



## October Shabbat and Worship Calendar

### Friday, October 5 | 6 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat Service with  
Torah reading and Kolot Kol Ami  
Learning Shabbat

### Friday, October 12 | 6 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
6th grade Pre-B'nai Mitzvah Program  
*Dinner for 6th graders and their families at  
Rabbi Shana's house after services*

### Friday, October 19 | 6 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
*Come Grow With Me! Shabbat with  
Rabbi Shana and Lauren Smith*

### Saturday, October 20 | 10:30 am

Bat Mitzvah: Morgan Lender

### Friday, October 26 | 6 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

## Mazal Tov



**Morgan Lender**,  
daughter of **Allison**  
and **Brad Lender**,  
and granddaughter of  
**Emily** and **Jim**  
**Gusky** will become  
Bat Mitzvah on  
Saturday, Oct. 20 at  
10:30 am. *Mazal Tov* to the whole family!

## Have you opted in on our e-mail list?



Do you want to receive the  
Temple Times, Our Tent  
news, invitations for special  
Temple events, and  
bereavement notices? Then we'll need  
your correct email address! Send updates  
to [dhopkins@suburbantemple.org](mailto:dhopkins@suburbantemple.org).

## Stay Curious!



"I'm still trying to figure this out!"

"Tell me more!"

"I want to understand that!"

All of these are sentences we're uttered, as we're being  
apried away from books, experiments, conversations, or  
some sort of screen, all as part of our deep dive into  
whatever topic has grabbed our attention in that particular moment.


Being intellectually curious means we want to know more. The technology  
available today allows us to gather facts quickly. We can "ask Alexa" a fact, or  
"Google" a fact, and we're off and running, down the next tributary of  
information.

I know that I'll start off researching one topic, and an hour later, my whole  
topic has shifted because my search led me in a terrific new direction, thanks  
to the magic of the internet. Being intellectually curious is a little bit easier in  
this day and age.

Being curious has always been, and always will be a core value of Judaism.  
Our central texts, from the very beginning, are based on asking questions,  
both of ourselves and others. For example, Rabbi Yehudah ben Pazzi, in  
trying to explain the creation story, according to Bar Kappara, asked, "Why  
was the world created with the Hebrew letter "bet" [the first letter of the  
Torah]? To teach you there are two worlds: this world and the world-to-come.  
A second possible interpretation: Because it is an expression of blessing [in  
Hebrew, the word for blessing also begins with the letter bet.] Bar Kapparah  
continued his line of questioning: And why was the world not created with the  
letter "aleph" [the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet]? Because it is an  
expression of cursing [in Hebrew, the word for cursing begins with aleph].

Our ancient rabbis learned by asking lots of questions, and they asked  
these questions to help each other learn and understand.

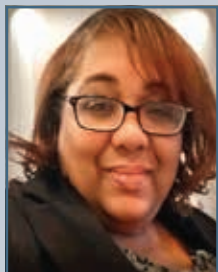
While today we can find information through technology very easily, when  
we do it together, face to face, with abundant curiosity, like our rabbis did, we  
are sure to gain, and learn more. The give and take of the questions and  
ideas is, without a doubt, holy.

I look forward to learning together, to being curious together, this year  
during all of Our Tent learning opportunities! 

**Rabbi Allison Vann**

[avann@suburbantemple.org](mailto:avann@suburbantemple.org)

## Please Welcome Jenn Walker!



Originally from Northeast Ohio, Jenn joins our administrative team after spending the last eight years living and working in the San Francisco Bay area. A graduate of Shaker Heights High School, she studied Liberal Arts at Miami University, later studying Natural Sciences with a focus on Math and Physics while in California. When not working, Jenn devotes her spare time to art, photography and writing, and has recently completed work on her second full-length novel. She currently resides in South Euclid with her fiancé, her son and Maximus Moriarty Bellwright, the Wonderdog.

Jenn is the primary administrative assistant for Our Tent and will be working closely with Rabbi Shana and Brett Shankman. Jenn can be reached at the ST-KA main phone number, 216.991.0700 or [jwalker@suburbantemple.org](mailto:jwalker@suburbantemple.org).

