



Shalom from Rabbi Chalom **Who Are We?**

by Rabbi Adam Chalom (rabbichalom@KolHadash.com)

It's been my experience over 40 years involved in Humanistic Judaism that often our members know why this approach to Jewish life and personal philosophy works for them, but they find it hard to describe to others. It can be a bit like trying to describe how to tie a pair shoes with only words and no actions or demonstrations: your listener might "sorta get it," but it will take actual experience to make it real. Guests of any age are always welcome to our Shabbat services, adult education programs, Sunday morning holiday celebrations, and just about everything else, so if explanation fails you can always invite them to come along with you.

As a congregation, it can be just as hard trying to sum up who we are and why we exist: what is generally understood as a mission

statement. A long series of meetings over the past several months, including committee sessions, focus groups, and the Steering Committee, have grappled with boiling who we are down to just a few words. It was hard enough creating efficient bullet points for the back of our service booklets!

It was challenging to say who we are without implying something we are not. We are a welcoming community that celebrates diversity of thought and cultural background, but we also have shared, positive beliefs about Judaism and the world. We are open to intercultural/interfaith families in many varieties, but we are also a community organized around Judaism – if we said "we are Jews" or even "we are a Jewish community," could that be understood to mean that non-Jewish spouses were less-than-fully welcome? Not everyone understands what we mean by "Humanism"; the questions went on and on.

We arrived at this working statement, pending further input: **An inclusive community celebrating Jewish life through human knowledge, power and responsibility.** It emphasizes our welcoming approach, our positive ("celebrating") focus on Jewish life, and our distinctive approach emphasizing the human dimension of how we welcome people and celebrate our Jewish connections. After all, if the sentence ended after "Jewish life," that could describe any number of liberal Jewish congregations!

You do NOT have to love it; as with any compromise produced by committee work, there are inevitable flaws, and nothing made by limited human beings will be absolutely perfect. But I think it does a good job of saying who we are, and also giving us a road map to improve what we do.

This mission statement is both a snapshot of the present and a goal for our future – this is who we aspire to be, how we aspire to relate to each other, Kol Hadash at its best. Living up to this ideal may involve change, which is always challenging and scary. However, of all Jewish organizations, Humanistic Jews with all the changes we've made should be the LAST ones to rely on, "This is the way we've always done it!" If this is who we want to be, then this is also how we are to get there.

The Shofar
The Monthly Newsletter of Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation

Affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism
175 Olde Half Day Road, Suite 123, Lincolnshire, IL 60069
847/383-5184 • info@KolHadash.com • www.KolHadash.com
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Youth Education Committee

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The **Kol Hadash Steering Committee** meets once a month, usually on the first Thursday, 7:30 PM, at the Kol Hadash office upstairs conference room. Check the calendar in this *Shofar* or on our website to confirm this month's date. Members are welcome to attend Steering Committee meetings. Contact the SC chair for information.

The **Shofar newsletter** is published monthly and is mailed to all members. An electronic version is available at www.kolhadash.com. If you would like to contribute content to the *Shofar*, contact Mark Friedman.



View from the Chair

by Steering Committee Chair Sheila Sebor (scchair@KolHadash.com)

Dear Kol Hadash Family,
Welcome to the April edition of the *Shofar*. Even though April begins the last quarter of our congregational year, we have several amazing events scheduled and some new initiatives designed to take our message to more people and places.

This month we will be getting together to cheer on our favorite wines! Yes, the **Winers** are meeting April 1 at 7:00 PM for the ever-popular "Tournament of Red Wine

Champions" at the home of Andrea and Mark Friedlander. This NCAA-style tournament features bottle-to-bottle battles, with blind tastings of each wine. It's good fun, good food and lots of good (sometimes great) red wines. Join the Winers on April 1, favorite team apparel most welcome!

I hope you have all registered for one of my favorite Kol Hadash events: our all-congregation **Community Passover Seder**, set for the second night of Passover, Tuesday, April 11, at Bluegrass Restaurant in Highland Park. The first time Ron and I attended the KH Passover Seder, we were happily surprised by the combination of relevant and meaningful readings and explanations under the expert leadership of Rabbi Chalom and the traditional melodies of Laura Burk. It's a great opportunity to celebrate the holiday without having to cook and clean up. And the food is wonderful!

