



February 2018

A Taste of Passover: Sharing our Story of Freedom

By Carole Verona

You are invited to share a taste of Passover and our story of freedom with your Or Ami family of friends, members of the congregations that make up the Plymouth-Whitemarsh interfaith ministerium and the community at large. Here are the details:

Congregation Or Ami is hosting an interfaith seder on Thursday, March 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Rabbi Ettman and Cantor Franzel, who are co-leading the seder, are creating an interfaith hagaddah that will incorporate contemporary readings, music, and stories. so that all of our non-Jewish guests will understand what is going on. The seder will be in English and there will be opportunities for everyone to be involved.

Helene Levinson is chairing the committee that is handling all of the logistics for the seder. Working with her are Debby Askow, Heather Fritts, Myra Stern, Carole Verona, Mel Waxman, and Randi Zimmer with support from Lori Dafilou and Nick Johnson.

"In this day and age there is a real need to remind people that we are connected as faith communities — connected in support and solidarity with one another," Rabbi Ettman said.

The story of the exodus and the meaning behind it are eternal. "I frequently teach that the Torah is not a book about what happened, but rather a book about what is happening. The story of the exodus reminds us of the struggle to attain some sort of freedom and the hope that we have when we begin a new journey," he said.

How can a story that is thousands of year old remain relevant to us today? Rabbi Ettman believes it's because the story is not all neat and tidy. "There were challenges all along the way, from Moses having to plead with Pharaoh to the 10 plagues. There were even difficult moments when the Israelites crossed the sea. And finally, when they get to the other side, they begin a long road to freedom. The key component is that the Israelites had faith. That, to me, is the greatest lesson," he said.

Rabbi Ettman went on to explain that our tradition refers to this moment as the great moment of freedom. "By telling the story each year, we are obligated to taste a sense of freedom for the first time. At my family's seder, we have a new custom where we go around the table and share a story of something from which we have been liberated, something that we are celebrating as "new." This is the essence of the holiday."

Rabbi Ettman stressed that everyone in attendance will be fully participating in everything...most notably, the eating of the food! Infinity Caterers is planning a delicious menu:

- Tossed Fresh Greens Salad with Sliced Granny Smith Apple, Sun Dried Cherries, Toasted Almonds & Crumbled Goat Cheese accompanied with a Pommery Balsamic Vinaigrette



- Grilled Asparagus Drizzled with Scented Olive Oil
- Mediterranean Grilled Salmon Drizzled with Lemon, Caper Dill Sauce
- Grilled Chicken topped with a Tomato, Pineapple Chutney
- Sweet Cinnamon & Golden Raisin Kugel

The cost of the dinner will be \$36 for adults and \$18 for kids between 12 and 18. A registration form will be available soon in News & Notes, our weekly e-mail newsletter.

In addition to Congregation Or Ami, members of the Plymouth-Whitemarsh Interfaith Ministerium include Church on the Mall; Epiphany of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church; Messiah United Methodist Church; Plymouth Meeting Evangelical Congregational Church; Prince of Peace Lutheran Church; Plymouth Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends; St. Jude and the Nativity Episcopal Church; St. Peter's Lutheran Church; and St. Philip Neri Roman Catholic Church.

Save the Date!

You are invited to join us at an

Interfaith Community Seder led by

Rabbi Glenn Ettman

&

Cantor Jordan Franzel

Thursday, March 15

6:30-8:30 pm

At Congregation Or Ami

(708 Ridge Pike Lafayette Hill)

Clergy and Staff

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Deadline First of the month before publication of issue. We reserve the discretion to edit for space limitations.

Congregation Or Ami is affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism.