Please be sure to extend a warm ST-KA welcome to Jenn when you see or speak to her!



Maximus Moriarty Bellwright, the Wonderdog!

## From Brett's Desk:

### May The Best of Your Todays...



"May the best of your todays be the worst of your tomorrows." This is part of the chorus from a current pop hit by singer / songwriter Jason Mraz. It's an upbeat, happy song. I

imagine that he wrote the lyrics for a young child as it sounds like the message I would want to have shared with my children when they were younger, and even now. It turns out that Mraz was troubled by today's anxiousness and general negative tenor, so he wrote and sang a happy, upbeat song.

We have just completed the High Holy Days, four of our most sacred days of the year and a time for reflection, contemplation, and forgiveness. Once again, the holy community of Suburban Temple – Kol Ami came together in sacred space. For me, I tried to find a few minutes of respite from the troubles of today's world, for just a bit of introspection and reflection. I hope that your High Holy Day observance allowed you the same.

It was wonderful seeing so many of you at Temple, enjoying friendship, camaraderie, and the beauty of our High Holy Day experience.

As the calendar turns to October, we find ourselves with much to do – there are many events, Our Tent programs, solicitations for the annual campaign, and more. It feels like

ST-KA never rests and I hope you are aware of the wonderful stuff happening here. The *Bulletin* is up-to-date as of our printing, but the website and Facebook pages are always updated. Please check them regularly for programming updates and more.

I want to thank my colleagues here at ST-KA for their incredible work leading up to the High Holy Days. There is so much that goes into being prepared to welcome so many of you back into the building. A huge thank you to Dale Hopkins, John Farragher, Charles Hickerson, and Robin Smith for all they did to ensure that we were ready. Thank you to Rabbi Vann for preparing and leading wonderful services and to Rabbi Shana for our Children's Service amongst so much more. Thank you to Noreen Bertman, Diane Greene, and the entire usher corps for so graciously welcoming us all into the sanctuary. Finally, thank you to our wonderful Board of Trustees for their active participation throughout the High Holy Day season.

In the words of the songwriter, "May the best of your todays be the worst of your tomorrows."

B'shalom,

**Brett Shankman,**

**Executive Director**

[bshankman@suburbantemple.org](mailto:bshankman@suburbantemple.org)

## Join us every Sunday!

# OUR TENT

Innovative Jewish Learning for Everyone

SUBURBAN TEMPLE-KOL AMI



Registration for second trimester opens **Tuesday, October 2**, and members will have priority registration through **Monday, October 8**. For a full list of classes and to register, visit our website at [www.suburbantemple.org](http://www.suburbantemple.org)

## From our Director of Lifelong Learning Find Your Way



As many of you know I love to tell stories! And I tell them so often that I keep notes of what stories I have told where so that I do not tell the same stories over and over to

the same audience. There is one story, however, that I intentionally tell with great regularity. I have told it at the opening *t'filah* (service) both years of Our Tent, I tell it the first Shabbat of each session at camp, as well as other occasions.

It is the story of two good friends, Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Greenberg. They have been friends for a very long time, and each Shabbat morning they attend services together. Now Mr. Greenberg fervently believes in God, and he uses each Shabbat morning as his weekly appointment to meet with and talk to God. Mr. Schwartz, on the other hand, is not so sure. He has gone back and forth about whether or not God even exists, yet he still goes to Temple each week. One Shabbat morning, after a particularly long and hard week, Mr. Schwartz is having a hard time getting out of bed to go to services, and his wife looks at him. She says, "Schwartz, you are not even sure that God exists, would it be so bad if this one Shabbat morning you skipped Temple and stayed in bed and rested? What is so important about going every week?" To which Schwartz answered, "Greenberg, he goes to Temple to meet with God, I, I go to meet with Greenberg." And off he went!

I usually conclude the story by explaining that we all attend services for different reasons. Some are here because it is their weekly meeting with God, and in their busy lives they want to ensure they carve out time. Others love being with their community. And still others have different reasons. And all of this is okay, so experiment and find your way.