On Saturday, May 6, the Kol Hadash Youth Education and Membership committees are co-hosting a **Bonfire Sing-a-Long and Pot Luck Dinner** from 5:45-8:00 PM. at the Heller Nature Center in Highland Park. Please make plans to join us; it's sure to be a fun evening of good music and food. No singing experience necessary, just enthusiasm!

And we have finalized the details for our most "FUNdraiser" for 2016-17. The popular **Maxwell Street Klezmer Band** is creating a concert specifically for Kol Hadash, and all are welcome to come, listen and dance! Join us on Sunday, June 4, at **Bella Via Ristorante** in Highland Park, from 5:00-9:00 PM for the dinner and concert, or from 7:00-9:00 PM for the concert and dessert only. Many years ago, I booked the band for my older son's bar mitzvah and can't wait to see them again!

A quick update on the work of our committees: Our Strategic Planning Committee created a new mission statement for Kol Hadash and is planning how it will be implemented by our committees and clubs. Several representatives from the Finance, Development and Membership committees are completing work on a revised dues structure, and more information will be communicated to you shortly. And the Marketing Committee has launched an ongoing series of "Voices of Kol Hadash" on our YouTube channel!

I believe that now, in this particular environment, meaningful personal connections are more important than ever. If we make Kol Hadash a place where they are abundant, and more people become aware of just how special our little congregation is, we can look forward to a secure future. If you are interested in helping us make that happen, you are more than welcome! Contact the committee chairs, listed in this newsletter, or the Kol Hadash office.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,
Sheila

This Month's Events at Kol Hadash

New Membership Model – Info Sessions This Spring

This upcoming year, Kol Hadash will be testing a new path that will lower barriers to entry for new members and help existing members find new ways to stay engaged as family and life circumstances change. Join us to discuss why and how these changes will be made. (Note: in advance of these informational sessions, all members will receive a letter explaining changes to membership dues.)

Sunday, April 23, 10:00 AM • Deerfield High School (east entrance)

Tuesday April 25, 7:30 PM • Kol Hadash Office

Shabbat Service, Friday May 5, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church

Winers

Saturday, April 1, 7:00 PM • Home of Andrea & Mark Friedlander

It's time for the Winers' annual Tournament of Red Wines Champions! Bottles will battle head-to-head in blind tastings as we sip away an evening with good friends and foods. Please bring a bottle of red wine to enter into the tournament, a "bar food"-type appetizer to share (dessert will be provided), and show your team spirit by wearing apparel from your favorite team...or winery! All are welcome! RSVP to winers@KolHadash.com.

Adult Education/Jewish History: *Anti-Semitism*

Tuesday, April 4, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church

The 19th century saw great Jewish success: new industries and new social and cultural openness provided many doors through which Jews could enter without conversion. But the dislocations and upheavals of industrial and political revolution also created the grounds for blame and suspicion, and, ultimately, hatred.

Shabbat Service: *The Year of Sevens: Israeli Anniversaries*

Friday, April 7, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church

It is fascinating how many events crucial to the modern state of Israel took place in years ending in 7, from the first Zionist Congress in 1897 to the Balfour Declaration in 1917, the UN Partition vote in 1947 and the Six Day War in 1967. Unfortunately, the Intifada began in 1987, and here we stand in 2017 with limited opportunities for hope. What can we learn from the past to help us face the future?



Community Passover Seder

Tuesday, April 11, 5:00 PM • Bluegrass Restaurant, Highland Park

Bring your family and friends to our all-congregation seder led by Rabbi Chalom, hosted once again by our friends at Bluegrass Restaurant. See the enclosed flyer for complete details and reservation form. Or sign up online at <http://tinyurl.com/khseder2017>

Movie Club: Mystery Movie Night

Saturday, April 15 • Time & Location TBD

Join the Movie Club for Saturday night at the movies! We'll see a movie at the Renaissance Highland Park or AMC Northbrook Court. Dinner and discussion to follow. The mystery? We don't know what will be playing yet! RSVP to movieclub@KolHadash.com and we'll decide our movie as we get closer to April 15.



Adult Education/Jewish History: *Jewish Pluralism*

Tuesday, April 18, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church

Jewish diversity is not a new phenomenon - there has always been more than one way to be Jewish. What is new today is mutual acceptance among varying approaches to Jewish life. What do we have in common with – and where do we diverge from – the many Jewish options available in 2017?

