN'S LIBRARY** *By Lynn Branfman, Co-Chair*

This past school year our library volunteers loved reading to the Sunday School classes, and we recruited five additional, enthusiastic volunteer readers! We also had volunteers keeping the library window imaginatively decorated, year-round, for the holidays. Karen Marinoff has been terrific in designing many of our holiday windows, sometimes involving the preschool children. Pam Austin, Angela Skrzynski, and Adam Skrzynski have also created beautiful, holiday-themed windows for the library, as well.

In the latter part of March, Pam read to the first and second grades from three short books on Passover about the plagues, the four questions, the food on the seder plate, and what each food represents. Pam then shared "artifacts," created by her daughter when she was in Sunday School. This showed the children that when they bring home items that they made in Sunday School, such as afikomen covers, candle sticks, seder plates, these can become "artifacts" too, to be shared with future generations. This connection can make holiday readings feel more personal.

While wrapping up the school year, we ask that all parents and teachers look around for library books that need to be returned. We don't charge overdue fees, but we want the library books back, so that they can create delightful reads for more children next year.



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

**Sheri Greenblatt**

*Director of Education*

The transition from one school year to the next always brings a mix of emotions. I feel so proud when I reflect on how much our students and staff have grown and all that we've accomplished together. At the same time, I feel a real sense of excitement and hope for what's ahead.

The end of the school year is such a meaningful time. We leave behind familiar routines, classmates, teachers, and even a version of ourselves that has changed and grown since the fall. For some, this brings excitement. For others, it can bring sadness, nervousness, or uncertainty—especially during big milestones like moving up a grade, starting Hebrew High School, or graduating.

However you're feeling, please know that it's completely normal. Change isn't always easy because it takes us out of what we know and what feels comfortable. There's something special about the rhythm of school life—*T'filah*, holiday celebrations, and seeing the same friendly faces each week. Letting go of that can feel uncertain. But "unknown" doesn't mean "bad!" It simply means something new—and new can bring wonderful opportunities.

As we look ahead, there is so much to be excited about. In May we will be celebrating the 12th grade graduates as well as our 10th grade Confirmation class. We are so proud of all of our students and the time and dedication that they have given to Kol Ami.

As the year comes to a close, I encourage you to take a moment to appreciate how far you've come. Say thank you. Say goodbye. And remember—you don't need to have everything figured out. Just keep moving forward, one step at a time.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD

**Laura Hoffman**

*Director of Early Childhood Education*

*You're off to great places.  
Today is your day.  
Your mountain is waiting, so...  
Get on your way!*



This quote by Dr. Seuss sums up our school year! While many children will stay on for Camp Sunshine, some are graduating, and a few are taking a break for the summer. It's been a very busy year, with many activities and so much fun. We wish everyone all the best in kindergarten and summer vacations, as we send them on their way!

From September and October with all our holidays, we jumped right into Thanksgiving and Chanukah. Winter was cold and we spent lots of time indoors, but our fabulous teachers had activities and games for the children to "get those wiggles out." Finally, sunshine appeared, long enough to get outside and soak up some warmth.

In between, the staff created wonderful lessons based on various themes. So many "bears" were hibernating on bulletin boards in and out of the classrooms and on the first day of spring, they "woke up." There was such excitement about waking up the bears! If it's spring, can summer be far away?

These children have grown so much in so many ways—from babies who were not yet sitting up, to toddlers who now run down the hall to their parents, from two-year-olds who were still learning to speak to bigger kids who could talk a blue streak. Our three-year-olds couldn't use scissors but now are children who can create their own projects. Our Pre-K children who might not have been able to recognize or write their names but now are almost kindergarteners who are just about reading!

We cannot thank our staff enough for all they have done to help your children grow and thrive.