The same can be said for so many experiences in life. We can all be participating with different needs and desired outcomes. This is one of the reasons we created Our Tent the way we did. Our program is for adults and children, young and the old and all those in between. It's for those who want to learn together with all age groups, and for those who want to learn with their peers. It's for those who prefer to learn through a book or lecture, and for those who want to learn through experience and expression of their creativity.

This year our theme is "Dare to..." So dare yourself to try something you never have before, to meet someone new, to step out of your comfort zone, to learn and grow, to imagine what is possible. Registration for second trimester is now open, so go to our website ([www.suburbantemple.org](http://www.suburbantemple.org)) and see all the possibilities that are available. Whatever brings you in, come find your place in Our Tent!

**Rabbi Shana Nyer**  
[snyer@suburbantemple.org](mailto:snyer@suburbantemple.org)

come  
grow with  
me  
shabbat

### Friday, October 19 at 6 pm

- Fun Interactive service for newborns–2nd graders and their families with Rabbi Shana and Lauren Smith
- 3rd-7th graders and their families join Rabbi Vann for part of services in the sanctuary
- FREE dinner for Everyone!

The evening is free and open to the community so invite your friends with Jewish children. RSVP to Jenn Walker at 216.991.0700 or at [jwalker@suburbantemple.org](mailto:jwalker@suburbantemple.org).

## Special Shabbatot:

### Learning Shabbat Friday, October 5 | 6pm

- Service led by Rabbi Vann with discussion on the beauty and meaning of Shabbat
- Followed by a hands-on lesson on how to make, braid and bake challah. Everyone will get a mini challah to take home!
- While the challot are baking, we will enjoy a light dinner together

Come for all or part of the evening.

### 6th Grade Shabbat Friday, October 12 | 6pm

- Come *kvell* (beam with pride and joy) over our 6th graders as they participate in services.
- Following services Shabbat dinner for all 6th and their families **at Rabbi Shana's house.**
- Families will also create a yad that their child will use at their B'nai Mitzvah!

### Vintage and 5th Grade Shabbat Friday, November 2 | 6pm

- Join us as our Vintage members and 5th graders participate in this service with Torah reading.
- Following services is Shabbat dinner for all 5th graders and their families **at Rabbi Shana's house.**
- Families will also creatively map their Jewish journey and find their B'nai Mitzvah portion in the Torah!

Please RSVP to all of the above by emailing Jenn Walker at [jwalker@suburbantemple.org](mailto:jwalker@suburbantemple.org) or calling the Temple at 216.991.0700.

Greetings from  
Kol Nashim!



**K**ol Nashim – Women of Suburban Temple-Kol Ami has started our year with many sweet things. We visited the Mikveh with Rabbi Vann, provided more than five dozen bagels on the opening morning of Our Tent, learned about the world of coloring with a stress-free hands-on experience in the Sukkah, prepared and served dinner for those at New Life Calvary Church, distributed Welcome Baskets to new members of ST-KA, collected books for the Cleveland Kids Bank and presented candlesticks to Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrants. We look forward to your participation in our various opportunities; welcome your suggestions and encourage your membership. For more information please leave your name and phone number on our email listed below.

Hope to see you soon,  
**Susan Gordon Merdler**  
**Kol Nashim President**  
**STKAKolNashim@gmail.com**

*P.S. Pick up our calendar of events at ST-KA office or email us and we can send you one!*

## Have you joined Kol Nashim this year?

If not, membership is only \$54  
and can be paid  
on the Temple website  
(suburbantemple.org)  
or via check made out  
to Kol Nashim.

# SAVE THE DATE

## RAC-OH STATEWIDE GOTV DAY OF ACTION

you are not obligated to complete the work,  
but neither are you free to desist from it.

PIRKEI AVOT 2:21

OCT 7 IS THE LAST WEEKEND TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN OHIO

Join Reform Jews and interfaith partners  
at ST-KA on October 7 for:

- ✓ Conversations about issue 1 – *the Campaign for a Safe and Healthy Ohio*
- ✓ Network building and joint action
- ✓ Deep Canvassing training
- ✓ Voter registration



Local events planned in Akron, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, Canton and Dayton.