Sefer Circle (Book Discussion): *Night* by Elie Wiesel

Wednesday, April 19, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church

Originally published in English in 1960, Wiesel's searing 120-page memoir evokes the horror and tragedy of the Holocaust as few pieces of writing can do. In the week between the end of Passover and Yom Ha-Shoah/Holocaust Memorial Day, we will return to 1944 Hungary and the life of a young man consumed in flame and ash.

Yom HaShoah Shabbat Service Led by 7th/8th Grade Sunday School Class

Friday, April 21, 7:30 pm, North Shore Unitarian Church

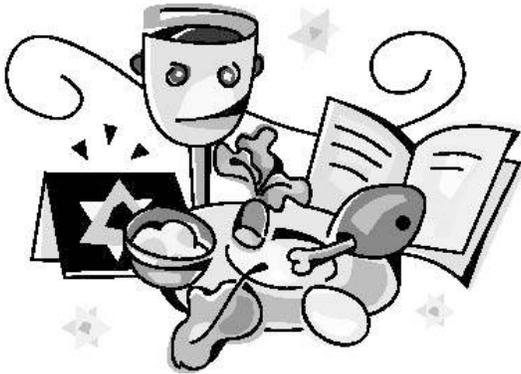
Leora Hatchwell's 7th/8th graders have been studying the impact of the Holocaust this year, from the roots of anti-Semitism through the founding of the state of Israel and Holocaust museums throughout the world. They will lead the Shabbat service commemorating *Yom HaShoah* (Holocaust Memorial Day) this month. The service will include a brief performance by guest Zach Weil, who tells the story of his grandfather, a Holocaust survivor. All congregants are invited to attend. The service is appropriate for students in 6th grade and higher.



Community Passover Seder

Second Night of Passover: Tuesday, April 11
 4:30-4:45 PM Arrival • 5:00 PM Seder Begins

Bluegrass Restaurant
 1636 Old Deerfield Road, Highland Park



Why Is Our Seder Different from Other Seders?

1. We celebrate the values and symbols we cherish with words we believe (and understand).
2. We know that freedom comes from human empathy and action. Even if historically we were never “slaves in Egypt,” we can still learn the same lesson!
3. We have great food, fellowship and fun WITHOUT dirty dishes!
4. We start on time and start dinner by 6pm!

Space is limited ... reserve early. Reservation deadline is April 7.

Reserve online! Visit <http://tinyurl.com/khseder2017> and complete your reservation today.

OR

Complete and mail the reservation form below. Questions? Contact Jeremy (info@KolHadash.com)

-----Clip here and return the form below with your payment-----

PLEASE: List the names of your guests on the back of the reply form.

# of seats	Cost per seat	Total
___ Adult members & children ages 13+	\$52	\$ _____
___ Adult non-members (guests; members' relatives age 25+)	\$65	\$ _____
___ Children ages 6-12 (members and non-members)	\$30	\$ _____
___ Children ages 3-6 (members and non-members) <i>(Children under 3: no charge)</i>	\$15	\$ _____
Additional Sponsorship Donation (see below)		\$ _____
	Total Payment Enclosed	\$ _____

Reservation deadline is April 7; please add late fee of \$5 per adult for reservations postmarked after April 7.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Make checks payable to Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation.
 Mail this form with your payment to: Kol Hadash, 175 Olde Half Day Road, Suite 123, Lincolnshire, IL 60069

Please consider adding a tax-deductible donation to support this and other special programs. Donors will be listed as co-sponsors in the Shofar newsletter. THANK YOU!

\$20 Afikomen Sponsor • \$50 Thank the Organizers • \$100 Be Amazing! • www.tinyurl.com/KHsponsor

www.KolHadash.com



From the Youth Education Director

by Dawn Friedman (education@KolHadash.com, 847-997-8931)

The Jewish calendar has many holidays, most having ancient roots but others more modern. On April 9, we hold our family Passover Seder at Sunday School. Students participate in a seder with all the ritual foods, just no matza bowl soup or brisket! While we know there is no archaeological evidence of a mass exodus from Egypt, we honor our ancient stories of a people yearning to be free.