February Worship Schedule

Friday, February 2

6:15 pm	Tot Shabbat featuring Pre-K classes
7:00 pm	Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 3

9:00 am	Torah Study
10:30 am	Bar Mitzvah of Evan Rosenstein

Friday, February 9

7:00 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
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Saturday, February 10

9:00 am	Torah Study
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Friday, February 16

7:00 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
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Saturday, February 17

9:00 am	Torah Study
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Friday, February 23

7:00 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
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Saturday, February 24

9:00 am	Torah Study
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Our Mission

Congregation Or Ami strives to be a warm and welcoming center of Jewish life built on the foundation of Torah (Jewish Text and Tradition), Avodah (Spiritual Fulfillment), and G'milut Chasadim (Acts of Lovingkindness). We embrace the varied needs and rich diversity of our congregants, our community, and the Jewish people. We endeavor to create an inviting and inclusive community that promotes spiritual fulfillment for our congregants and supports their search for God. We take pride in the strong partnership among our clergy, professional staff, lay leaders, and congregants. Guided by Jewish values, we are strengthened by our active volunteerism and informed decision-making. We uphold the principles and ideals of the Reform movement and are a member of the Union for Reform Judaism.



Bar Mitzvah



Evan Rosenstein

Son of Jennifer and Mark Rosenstein

February 3, 2018

For Evan's mitzvah project, he raised money for Experience Camps, which are free one-week camps for boys and girls who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or primary caregiver. It's a place where they can feel 'normal' because everyone there has been through something similar and understands what it's like to lose someone close to them. Camp is very important in Evan's family. Evan and his brother Sean have been going to their summer camp, Winadu, in the Berkshires for six years. There they learn independence, confidence and sportsmanship. They love their summer home. Evan's mom, Jennifer, The Camp Lady, is a camp consultant who helps families find the perfect camp for their children. The whole Rosenstein family believes that everyone can benefit from the camp experience.

SAVE THE DATE!

CONGREGATION OR AMI EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
CENTER & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PRESENT...

PURIM CARNIVAL

Sunday, February 25th, 2018
11AM - 1PM

SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY AND ENJOY GAMES &
CRAFTS, GREAT RAFFLES & PRIZES FOR ALL AGES!
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC · FOOD FOR SALE

Sharing Our Simchas, Sharing Our Sorrows

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

To Cantor Franzel

Thank you for helping Noah become a Bar Mitzvah Sara and Jeff Erlbaum

ECE Center Fund

To Michelle Ruder

In memory of June Ruder Dara and Daniel Jeck
Karen Green
Wendy Fineman
Jennifer Dainoff Segal
Susan and Hal Michels
Helene and Alex Levinson
Sherry Dainoff
Lauren and Joshua Dunoff
Terri and Mark Wolfheimer
Amy Cohen
Gail and Scott Hoeflich
Susan and Larry Paul
Randi and Mitch Zimmer

General Fund

To Debbi Schulman

In memory of Elaine Peskoe Fern Krieg

To Michelle Ruder

In memory of June Ruder Sara Erlbaum

To Lori Dafilou

Wishing you a speedy recovery Susan and Larry Paul

Light of Our People Fund

To The Schulman Family

In memory of Elaine Peskoe Peggy and Joel Sloane

Mitzvah Fund

To the Brenner family

In honor of Kailey becoming
a Bat Mitzvah Karen and Jeff Green

To Michelle Ruder

In memory of June Ruder Bryn and Jeff Michaels

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

To Rabbi Ettman

Thank you for helping Noah
become Bar Mitzvah Sara and Jeff Erlbaum

Torah Card Fund

To Debi Schulman

In memory of Elaine Peskoe Susan and Larry Paul
Jane and Lowell Raeder
Susan Rubin

To the Shubin family

In memory of Barry Bascove Maris Delano
Helene Rosen
Jane and Lowell Raeder

To the Ruder family

In memory of June Ruder Lori and Craig Israelite
Jane and Lowell Raeder
Bryn and Jeff Michaels

To Elaine Brenner

In honor of Kailey's Bat Mitzvah Debby and Irv Askow
Susan Rubin
Maris Delano
Deb and Randy Brenner

Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of Manuel Weinstock Lisa and Howard Weinstock

In memory of Dana Berger Laurence Berger

In memory of Myra Blumenthal Laurence Berger

In memory of Joseph Blumenthal Laurence Berger

In memory of Louis Berger Laurence Berger

The Final Chapter

The winter reminds us of the fragility of life and its impermanence. We all walk down the same road that leads to the same end. How do we deal with this reality in our lives? What does our tradition have to say about how to mourn for people we love? In this "Happening," we will explore Jewish perspectives, both the serious and the lighthearted, on our ultimate end.