## Board of Trustees Update

The newly installed Board of Trustees held its first two meetings of the year in August and September. Matt Lehman, our Temple president, led a conversation which summarized a “listening tour” that he conducted with our board over the last two months. In summary, board members felt very good about the direction of the congregation — pleased with the first-year success of Our Tent, the Open Doors membership program, etc. — with some areas identified for improvement.

After some organizational business, like conflict of interest forms, the board has begun substantive conversations about the Open Doors membership program and new ideas for recruiting, retaining, and engaging members.

Furthermore, the board has begun a review of our existing committee structure and will be discussing possible changes at our October board meeting.

All members of the 2018-19 board of trustees are available to our membership to hear questions, concerns, and listen to suggestions. We welcome your feedback.

## Keep In Touch With Us!

Please let us know when you, or someone you know, is hospitalized, ill, or bereaved, or would just enjoy a call from the rabbi or a member of the Caring Community. We also love hearing good news, such as a birth, engagement, marriage or other *simcha*! In order to better serve the congregation, please share this information with Rabbi Vann by calling the office at 216.991.0700, or by emailing Rabbi Vann directly at [avann@suburbantemple.org](mailto:avann@suburbantemple.org).

# October Programs, Events, and Meetings

**Torah study** meets every Saturday morning from 9:15-10:15 am. Join Rabbi Vann in the Gries Library for bagels and open discussion about the Torah.

**Sun., October 7** ..... **9 am** | Our Tent

**Mon., October 8** ..... **7 pm** | Board of Trustees Meeting

**Thurs., October 11** ..... **7 pm** | *Kol Nashim* Book Club

**Sun., October 14** ..... **9 am** | Our Tent  
**1 pm** | Youth Group Event

**Sun., October 21** ..... **9 am** | Our Tent

**Sun., October 28** ..... **9 am** | Our Tent  
**3 pm** | URJ Day of Learning

**Tues., October 30** ..... **7 pm** | Executive Committee Meeting

## ST-KA Technology Update

### ST-KA Joins AmazonSmile



Did you know that shopping on Amazon.com can benefit ST-KA? We have signed up with AmazonSmile, which donates a small percentage of every purchase to our congregation. Please visit smile.amazon.com and choose Suburban Temple-Kol Ami as your preferred charity. Then, change your Amazon bookmark to smile.amazon.com for future purchases! There is no extra cost to

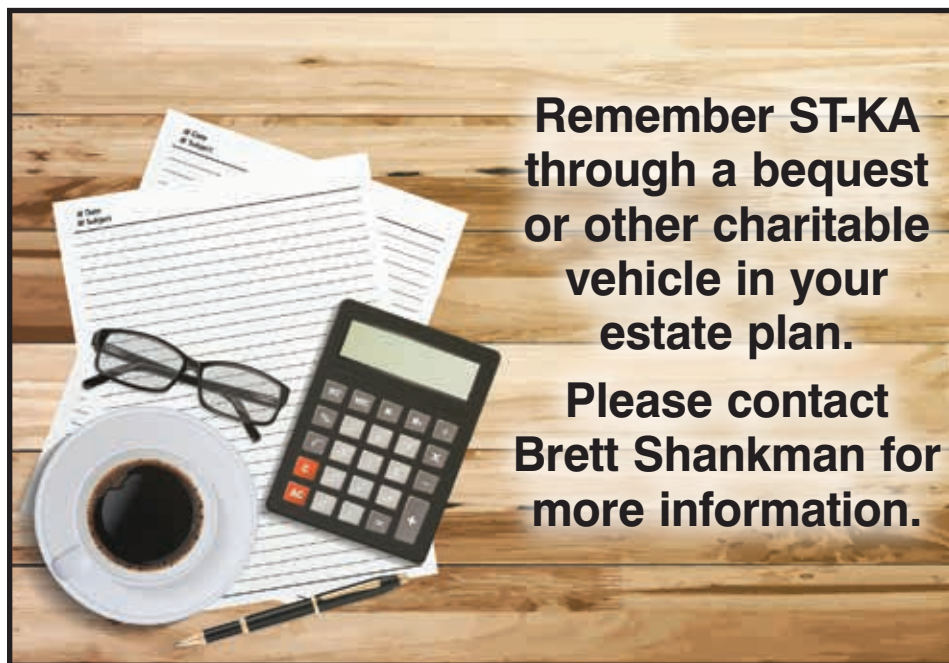
you and you can use your usual amazon.com account. Start at smile.amazon.com each time you shop!