*Guppies:* Robyn S., Barbara G., Nicole, Angelina, Alli, Sabrina, Kayla  
*Tadpoles:* Carole B., Kelsey, Danielle, Renata, Jeiune, Vidya, Rishalee, Alli

*Ducklings:* Patti, Chrissy, Kathleen, Emma

*Duckies:* Ai, Teddy, Randi, Gabbi, Tatyana

*Sprouts:* Dusti, Stephanie, Lexi, Alexa

*Caterpillars:* Barbara H., Sharen, Carole S., Alicia, Alexa

*Mouseketeers:* Christina, Mary, Lucy, Phyllis

*Busy Bees:* Robyn F., Larla, Roberta, Anita

*Superstars:* Erin, Lauren, Jill, Debbie, Ileana



## TIKKUN OLAM *By Michele Zeldner, Co-Chair*

It is truly impossible to thank everyone who has helped make our Tikkun Olam Committee what it is today—but please know how deeply grateful we are. Jane Bloom and I are so appreciative of the many people who have contributed in meaningful ways: donating food, giving generously, offering your time and energy, making blankets and chemo caps, helping our immigrant families, recycling, and even advocating for important legislative changes. Each act, big or small, has helped shape the outreach of which we are so proud.

One of the most wonderful additions this year has been our focus on “mini-mitzvahs”—small, meaningful acts that can be done throughout the year. With the creativity and leadership of Estherose Heyman and Gaby Fish, Mini-Mitzvahs were born. Now, each month offers something for everyone, from book sorting to preparing meals at Howie’s House or MANNA. If you would like to join us for any of these activities or have thoughts about new projects, please contact Gaby Fish ([engelfish@verizon.net](mailto:engelfish@verizon.net)) or Estherose Heyman ([ehymanpt@hotmail.com](mailto:ehymanpt@hotmail.com)).

On Mitzvah Day, we introduced a new opportunity at Lions Gate, thanks to Amy Stanley and Beth Hurwitz, inviting members to play games with seniors in the assisted living community. What began as a one-time activity quickly revealed something more—regular Friday games where extra players are often needed, although no weekly commitment is needed. For me, it was also personal. My mother lived at Lions Gate for many years and loved to play bridge, but we often struggled to find partners for her. Being there now, helping fill tables with mah jongg and canasta players, felt incredibly meaningful. I’ll be going back—and I hope you will too. This one’s for you, Mom.

## WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

*In times of happiness or sadness, Congregation Kol Ami offers a variety of ways to share your wishes and thoughts with others. Contributions may be sent to the synagogue office as well as completed online. For a complete list of funds and tzedakah opportunities, visit [www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org).*

### Abraham & Sylvia Angstreich Beautification Fund\*

Linda & Steven Angstreich  
*in memory of Norman Grolnick*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

### Ahavat Limud (Love of Learning)

Kol Ami Sisterhood *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

### Amy Silvers Israel Trip Scholarship Endowment Fund\*

Debbie & Scott Jeffreys *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Tula Kurtz  
*in memory of Irwin Cohen*  
*in memory of Robert Schnorbus*  
*in memory of Stacey Kurtz*  
Arlene & Norman Silvers  
*in honor of Arthur Rebell's special birthday*  
*in memory of Elliott Zerivitz*  
*in memory of Gloria Abrams*  
*in memory of Richard Grunther*  
*in memory of Myrna Merback*

### Cantor Anita F. Hochman Choir Fund

Marylee & Stuart Alperin  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
Betsy & Gordon Bocher *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Debbi & Brian Caine *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
Edward Cohen *in memory of Norman Grolnick*  
Judy Cohen *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Gail & Richard Donner *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Brenda & Chuck Driben *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Michele Figures & Ira Miller  
*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
Ann-Linn Glaser & Alan Pepper  
*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
JoAnne & Philip Glass  
*in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
Sheila Goodman  
*in memory of Norman Grolnick*  
*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

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**NORA AND HER BODY**

WRITTEN BY  
JESSICA SOPHIE CHANG HOROSCHAK, DO  
SUSAN I. KAUFMAN, DO, FACOG  
ILLUSTRATED BY  
HALEY MCDONALD

Amazon  
book size:  
8.25 x 6

Lulu  
Bookstore  
book size:  
11 x 8.5

This book equips parents with a helpful tool to introduce puberty and periods to their daughters. Nora, who is on the autism spectrum, shares her journey offering a positive perspective. Plus, a section for parents, a parent statement & resources.