Join us on Sunday, February 11, at 4 pm for the latest installment of Cantor Franzel's Illuminations and Libations series. Each event, presented by Cantor Franzel and Rabbi Ettman, covers a topic within the Jewish world and gives us an opportunity to interact with fellow Or Ami-ites while enjoying a delicious thematic snack and drink.

New Horizons Welcomes Renowned Musician



New Horizons welcomes Ken Ulansey, a Pennsylvania Council for the Arts winner, who plays alto and soprano sax and pennywhistle. Ken will perform at Or Ami on Sunday, March 25, at 10 am.

Ken has been described as a musical chameleon, having played contemporary classical music with Relache, jazz with his own award-winning band, Latin with Synthesis and Minas, and folk music with most of the area's — and even the nation's — leading songwriters. Ken has toured extensively in

Europe, Asia and the United States, played on nearly 200 recordings, and worked in collaboration with dancers, film-makers, poets and storytellers.

New Horizons is a social group that meets every month. They have presented musicians, authors, comedians, historians, and other interesting guests. There is a nominal fee of \$20 to join New Horizons, payable at the beginning of the program year. For more information about New Horizons, contact David Grunfeld at 610-828-1480.

Future New Horizons events are scheduled for Wednesday, April 18 at 7 pm, and Sunday, May 20 at 10 am.



Join COAFTY at the

8-12th graders

Bus from Or Ami at 5:30

Game starts at 7

Cost is \$40. per person

Pizza & drinks are included. Bus included.

Bring extra spending money for extra snacks or merch

Limited to the first 15 people to sign up (other than COAFTY board)



Friday
Feb. 9,
2018
5:30 bus
from Or Ami

COAFTY at the 76ers

Philadelphia vs. New Orleans Pelicans

sign up now at the link on

COAFTY **instagram**



**Like us on Facebook
and check in often
to keep up-to-date
on what's going on at Or Ami!**



KALLAH: Night of Jewish Learning

Celebrating Israel 70 -

through sights, sounds, tastes and more

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018

6:45 – 10:30 PM

Ursinus College, Collegeville PA



Join your friends and celebrate Israel70. In honor of this significant anniversary, the Kehillah of Bux-Mont and the Kehillah of Chester County are teaming up to reimagine the Kallah: Night of Jewish Learning. We will strengthen our connections to Israel and to each other through an evening of Israel-themed classes taught by local rabbis, cantors and scholars; and we'll enjoy a "Tastes of Israel" reception.

We are thrilled to announce that the Consul General of Israel to our region, the Honorable Dani Dayan is our Keynote Speaker! There will be a Q & A following his presentation!

Other Highlights include:

Havdallah led by Cantors Stephen Freedman and David Green

Sessions on;

- ✧ How Israel has Reshaped the Image of the Jew
- ✧ Israel's Parliament: a Simulation Game
- ✧ Digging the Past
- ✧ Prayers for Israel: Exploring our Personal and Communal Connections
- ✧ Presidents of Israel: Weizmann, Ben-Zvi, Shazar, Katzir, Navon
- ✧ Occupied with Peace, Occupied with Land: The Viability of Land for Peace
- ✧ Israeli Poets and Their Message for Today
- ✧ Jerusalem, 1948-2018: 70 Years of Turbulent History for Israel's Most Important City
- ✧ Israel and the Equality of Women
- ✧ Mekor Hayyim: The Meaning of Water in Ancient Israel
- ✧ Israel: A Jewish and Democratic State
- ✧ Israel: Melting Pot or Mosaic
- ✧ Whose Land is it Anyway?



Reception follows with tastes of Israel by A La Karte Catering, Israel Wine Tasting with Jay Caplan and Sounds of Israel by Cantor Stephen Freedman

Come and Experience the Sights, Sounds, and Flavors of Israel! Celebrate Israel 70!