### Live Streaming Service Information

Don't forget, you can watch Kabbalat Shabbat services live (or recorded) on our website. Please visit [www.suburbantemple.org](http://www.suburbantemple.org) and click on the live stream menu at the top.

### WiFi For Everyone!

Suburban Temple-Kol Ami has WiFi available. If you have a WiFi capable device and wish to connect, simply use the guest password "Temple2016."



**Remember ST-KA  
through a bequest  
or other charitable  
vehicle in your  
estate plan.**

**Please contact  
Brett Shankman for  
more information.**

## Milestone Birthdays and Anniversaries

*Mazal tov* to our members  
who are celebrating milestone  
**birthdays** in October:

**Carl Ashby**

**Roe Green**

**Norm Hyams**

**Heidi Mell**

**Nachama Moskowitz**

**Bill Pintchuk**

**Lee Powar**

**Mickey Schenkel**

**Ken Solomon**

**Linda Wolfe**

Milestone birthday listings begin  
at age 50 and every five years afterward.  
**All birthdays 100 and over are listed.**

*Mazal tov* to our members  
who are celebrating milestone  
**anniversaries** in October:

**Mary & Daniel Berick** (30 years)

**Susan & Michael Cristal** (30 years)

**Joanie & Chuck Frankel** (45 years)

**Susan Gordon Merdler &**

**Lyle Merdler** (30 years)

**Patricia & Gregory Passov** (20 years)

**Kimberly & Brian Zeid** (15 years)

Milestone anniversaries begin at ten years  
and continue every five years thereafter.



Congratulations to **Shelly Lazarus** and **Ned Grossman** on the marriage of her daughter, **Amy Lazarus**, to Markeze Bryant, both of Oakland, CA. Congratulations also go to Amy's grandmother, **Flora Blumenthal**, and to her father, **Jeff Lazarus**.

**ST-KA members: The spotlight's on you!** We'd love to highlight your accomplishments, honors, and accolades in the monthly *Bulletin* and in the Temple Times. Send submissions to [dhopkins@suburbantemple.org](mailto:dhopkins@suburbantemple.org).

# We Gratefully Acknowledge the Following Contributions

Please consider making a contribution to Suburban Temple-Kol Ami to celebrate a special occasion, express gratitude or sympathy, or honor important accomplishments. A current list of Temple funds is available from the Temple office. Donations may be made online at [www.suburbantemple.org](http://www.suburbantemple.org). Donations listed below were received between August 1 and August 31, 2018. Please let us know of any errors or omissions.

## **Bimah Flower Fund**

In loving memory of

**Dr. William Rosewater**

Carol and William Bruml

**Ellen F. Daus**

**Alan R. Daus**

Caryn D. Flanagan, Michael Daus and  
Jim Daus

**Sue Cristal**

The Cristal Family

**Lee Handel**

Amy Handel

**Mildred Lehman**

**Betty Levy**

Mickey Friedman

**Mildred Lehman**

**Betty Levy**

Harry Lehman

**Lester T. "Ted" Miller**

**Lester I. Miller**

**Steven D. Miller**

Edith Miller

**Rosalind Gill**

**Henry Shapiro**

Karen and Sandy Shapiro

In honor of

**Matt Roth**

Lee Roth and Jim Uhler

## **Education Fund**

In appreciation of

**Rabbi Shana Nyer**

The Roth family

## **Kol Nashim Fund**

In appreciation of

**Kol Nashim**

Adrienne Sharp

## **Oneg Shabbat Fund**

In loving memory of

**Ellen F. Daus**

**Alan R. Daus**

Caryn D. Flanagan, Michael Daus and  
Jim Daus

**Howard Orpett**

Rita Orpett

## **Operating Fund**

In loving memory of

**Lester T. "Ted" Miller**

**Lester I. Miller**

**Steven D. Miller**

Edith Miller

In appreciation of

**Brett Shankman, John Farragher,  
Robin Smith and Dale Hopkins**

The Roth family

In celebration of their 50th wedding  
anniversary

**Pamela and Dr. Stuart Katz**

Elaine and Howard Silver

## **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

In loving memory of

**Ron Nelson**

Anita Nelson

## **Torah Repair Fund**

Wishing good health to

**Linda Schneider**

Adrienne Sharp

## Shabbat Acknowledgments

We are grateful to the following people who helped make our August worship services a beautiful experience.