Elizabeth Greenberg

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Estherose Heyman *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Carol & Jeffrey Hyman

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Bruce Kaplan *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Koleinu

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Marcy & William Lawrence

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Liz Levine *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Bruce Matez

*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Jackie Mintz *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Teri & Neal Nover *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Susan & David Olinsky

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Maxine & Mark Pinzur *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Lynne & Norman Rednik *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Susan & David Rush

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Ellen & Roger Sheinkin *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Nanare & Michael Slepian

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

*in memory of Bernice London*

Lonnie & Stan Smoller

*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Ellen Specter & Harrison Melstein

*in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*

Rolane & Stephen Sunshine

*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Marcia & Keith Waldman *in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Judi & David Weinberg

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Carol Weiner *in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Hilda & Bruce Weinger

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

*speedy recovery to Cantor Hochman*

### Cantorial Fund

Elaine & Alan Braslow

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

Susan & Michael Greenberg *in honor of Cantor Callis*

### Clifford R. Levine Adult Education Fund

Elaine Belson *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*

Gail & Richard Donner

*in honor of the engagement of Ariana Manelis & Ethan Bloom*

*in memory of Irwin Cohen*

*in memory of Robert Mark Tenenbaum*

Michele Figures & Ira Miller

*in honor of Brittany Maugeri's conversion to Judaism*

*in memory of Etta Rubenstein*

*in memory of Marvin Baron*

*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Karen & Marvin Ginsburg *in memory of Robert Bookman*

JoAnne & Phillip Glass

*in honor of Brittany Maugeri's conversion to Judaism*

*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Tula Kurtz

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

*in memory of Betty Schwartz*

*in memory of Susan Schnorbus*

Liz Levine *in memory of Irwin Cohen*

Sharon Parnes & Brien Brothman *in memory of Norman Grolnick*

### College Connection Fund

Marcy & William Lawrence *in memory of Bernice London*

George Skaroulis *in memory of Marvin Baron*

### E. Soslow Endowment Fund

Susan & Michael Greenberg

*in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*

### Frisch-Trautenberg Choir Fund

Michele Figures & Ira Miller

*in memory of Martin Figures*

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Debbie & Scott Jeffreys *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Eileen Winter

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*

*in memory of Marvin Baron*

*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

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*in memory of Ruth Wachstein*

**Helen & Leon Weinberg Scholar-in-Residence  
Endowment Fund\***

Janet Berson *in memory of Harold Berson*  
Michele Figures & Ira Miller *in memory of Betty Schwartz*  
Estherose Heyman *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*  
Debbie & Scott Jeffreys *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Scott Kushner *in memory of Helene Cohen*

**High Holy Day Prayerbook Book Plates**

Kol Ami Sisterhood *in memory of Harold Block*

**Jeffrey Halper Memorial Fund**

Carole & Arthur Halper  
*in memory of Hannah Jacobs*  
*in memory of Linda Halper*  
*in memory of Sidney Jacobs*

**Jeremy Kane Gift of Israel Fund**

Rolane & Stephen Sunshine  
*in memory of Heidi Garrison*  
*in memory of Marvin Baron*

**Kleiman/Gottlieb Special Needs Fund**

Ellenor Angel Sheckman *in memory of Nathan Sheckman*

**Kulanu (LGBTQ+) Fund**

Greg Ragan *in memory of Marvin Baron*

**Louis & Helene E. Walker Social Action  
Endowment Fund\***

Pam & Tom Austin *in memory of Irwin Cohen*  
Gail & Richard Donner  
*in memory of Lillian Walker*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

**Lynne Rednik Early Childhood Center Fund**

Lynne & Norman Rednik *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
Rolane & Stephen Sunshine *in memory of Norman Grolnick*

**Margie & Joe Sobel Family Assistance Fund**

Patricia DiMeo *in honor of Janine & Marc Sobel*  
Barbara & Harold Frieman *in honor of Janine & Marc Sobel*  
Janine & Mark Sobel  
*in memory of Hazel McGinniss, James McGinniss*  
*in memory of Albert Greenbaum, Libbie Greenbaum,*  
*Reba Greenbaum*  
*in memory of Judy Franken*  
*in memory of Minnie Sobel, Milton Sobel, Marjorie Sobel,*  
*Joseph Sobel*  
*in memory of Sydney Skir, Eugene Skir*  
Merle & Russ Weitz *in memory of Morton Weitz*

**Rabbi David Education Fund**

Jessica & Aleksandr Manelis *in memory of Betty Schwartz*  
Margaret & James Sell  
*in honor of Brittany Maugeri's conversion to Judaism*  
*in memory of Lois Rodney*

