



CONGREGATION KOL AMI

7501 Belinder Avenue Prairie Village, KS 66208 (913) 642-9000

A dynamic, diverse and inclusive congregational family

QUICK NOTES

Spiritual Leader: Cantor Paul Silbersher.
Contact him at (913) 642-9000 (office), (913) 681-3440, (home), or (913) 221-2313 (cell), or Paulsilbersher2@aol.com.

Questions, compliments or concerns:
Contact President Constance Bernstein (913) 491-5335 or scb@kc.rr.com

To add a name to the Mischeberach or Yahrzeit listing: Contact Judith Weingarten at (913) 888-9613 or judithkw@sbcglobal.net.

Interested in joining our Kol Ami Family? Contact Larry Gelb at (816) 942-4954 or larrygelb@kc.rr.com.

To make a contribution: Contact Marge Brodtkin at (913) 642-8984 or marge623@juno.com, or mail your contribution to her at 8415 Cambridge, Leawood, KS 66206.

To make reservations for Shabbat dinners or other events: Contact the office at (913) 642-9000 or office@kolamik.com.

Kol Ami Website:
www.kolamik.com

CALENDAR * HIGHLIGHTS *

Meeting
Thursday, December 3
7:30 pm Jewish History Class
Friday, December 4
7:30 pm Worship Celebration
with Anniversary Blessings
Wednesday, December 9
7:00 pm Worship Committee
Thursday, December 10
7:30 pm Jewish History Class
Friday, December 11
7:30 pm Worship Celebration
with Birthday Blessings
Saturday, December 12
9:30 am "Torah and More"
10:30 am Worship Service
Alexandra Levinson's
Bat Mitzvah
Tuesday, December 15
7:00 pm Board Meeting
Thursday, December 17
7:00 pm Strategic Meeting
Friday, December 18
7:30 pm Worship Service
Friday, December 25
7:30 pm Worship Service
Saturday, December 26
9:30 am "Torah and More"
10:30 am Worship Service
Every Thursday
10:30 a.m. Torah Study
7:00 p.m. "Judaism 101"

Chanukah is Coming-First Fight for Religious Freedom.
On Friday evening, December 11th, the Festival of Chanukah will arrive.

But first, a bit of history...

In the year 168 b.c.e., the King of Syria and Palestine, Antiochus IV, decided that the religion and the culture of the Greeks needed to be followed. He had inherited the territory of the Jews from Alexander the Great.

While the Hellenistic approach to life contained the ideas of many of the greats of all time, (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle) the worship of Zeus, the chief god of the Greeks, was unacceptable for the vast majority of the Jews at that time. As the Jewish resistance to the King grew, Antiochus IV had a statue of Zeus installed in the Temple. In addition, he forbade the study of Torah, under the pain of death.

Finally, the Jews decided that passive resistance was futile and, led by Matathias, the group (called the Maccabees) staged an armed revolt.

It can be said that the Jews invented guerilla warfare; they did not have a standing army and could not meet the Syrian-Greeks on field of battle with large numbers of troops. Ambush, small skirmishes...a growing number of Jews joining the rebellion...after three years of fighting the Jews defeated the forces of Antiochus IV at the Battle of Emmaus and regained possession of the Temple. They cleansed the temple and removed all of its pagan identities and rededicated it to the exclusive use of the Jewish people.

This was history's first fight for religious freedom.

The legend of the oil is just that. It is symbolic of the fact that a small group of Jewish rebels could defeat a large and powerful group of Syrian-Greeks...it would be like a candle that was only expected to burn for one day...lasting eight days.

Now I ask you...

Would you celebrate a Holiday because a candle that was only expected to burn for one day lasted eight days? Or would you celebrate the Holiday that proclaims the first fight for religious freedom...not, just for Jews, but for all peoples? Your choice...

The word Chanukah comes from the root chinuch (education). If you want to know more about Chanukah and the rest of your Jewish Story...please join us for "Judaism 101" on Thursday evenings 7-8:30 p.m. in the Conference Room...no previous knowledge required.

Chag Urim Sameach...Happy Chanukah.

So much love,

Paul



NOVEMBER DONATIONS

MUSIC ENHANCEMENT FUND

Lenny and Leah Bassin

In memory of Gloria Asner

In memory of mother of Marilyn Rubin

Jerry Bernstein

In appreciation of Kol Ami

SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

John and Stevie Shuchart

In honor of Bar Mitzvah of
Jacob Louis Milgrim

BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND

Ron Einbender

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Michael Irl Einbender

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Don and Harriet Boresow

In honor of birth of

George Mark Boresow Reardon

Mike and Janice Panknin

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Karl Klein

Irving and Gloria Schlossenberg

In memory of mother of Marilyn Rubin

GARDENING FUND

Susan Lawrence

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Anne Lawrence

GENERAL FUND

Mike and Patty Boresow

In honor of birthday (70) of
Don Boresow

Marge Brodtkin

In memory of Nathan Gilbert

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Sady A. Levin

Stan and Roe Bovos

In honor of birthday (80) of
Sherel Sands

Ben Silk

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Benjamin Nahun Silk

Meyer and Lois Singer

In honor of birthday (80) of
Sherel Sands

Robert Solomon

In honor of Kol Ami

David Wheaton

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Opal Wheaton

In honor Kol Ami Gardeners

ART AND RITUAL OBJECT FUND

Steven Earnest

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Alice Rosenberg

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

Norman King

In memory of Yahrzeit of
Benjamin Petitpas

ANNIVERSARIES



THE TREE OF LIFE

Q: What are appropriate occasions for giving someone a leaf on the Tree of Life?

