



MARCH 2018

# Please Come!

## COA Hosts an Interfaith Seder for the Community

By Carole Verona

For months, volunteers have been working behind the scenes with clergy on plans to bring an interfaith seder to members of Congregation Or Ami and nine other congregations that are members of the Plymouth-Whitemarsh Interfaith Ministerium.

The seder will take place on Thursday, March 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

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.

The effort is being spearheaded by Helene Levinson, who is working with Debby Askow, Heather Fritts, Myra Stern, Lillian Toren, Carole Verona, Mel Waxman, and Randi Zimmer with support from Lori Dafilou and Nick Johnson.

"From day one, we enlisted Rabbi Ettman's help in creating a Haggadah to help explain the seder to our non-Jewish guests. The rabbi and Cantor Franzel are creating a meaningful seder that will include the actual meaning and significance of the seder in this story of freedom, an explanation of what is on the seder plate, and, of course, music. Everything will be in English so that everyone can



participate," Helene said.

### Help needed!

"We are looking for volunteers to make charoset or desserts, to help with set up, to greet guests as they arrive, and to bring seder plates for each table. Randi Zimmer suggested that the charoset doesn't have to be fancy. You can make a simple recipe with chopped apples, chopped walnuts, cinnamon and Passover wine," Helene added. If you can help, please contact Helene at [helenewl@me.com](mailto:helenewl@me.com) or 610-283-5539.

But if you do want to get creative in the kitchen, here are 22 nut-free charoset recipes to check out: [reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/passover/taste-test-22-nut-free-charoset-recipes](http://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/passover/taste-test-22-nut-free-charoset-recipes).

Helene also worked with Or Ami member Fred Morganstein, of Infinity Caterers, to plan 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, Capers 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.

"The bottom line is we want people to come! The seder is open to the public, so feel free to invite your family, friends and neighbors to join you," Helene said.



## Register Now!

Register online at [bit.ly/InterfaithSeder](http://bit.ly/InterfaithSeder) or fill out this form and send it to Congregation Or Ami, 708 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444 by Monday, March 5.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ adults (s) and \_\_\_\_\_ (child/children ages 12-18).

## Clergy and Staff

Rabbi .....	Glenn Ettman	
	rabbiettm@or-ami.org	
Cantor .....	Jordan S. Franzel	
	Cantor.Franzel@or-ami.org	
Rabbi Emeritus.....	Seymour Prystowsky	
	Rabbisp@aol.com	
Office Manager.....	Lori Dafilou	610-828-9066 x200
	LoriD@or-ami.org	
Administrative Assistant....	Nick Johnson	610-828-9066 x201
	nickj@or-ami.org	
Early Childhood		
Education Director .....	Michelle Ruder	610-828-1086 x400
	MichelleR@or-ami.org	
ECE Center		
Assistant Director .....	Carly Shaw	610-828-1086 x401
	ECECenterOffice@or-ami.org	
Interim Director		
of Education .....	Rabbi Glenn Ettman	
Director of		
Adult Learning .....	Cantor Jordan S. Franzel	
Interim Assistant Principal..	Stefanie Bock	
Administrative Support .....	610-828-4443 x300	
	office@or-ami.org	
Synagogue Office.....	610-828-9066	
	office@or-ami.org	
Religious School .....	610-828-4443	610-828-8689 Fax
	school@or-ami.org	
ECE Center .....	610-828-1086	

## Officers and Trustees

### Executive Officers

President .....	Larry Paul
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Vice President .....	David Nasatir
Vice President.....	Mitch Zimmer
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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.



## March Worship Schedule

### Friday, March 2

6:15 pm .....	Tot Shabbat Service
7 pm.....	Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, March 3

9 am .....	Torah Study
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### Friday, March 9

7 pm.....	Erev Shabbat Service
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### Saturday, March 10

9 am .....	Torah Study
6:30 pm .....	Havdallah in the Park

### Thursday, March 15

6:30 pm .....	Community Interfaith Seder
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### Friday, March 16

7 pm.....	Erev Shabbat Service
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### Saturday, March 17

9 am .....	Torah Study
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### Friday, March 23

7 pm.....	Erev Shabbat Service
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### Saturday, March 24

9 am .....	Torah Study
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### Saturday, March 31, Passover

9 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.