**Rabbi David Good Works Fund**

Betsy & Gordon Bocher *in memory of Jacob Meyer Bocher*  
Rochelle Cohen *in memory of Edna Cohen*  
Gary Goldberg *in memory of Bernie Goldberg*  
Judi Kaplan  
*in memory of Jean Kaplan*  
*in memory of John Kaplan*  
Irving Koffler *in honor of Toby Hayman's birthday*  
Barbara Snyderman *in memory of Heidi Garrison*

**Rabbi Richard F. Address Caring Community Fund**

Janet Berson *in memory of Vita Berson*  
Marion Cohen *in memory of Edna Cohen*  
Gail & Richard Donner *in memory of Roz Rodman*  
Estherose Heyman *in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
Marlene Spector *in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
Phyllis Stoltz *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*  
Wisdom Circle *in honor of Brittany Maugeri's conversion to Judaism*  
Sherry & Mark Wolkoff *in memory of Norman Grolnick*  
Marsha & Allen Zechow *in memory of Esther Zechow*

**Rabbis' Good Works Fund\***

Betsy & Gordon Bocher  
*in memory of Beth Vassalotti*  
*in memory of Hannah Shapiro*  
*in memory of Heidi Garrison*  
Susan Bookman *in memory of Irwin Cohen*  
Lynn Branfman  
*in memory of Helene Cohen*  
*in memory of Irwin Cohen*  
*in memory of Heidi Garrison*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
*in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Sallie Brown & David Newman *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Patti Carr *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*  
Yvonne & Howard Cooper  
*in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*  
RoseMary Cummings *in memory of Helene Cohen*  
Elinor Engleman *in memory of Fannie Chudoff*  
Karie Feldman *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Eileen & Marvin Fishman *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Jaime Friedman *in honor of Paul Weller's special birthday*  
Leslie & Adam Greenspan *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Linda Hershman *in memory of Abraham Schwartz*  
Susan & Joel Kaber *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Lisa & David Lanter  
*in memory of Abraham Schwartz*  
*in memory of Lillian Lanter*  
Deborah Lisker & Ed Chernoff  
*in memory of Irwin Cohen*  
*in memory of Norman Grolnick*  
Judy & Steve Lubetkin *in memory of Irwin Cohen*  
Sharon Parnes & Brien Brothman *in memory of Richard Slosberg*  
Judi & Howard Peltzman  
*in memory of David Butler*  
*in memory of Gail Saifer*  
Jane & Marshall Pressman *in memory of Bob Mintz*  
Stephanie & John Riviello *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Janet & Mark Rochkind *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*  
Sharon Siegel & Les Cohen *in memory of Simon Levy*

Sharon & Alan Singer *in memory of Robert Bookman*  
Jay Sternchos *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*  
Sharon & Ely Swerdlin *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Amy & Moshe Veisblatt *in memory of Marvin Baron*  
Michelle & Stephen Weichert

*in honor of Brittany Maugeri's conversion to Judaism*  
*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
*in memory of Betty Schwartz*  
*in memory of Marvin Baron*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*  
*in memory of Richard Slosberg*

Cheryl Weinberg *in honor of Sid Maletzky's special birthday*

Judi & David Weinberg

*in honor of Brett Friedman's special birthday*  
*in memory of Marvin Baron*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Lisa & Rick Weiser *in appreciation of Rabbi Frenkel*

Carol & Paul Weller *in memory of Solwin Weller*

Albert & Carmella Zalcmann *in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Michele Zeldner & Ian Wachstein

*in memory of Marvin Baron*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

### **Rabbi Newburge Tzedakah Collective Social Action Fund**

Francine & Marc Rosenthal *in memory of Eileen Broder*

### **Ravi Bloom Memorial Endowment Fund\***

Jaime Friedman *in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Sharon Halperin *in memory of Bernice London*

Teri & Neal Nover

*in memory of Geraldine Reckson*  
*in memory of Jack Rizman*

Mitzi & Michael Sacks *in memory of Betty Schwartz*

Rolane & Steve Sunshine

*in honor of Cary Bloom*  
*in memory of Frank Sunshine*

Sarah & David Zalcmann

*in appreciation of Stephanie Riviello*  
*in honor of Cary Bloom and all of the Shpielers*  
*in memory of Marvin Baron*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