**Shabbat Blessings:** Rita Orpett and Susan Long, JoAnne and Len Podis, Ellyn Ross, Lauren Smith

**Torah Blessings:** Emily and Jim Gusky

**Announcements:** Howard Feldenkris, Alan Hazzard, Matt Lehman

**Ushers:** Noreen Bertman, Jan Lieblich, Dennis Mitchell,

## Bimah Flowers and Oneg Shabbat Sponsors

On August 3, bimah flowers were gifts from **Carol and William Bruml** in loving memory of Dr. William Rosewater.

On August 3, bimah flowers were gifts from **The Cristal Family** in loving memory of Sue Cristal.

On August 3, bimah flowers were gifts from **Mickey Friedman** in loving memory of Mildred Lehman and Betty Levy.

On August 3, bimah flowers were gifts from **Harry Lehman** in loving memory of Mildred Lehman and Betty Levy.

On August 3, bimah flowers were gifts from **Edith Miller** in loving memory of Lester T. "Ted" Miller, Lester I. Miller and Steven D. Miller.

On August 17, bimah flowers were gifts from **Lee Roth and Jim Uhler** in honor of Matt Roth.

On August 17, bimah flowers were gifts from **Karen and Sandy Shapiro** in loving memory of Rosalind Gill.

On August 17, bimah flowers were gifts from **Amy Handel** in loving memory of Lee Handel.

On August 24, bimah flowers and oneg were gifts from **Caryn D. Flanagan, Michael Daus and Jim Daus** in loving memory of Ellen F. and Alan R. Daus.

On August 24, bimah flowers were gifts from **Karen and Sandy Shapiro** in loving memory of Henry Shapiro.

On August 31, the oneg was a gift from **Rita Orpett** in loving memory of Howard Orpett.



**ST-KA**  
BULLETIN

 **SUBURBAN TEMPLE-KOL AMI**  
*Come, let us walk in the light of the Eternal*

22401 Chagrin Blvd. • Beachwood, Ohio 44122-5345  
Phone: 216.991.0700 • Fax: 216.991.0705  
Email: [info@suburbantemple.org](mailto:info@suburbantemple.org)  
[www.suburbantemple.org](http://www.suburbantemple.org)

Member, Union for Reform Judaism

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Cleveland, OH 44101  
Permit 2752



## STAFF

Allison Vann, *Rabbi*  
Eric J. Bram, D.D., z"l (2002-2010)  
Michael A. Oppenheimer, D.D., *Rabbi Emeritus* (1976-2002)  
Myron Silverman, D.D., z"l (1949-1976)  
Brett Shankman, *Executive Director*  
Rabbi Shoshana Nyer, *Director of Lifelong Learning*

## OFFICERS

Matt Lehman, *President*  
Lori Rosenberg, *Vice-President*  
Bruce Sherman, *Secretary*  
Michelle S. Brown, *Treasurer*  
Kimberly Rosner, *Immediate Past President*

## Follow us on social media:

 [www.facebook.com/  
suburbantemple.org](https://www.facebook.com/suburbantemple.org)  
 @rabbivann

SUBURBAN TEMPLE-KOL AMI | TRIP TO ISRAEL | LED BY RABBI ALLISON VANN

# THE ISRAEL TRIP DECEMBER 21-31, 2019

FROM \$3,559 LAND ONLY

## HIGHLIGHTS

- A journey of inspiration and education
- Israel from ancient history to high-tech innovation
- Outstanding tour educator
- Israel in style: superb hotels and travel arrangements
- Quality service and seamless logistics
- The flavors of Israel: from great street food to top restaurants
- Go behind the scenes to experience authentic Israel



telling the story of Israel and the Jewish World.