# Whose Life Is It Anyways?



Join us for Part 2 of the Illuminations & Libations program on how to handle your own mortality as well as how to care for someone else as they reach the end of their journey. Led by Rabbi Ettman, Cantor Franzel and Dr. Henry Bleier, this presentation will feature a discussion on medical ethics and other end-of-life issues. This session will be held on Sunday, March 4, from 4 to 5:30 pm. Refreshments will be served. Please feel free to invite your family and friends to attend.

The Illuminations & Libations program is generously supported by the Wilma Clauson Adult Education Fund.

## Save the Date: Kabbalah and Baklava!

What do Kabbalah, the ancient Jewish tradition of mystical interpretation of the Bible, and Baklava, a sweet Middle Eastern pastry, have in common?



Well, to find out you'll have to attend the next installment of Illuminations & Libations, Or Ami's interesting, provocative and tasty adult education program.

Led by Cantor Franzel and Rabbi Ettman, Kabbalah and Baklava takes place on Sunday, April 8, from 4 to 5:30 pm. Please invite your family and friends!

Each Illuminations & Libations event is a presentation on a topic within the JewishWorld. It's also an opportunity to interact with fellow Or Ami-ites while enjoying a delicious thematic snack and drink. Illuminations & Libations programs are generously supported by the Wilma Clauson Adult Education Fund.

We hope to see you at our next event!

## 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.



# Sharing Our Simchas, Sharing Our Sorrows

## March Donations

### 70th Anniversary Donation

#### The Israeli Family

Mazel Tov on Lilah becoming  
a Bat Mitzvah ..... Barbara and Jeffrey Hoffman

### Mitzvah Fund

#### To Debi Schulman

In memory of Elaine Peskoe ..... Karen, Alan, Dani and Lauren  
Fishman

### Nancy Roomberg Memorial Fund

#### To Beth Blum

In memory of Paul Bomze ..... Karen, Alan, Dani and Lauren  
Fishman

### Torah Fund

#### To David Podolsky

In memory of Sam Podolsky ..... Marilyn Bard and family

## Yahrzeit Fund

In Memory of Louis Askow ..... Debby and Irv Askow  
In Memory of Roberta Dunoff ..... Lauren and Josh Dunoff  
In Memory of Philip Dunoff ..... Lauren and Josh Dunoff  
In Memory of Harry L Fink ..... Susan and Larry Paul  
In Memory of Freedom Gavin ..... Jane and Rick Simon  
In Memory of David Kahn ..... Barbara and Larry Kahn  
In Memory of Lorraine Kendel ..... Jill and Marc Zaid  
In Memory of Sarah Klein ..... Carol and Robert Klein  
In Memory of Jack Lebed ..... Iris and Joel Lebed  
In Memory of Jerry Loevner ..... Peggy and Joel Sloane  
In Memory of Eugene Modell ..... Elyse and Benjamin Leace  
In Memory of Betty Polakoff ..... Barbara and Larry Kahn  
In Memory of Nancy Roomberg ..... Carol and Alan Roomberg  
In Memory of Thelma "Toby" Rubin ..... Susan Rubin  
In Memory of Faye Tanack ..... Terri and Robert Weiss  
In Memory of Shirley Weiss ..... Iris and Joel Lebed

# Bnei Mitzvah



### Hannah Loewenstern

Daughter of Lisa and Daniel  
Loewenstern  
March 17, 2018

Hannah is a 7th grader at Colonial Middle School. For her mitzvah project, she volunteers at Jeanes Library's reading roundup program where she helps young children practice reading skills. Hannah also donated 8 inches of her hair to Pantene's Beautiful Lengths program, which provides wigs

for those in need. Her other interests include playing the viola in the CMS orchestra and the string ensemble.



### Julia Couzens

Daughter of Robyn Couzens  
March 24, 2018

Julia has volunteered multiple times at Cradles To Crayons, assisting with packaging clothes and toys for underprivileged youth.

# Mazel Tov!

## COATz Reaches Out to Local Woman

COATz Helping Hands (Congregation Or Ami's Tzedakah Program) is reaching out to a local woman who is in need of a kidney transplant, is currently undergoing dialysis and is also trying to hold down a job.

COATz is collecting gift cards to Giant, Weis and Target for this positive, grateful woman. So the next time you're shopping in one of these stores, please consider getting a gift card. It doesn't matter what amount you purchase; every little bit will help.

Just place your gift card in an envelope and drop it off in the Or Ami office or send to Deb Brenner, 14 Cottonwood Court, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444.