### **Refugee Assistance Fund\***

Sarah Blaine

*in appreciation of Kol Ami's work with refugee families*

Sharon Cooper

*in honor of refugees seeking safety around the world*

Beth & John Gamel

*in honor of refugees seeking safety around the world*

Sharon Halperin

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

Jo Ann Kay

*in memory of Lewis Kay*  
*in memory of Ruth Feldman*

Rachelle Lampert

*in honor of refugees seeking safety around the world*

Michael Likier

*in honor of refugees seeking safety around the world*

Nancy & David Oberlander *in memory of Irwin Browdy*

Emily Penn

*in honor of refugees seeking safety around the world*

Michele Zeldner & Ian Wachstein

*in memory of Helene Cohen*

*in memory of Irwin Cohen*

### **Stanton Deitch Leadership Fund**

Executive Committee & Board of Trustees

*in memory of Richard D'Eustachio*

### **Thelma & Donald Spivack Creative Arts and Artist-in-Residence Endowment Fund\***

Eileen & Robert Elias

*in honor of Steve Friedman's second Bar Mitzvah*  
*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

### **Warren & Doris Elias Special Needs Endowment Fund\***

Annette Albano *in memory of Marvin Baron*

Michele & Stephen Leightman *in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Ellenor Angel Sheckman *in memory of Nathan Sheckman*

### **Yahrzeit Memorial Fund**

Arlene & Alan Blocher *in memory of Harold Block*

Elaine & Alan Braslow *in memory of Ethel Kapin*

Marilyn & Michael Breggar *in memory of Mollie Shapiro*

Denise Bringslid *in memory of Marvin Baron*

Tracy & Harris Goldberg

*in memory of Esther Yusim*

*in memory of Harry Yusim*

*in memory of Irwin Cohen*

Alla & Alex Khazan *in memory of Tsilia Lobik*

Allison Parker *in memory of Marvin Baron*

Ferne Sandler & Norman Weiss

*in memory of Marvin & Diane Sandler*

Marsha & Paul Seader

*in memory of Barbara Director*

*in memory of Selig Rothman*

Evan Seavey *in memory of Marvin Baron*

Mona Shangold & Kenneth Mirkin *in memory of Jack Shangold*

Rosalie Shapiro *in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Sharon Siegel & Les Cohen *in memory of David Butler*

Barbara Silverstein *in memory of Marvin Silverstein*

Lisa & Richard Specter *in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Marlyn & Harry Starkman

*in memory of Cecelia Starkman*

*in memory of Hal Coopersmith*

*in memory of Martin Meyers*

*in memory of Norman Grolnick*

Lisa & Rick Weiser *in memory of Irwin Cohen*

Stephanie & Andrew Zinn

*in memory of Barbara Director*

*in memory of Joseph Zinn*

*in memory of Selig Rothman*

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*Funds noted by an asterisk (\*) are restricted funds—that is, contributions are used solely for the fund's stated purpose. Contributions listed are inclusive from the last issue of Connections through April 3, 2026. We apologize for any errors or omissions.*

CONGREGATION **KOL AMI** Many Voices, One Community.  
**Summer BEACH PARTY**  
 KOL AMI PARKING LOT  
**WEDNESDAY | JULY 15 | 6:00 PM**  
**SAVE THE DATE FOR FAMILY FUN!**  
 Beach 🌞 🦀 🧺 🏖️

TO DO...  
**ANNUAL COMMITMENT FORMS!!**

- Complete Membership & Religious School Renewals by **JUNE 30** so we may plan accordingly for another fabulous year ahead.
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Note : Questions? Please contact Amy Stanley in the synagogue office at 856-489-0029.

**ICED COFFEE & TEA MORNINGS**  
 Have a refreshing starter with our clergy 9:30-11:00 am

**Sunday June 14**  
**SAXBYS** with Rabbi Milan-Polisar  
 104 Kings Hwy E, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

**Sunday July 12**  
 with Cantor Callis

**Sunday August 9**  
 with Rabbi Frenkel

**ALL LOCATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!**

CONGREGATION **KOL AMI**  
**COOL OFF with Clergy**

**WATER ICE & ICE CREAM NIGHTS**  
 Indulge in yummy treats with our clergy 6:30-7:30 pm

**Wednesday June 24**  
**CUPS & CONES** with Rabbi Milan-Polisar  
 931 Tuckerton Rd, Marlton, NJ 08053

**Wednesday July 29**  
 with Rabbi Frenkel

**Monday August 17**  
 with Cantor Callis

**KINDLY RSVP:**  
**WWW.KOLAMINJ.ORG**