For additional information and/or to volunteer as a member of the planning committee contact: Sherrie Rosenberg Klein buxmontkehillah@gmail.com OR Shelley Rappaport cckehillah@jewishphilly.org



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia



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February 2018

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

28 TuB'sheva <u>activity during music</u> 9:00a Religious School 10:00a Friendship Circle	29 Fall Creative Arts (Karate and Gymnastics) Ends 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room 1:00p ECE ~ Karate Belt Ceremony (Parents Invited)	30 Sh'vat 14 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	31 Tu BiSh'vat <u>Fall Creative Arts (Soccer and Dance) Ends</u> 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Social Hall 1:00p Dance Recital (Parents Invited)	1 Sh'vat 16 6:30p Colonial Soccer Club	2 Fall Creative Art (Science and Snapology) Ends <u>PTO Fall Hot Lunch Program Ends</u> 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Upstairs Lobby 5:03p Candle Lighting 6:15p Tot Shabbat featuring the Pre-K Classes 6:30p First Fridays Wine and Cheese "Pre-Neg" 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	3 Yitro <u>Bar Mitzvah of Evan Rosenstein</u> 9:00a Torah Study 10:30a BM Evan Rosenstein 6:12p Havdalah
4 Sh'vat 19 9:00a Religious School 11:00a RSPO Meeting	5 PTO Spring Hot Lunch Program Begins <u>Spring Creative Art (Karate and Gymnastics) Begins</u> 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room 7:00p Finance Committee Meeting in Conference Room	6 Sh'vat 21 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	7 Spring Creative Arts (Soccer and Dance) Begin 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Social Hall 6:15p ECE Center Staff Meeting 7:00p RSC Meeting	8 Sh'vat 23 6:30p Colonial Soccer Club	9 Spring Creative Arts (Yoga and Snapology) Begin 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Upstairs Lobby 5:12p Candle Lighting 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	10 Mishpati <u>Sh'vat 25</u> 9:00a Torah Study 6:21p Havdalah
11 Sh'vat 26 9:00a Religious School 10:30a Bar Mitzvah Meeting With Kids 4:30p Illuminations	12 Sh'vat 27 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room	13 Sh'vat 28 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	14 Sh'vat 29 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Social Hall 7:00p Executive Committee Meeting	15 Sh'vat 30	16 ECE Center Closed ~ All Students Teacher In-Service <u>NFTY-PAR Veida</u> 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Upstairs Lobby 5:20p Candle Lighting 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	17 T'rumah <u>Adar 2</u> <u>NFTY-PAR Veida</u> 9:00a Torah Study 4:00p ECE PTO- Kid's Night Out 6:29p Havdalah
18 NFTY-PAR Veida <u>Adar 3</u> 9:00a Religious School	19 ECE Center Closed ~ All Students <u>NFTY-PAR Veida</u> <u>Adar 4</u> 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room	20 Adar 5 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	21 Adar 6 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Social Hall	22 Adar 7 6:30p Colonial Soccer Club	23 Adar 8 10:30a 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Junior Congregation 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Upstairs Lobby 5:28p Candle Lighting 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	24 T'tzaveh <u>Adar 9</u> 9:00a Torah Study 2:00p Purim Setup 6:37p Havdalah
25 Purim Carnival and 2nd grade Spiel <u>Adar 10</u> 9:00a Religious School	26 Adar 11 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room	27 Adar 12 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	28 Erev Purim <u>Adar 13</u> 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Social Hall	1 Purim <u>Adar 14</u> 6:30p Colonial Soccer Club	2 Shushan Purim <u>Adar 15</u> 10:45a M'Sibat Purim Celebration (Children Only) 1:00p ECE Center Creative Arts - Oneg Room/Upstairs Lobby 5:36p Candle Lighting 6:15p Tot Shabbat Service Featuring the Two and Three Year Old Classes 6:30p First Fridays Wine and Cheese "Pre-Neg" 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	3 Ki Tisa <u>Adar 16</u> 9:00a Torah Study 6:45p Havdalah



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