April 24 is *Yom HaShoah*, Holocaust Memorial Day. It corresponds to the date in the Jewish calendar chosen by the Israeli government and marked by the statewide closure of business and government offices as well as moments of silence. Some prefer to honor the victims of the Holocaust on April 19, the date of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, a dramatic testament to Jewish resistance during World War II.

We will observe the occasion with a Shabbat service on April 21 led by our 7th/8th Grade Sunday School Class, who have been studying the Holocaust this year. Given the very disturbing nature of this tragic period in history, difficult for adults to comprehend much less children, we do not observe *Yom HaShoah* in Sunday School with our younger grades, instead educating our children in the

events that led to the Holocaust and its aftermath and impact on the world when they are in 7th and 8th grades and more prepared developmentally and emotionally to study it in the depth it deserves.

The following week includes two holidays that focus on the founding of the state of Israel, *Yom HaZikaron* (Israel Memorial Day, honoring Israel's fallen soldiers, May 1) and *Yom HaAtzma'ut* (Israel Independence Day, May 2). While we have various opinions about Israeli politics, we can express our solidarity with the Jewish people and celebrate Israel as a Jewish homeland and center for Jewish culture, creativity, and achievement. On Sunday, May 7, the Jewish United Fund is sponsoring Israel Solidarity Day at Ravinia, 2:00 - 6:00 pm, with a walk, food, and music (<http://www.juf.org/isd>). For more information on the Humanistic Jewish approach to holidays and other aspects of Judaism and Jewish culture, visit the Kol Hadash website at www.KolHadash.com or that of the Society for Humanistic Judaism: <http://www.shj.org>

And at the end of the month we have a new program we hope will become a Kol Hadash tradition, Grandparents & Special Friends Day, Sunday April 30. We hope all Sunday School students will invite a grandparent, friend or relative special to them for a day of activities, ending with our Day of Action Community Service project.

Chag Sameach (Happy Holidays)!

Dawn Friedman

This Month's Sunday School Schedule: April 9, 23, 30

Regular School Schedule: 9:30-11:30 AM • 6th Grade Hebrew & 7th Grade Mitzvah: 11:45 AM-12:45 PM

- April 2: No classes, Spring Break
- April 9: School Passover Seder, 10:30; Staff Meeting, Youth Group Meeting 11:30 AM-12:30 PM. *No Snack (Seder)*
- April 16: No classes, Passover & Easter
- April 23: New Membership Model Info Session, 9:30 AM; 7th/8th Grade Field Trip to Holocaust Museum, 10:00 AM-2:30 PM; *No Mitzvah Class. Snack: Apple Slices*
- April 30: Grandparents/Special Friends Day, 9:30; Day of Action Community Service Project, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM. *Snack: Bagels (Pirates Booty available)*

Family Passover Seder

Sunday, April 9, 10:30-11:30 AM • Deerfield High School

Get a head start on Passover with our all-ages Sunday School seder; all congregants are welcome to join us at DHS. RSVP to Dawn Friedman so we set a place for you (students do not need to RSVP.)

There are regular classes at 9:30 this day, and regular Hebrew and Mitzvah classes at 11:45 after the seder.

Volunteers are needed to shop, shlep, boil eggs (or buy them!), setup, serve and cleanup. We use SignupGenius.com for volunteer sign-up for school events; go here to volunteer for the seder: <http://tinyurl.com/KHSchoolSeder17>. If you haven't registered on SignupGenius.com, it's free and easy. Visit the same link above and follow the instructions to register. It's a 2-step process; they'll email you a password, then you return to the site to sign in and sign up to volunteer. They don't share your information, and it will be even simpler to volunteer for our next event! Note that this process is best done on a computer, not a smartphone. Questions? Contact Dawn Friedman, education@KolHadash.com. Thanks for your help!



When we eat together, we remember those who do not have enough to eat. Please bring non-perishable foods, paper goods, and/or other household items for our food pantry collection; gift cards to local grocery stores are also welcome.

Sunday School News & Events

ALL EVENTS AT DEERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Grandparents & Special Friends Day - AND - Day of Action Community Service Project Sunday, April 30, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Deerfield High School

For the first time, we're planning a day for grandparents and other special friends or relatives to come to Sunday School. At 9:30, guests will share a light breakfast and conversation with Rabbi Adam & Youth Education Director Dawn Friedman, and then join students in their classrooms for activities and discussions. We'll all come back together for a community service project as part of our Day of Action; we'll make no-sew fleece blankets for Chai Lifeline, which supports critically ill children and their families. Please share this with your friends and family so they can make plans to join us on April 30. We want each child to have someone special to them attend that day.