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

## Having Fun on Purim!





# Your Connections Build Our Future

***DO YOU have family or friends in our area  
who might consider joining Or Ami?***

***DO YOU know former members who would consider returning?***

***The Membership Committee would love to hear from YOU!***

Your personal connections are important to our growth. When you refer friends and family, we'll roll out the Welcome Wagon and will deliver a gift bag with a fresh challah and an invitation to join Or Ami.

You'll get a \$100 gift shop certificate as a thank you if your referral becomes a member!

Please contact Barb Hoffman today at  
**610-574-2278 or [barbhoffman@comcast.net](mailto:barbhoffman@comcast.net)**

We are always eager to grow our community and to share what makes  
Or Ami such a special place.



# Commemorate, Celebrate, Honor Your Loved Ones Forever



## With an Engraved Copper Leaf on the **Tree of Life**



The Or Ami Tree of Life is a tree of simchas, celebration and honor that continues to flourish with the names, events and dates of our milestones, achievements and acknowledgements.

What a wonderful way to commemorate a birth, an adoption, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, confirmation, wedding, anniversary, conversion, accomplishment or award, while contributing to our synagogue's beautification and sustainability.

For only \$118 per leaf, you can give a beautiful, meaningful gift that will last a lifetime. To order, please use the form below or call the Or Ami office at 610-828-9066, or order online at: [www.or-ami.org](http://www.or-ami.org) and click through the **Tree of Life Order Form**.

**Place your order now!**

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### Tree of Life Order Form (Please print)

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Event (i.e., Bar or Bat Mitzvah, wedding, etc.)

Greeting (Love, From, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Purchased by: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Number of leaves\* \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed (\$118/leaf ) \_\_\_\_\_

\* For additional leaves, please fill out the above information on the reverse side of this form.

# March 2018

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

25 Purim Adar 10 Carni and 2nd grade Spiel 9:00a Religious School	26 Adar 11	27 Adar 12 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	28 Erev Purim Adar 13	1 Purim Adar 14 4:30p IDA Rehearsal	2 Shushan Purim Adar 15 11:15a M'Sibat Purim Celebration (Children Only) 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 Adar 16 9:00a Torah Study 6:45p Havdalah
4 Adar 17 9:00a Religious School 11:00a RSPO Meeting 4:00p Illuminations	5 Adar 18	6 Adar 19 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	7 Adar 20	8 Adar 21	9 Adar 22 5:43p Candle Lighting 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	10 Vayak Adar 23 P'kudi 9:00a Torah Study 6:52p Havdalah
11 Adar 24 9:00a Religious School 10:00a Friendship Circle	12 Adar 25	13 Adar 26 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	14 Adar 27 7:00p Executive Committee Meeting 7:00p ECE Committee Mtg	15 Adar 28 11:30a ECE Center Director's Meeting 6:30p Ministerium Interfaith Seder	16 Adar 29 6:51p Candle Lighting 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	17 Vayikr Nisan 1 Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Loewenstern <b>NFTY-PAR Elections</b> 9:00a Torah Study 10:30a BM Hannah Loewenstern 8:00p Havdalah
18 Nisan 2 9:00a Religious School 10:00a Friendship Circle	19 Nisan 3	20 Nisan 4 4:15p Tuesday Afternoon Religious School 6:30p Omdim @ Youth Lounge	21 Nisan 5 7:00p Board of Trustees Meeting	22 Nisan 6	23 Nisan 7 9:00a ECE Model Seder (Children Only) 6:58p Candle Lighting 7:00p Erev Shabbat Service	24 Tzav Nisan 8 Bat Mitzva of Julia Couze 9:00a Torah Study 10:30a BM Julia Couzens 12:05p Couzens Kiddush 8:07p Havdalah

## Gifts for any occasion at Or Ami's Gift Shop

*Gifts, plates, and  
everything you  
need for Passover*

Shopping at Or Ami's Gift Shop is easy and convenient. And all proceeds go to Or Ami.

We have a "we trust you" policy. If no one is in the shop, go to the office and someone will help you. Or leave a note with your name, phone number and a description of what you took and Rachel will contact you for payment.

Mention this ad and  
get \$5.00 off your purchase  
of \$25 or more.

### Our Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday: 9 a.m. to noon

**Or call Rachel at 610-724-4188 for an appointment**