A:

Birthdays, Engagements,
Weddings, Anniversaries,
New babies,
Bar and Bat Mitzvahs,
Chanukah,

Just to say I love you.

Always appropriate, always fits!

For more information, call

Judy Weingarten – 913-888-9613

CONGREGANT'S CORNER:



The Kol Ami congregation is cordially invited to an afternoon voice recital presented by the students of Marie Lerner-Sexton, Saturday, December 12, 2009, at 3:30 P. M. in the sanctuary. Among the high school seniors featured on the program is Sophia Laster, daughter of Dr. Steve and Louise Laster. She will perform “Bonne Nuit” by Jules Massenet and “Autumn Evening” by Roger Quilter. A reception will follow the program in the room behind the sanctuary. The event is free to the public.

“Torah and More”

“Torah and More” will be switched to Saturday mornings starting December 12th with interactive presentation —relating the Bible to current events—scheduled twice a month from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. preceding Kol Ami’s Shabbat morning services on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month.



HOW DO I SPONSOR AN ONEG?

It’s easy—all it takes is a phone call !

You don’t have to bake—but you can!

You don’t have to help set it up—but you can!

You don’t have to help clean up—but you can!

All you have to do is call Robin Felman for dates, details and costs. She can be reached at 913-677-5185 or twinmom63 @gmail.com.

IT’S SO EASY—GIVE IT A TRY

CHANUKAH DINNER

DECEMBER 18, 2009

TIME t/b/a/

LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION IN THE ANNOUNCEMENTS



THERE ARE STILL ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS AVAILABLE. INSTEAD OF \$20.00, WE WILL BE SELLING THEM FOR ONLY \$10.00 UNTIL THEY ARE ALL GONE!! LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY. MBORESOW@SBCGLOBAL.NET OR 913-897-2792.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

So much has happened this past month and so many plans are being made for the next several months here at Kol Ami that I hardly know where to begin. Perhaps it is best to begin at the beginning.

Through the generosity of David Block and Cantor Paul Silbersher we now have a new stainless steel commercial range for our kitchen. We now are able to have a dependable oven to do our baking for the various holidays. Best of all the aroma of gas escaping is now a thing of the past.

Marshall and Judy Weingarten along with help from our congregants Larry Poisner, Ron Einbender and Adam Greene are in the process of painting our lounge area behind the sanctuary and the sanctuary itself. That is a great deal of work and we are very appreciative of the generous gift of their time and effort. Needless to say, they could use more help. If you can spare just a couple of hours on a weekend, please volunteer. The job goes so much faster with more hands helping.

Our annual Bingo event was a big success thanks to Mike Boresow, Larry Gelb and the Fund raising committee. Thank you so much.

The Havdalah event held outdoors by God's Garden on two occasions has brought out many families for good food, singing and a warm fire. Steve and Linda Sackin plan to make this an ongoing event. Watch the announcements for future dates. The congregation is invited.

Once again, latkes will be a feature of our annual Hanukah Shabbat dinner thanks to Louise Laster. The dinner will be held on December 18, 2009. Anita Hampshire will help, and we need a few more volunteers, please. Call Louise to help.

Moving forward on our calendar, we start with the dedication of our new Yahrzeit plaque generously donated by Cantor Paul Silbersher in honor of his parents. We have waited so long for this and many of you have expressed an interest in memorializing a loved one. That is scheduled to take place on December 11, during a very special Shabbat service.

Through the generosity of Gloria and Irving Schlossenberg, the Rabbi fund has recently been initiated. Our Strategic planning committee will be meeting this month to develop a plan to help us meet our goal and allow for a smooth transition in 2011.

Next, plans are well underway for a fun-filled evening on February 27, 2010. There will be music, food and entertainment here at Kol Ami. You will want to mark that date on your calendar. Details will be forthcoming.

Volunteers are the life blood of any organization, and your willingness to help is, as always, deeply appreciated.

Constance Bernstein



December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 10:30 a.m. <u>Torah Study</u> 7:00 p.m. "Judaism <u>101</u> " 7:30 p.m. Jewish History Class	4 7:30 p.m. Worship/w Anniversary Blessing/w Oneg	5
6 9:00 a.m. Chai School	7	8	9 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting	10 10:30 a.m. <u>Torah Study</u> 7:00 p.m. "Judaism <u>101</u> " 7:30 p.m. Jewish History Class	11 7:30 p.m. Worship/w Birthday Blessing/w Oneg	12 9:30 a.m. "Torah & <u>More</u> " 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Alexandra Levinson's <u>Bat Mitzvah</u> 3:30 p.m. Voice Recital
13 9:00 a.m. Chai School	14	15 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting	16	17 10:30 a.m. <u>Torah Study</u> 7:00 p.m. "Judaism <u>101</u> " 7:00 p.m. Strategic Meeting	18 Chanukah <u>Dinner t/b/a</u> 7:30 p.m. Worship/w Oneg	19
20 NO Chai School	21	22	23	24 10:30 a.m. <u>Torah Study</u> 7:00 p.m. "Judaism 101"	25 7:30 p.m. Worship/w Oneg	26 9:30 a.m. "Torah & <u>More</u> " 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
27 NO Chai School	28	29	30	31 10:30 a.m. <u>Torah Study</u> 7:00 p.m. "Judaism 101"		