Storytimes for Young Children

Come learn about Jewish holidays with stories, songs, and activities especially for young children and their families, led by Rabbi Adam Chalom and Education Director Dawn Friedman. Get to know other families in your community! These programs are funded by a grant from jBaby Chicago, a program of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. To register, visit

<http://www.juf.org/jbabychicago/jewishholidays101.aspx>

To see the full schedule of classes offered by jBaby partner organizations, visit <http://www.juf.org/jbabychicago/partnerClassesList.aspx>

Have a Matzah Ball: It's Passover!

Learn about Passover with stories, songs, and activities especially for children ages 0-2 (older children welcome). Resources for celebrating Passover in your home will be provided. See the flyer in this *Shofar* or visit the KH website at <http://tinyurl.com/passoverstorytime17>

The Book Bin, 1151 Church St., Northbrook
Wednesday, April 5, 10:30-11:00 AM

Deerfield Barnes & Noble, 728 North Waukegan Road
Sunday, April 9, 2:30-3:00PM

IMPORTANT! Sunday School Food Restrictions

Please note that food brought to Sunday School may not contain any peanuts, tree nuts (including almonds), or sesame seeds, due to severe allergies among our students. This includes snacks or lunches brought to Sunday School and Hebrew School, as well as any foods brought to meetings or events at DHS. We cannot allow snacks from home due to other student allergies. *Thank you for your cooperation!*

Family Home Shabbat Dinner: Friday, April 28

We've had a great kickoff to our new series of family Shabbat dinners in members' homes. Join us as we conclude this year's series of dinners on April 28 at the home of Ilana & Marty Shaffer in Deerfield. Dinner begins at 6:00 PM; everyone brings a pot-luck dish to share. The host will coordinate dishes and quantities based on who can come. This dinner is geared toward families with children in K-5th grade; *younger & older siblings are welcome!* RSVP by April 24 to shafferilana@gmail.com. For more info, contact Dawn Friedman (education@KolHadash.com).

Mazel Tov to Our Shabbat Service Leaders!

Our class Shabbat services continued to inspire, educate and entertain us in March. Mazel tov to the 4th/5th grade class (below left) and their teacher Mark Friedman as well as the 6th grade students (below right) and their teacher Stacey Max and aide Cara Schwartz!





Have a Matzah Ball...It's Passover!

Holiday Storytimes for Young Children

Come learn about Passover with stories, songs, and activities especially for children ages 0-2; older children welcome! Rabbi Adam Chalom and Education Director Dawn Friedman of Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation lead these storytime sessions. Get to know other families in your community! Resources for celebrating Passover in your home will be provided.



Wednesday, April 5

10:30-11:00 AM

The Book Bin

1151 Church Street, Northbrook

Sunday, April 9, 2:30-3:00 PM

Deerfield Barnes & Noble

728 North Waukegan Road

Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation is a welcoming, thinking community of Humanists who celebrate Jewish traditions together with open minds and hearts. Interfaith/intercultural and LGBT families are very welcome. Visit us at www.KolHadash.com.

Questions? Contact info@KolHadash.com

RSVP at <http://www.juf.org/jbabychicago/jewishholidays101.aspx>



This program is made possible by a grant from jBaby Chicago, a program of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.



Bonfire Sing-a-Long & Pot Luck Dinner

**SATURDAY, MAY 6
5:45 PM**

**ALL are welcome!
FREE of charge!**

**HELLER NATURE CENTER
2821 RIDGE ROAD, HIGHLAND PARK**



Remember the old sing-a-longs at summer camp? Or the fall bonfire songfests led by our Rabbi Emeritus Dan Friedman at our predecessor congregation, Beth Or? Here's your chance to relive your youth and create new memories by sharing a community pot-luck dinner (indoors), followed by singing around the fire (outside) led by Music Director Ellen Apley at the Heller Nature Center!

Each family brings a main course or a hearty side dish (enough to share with others); dessert is provided by Kol Hadash. Please bring your own water bottle or drink of choice (no alcohol, please.) Bring blankets and folding chairs for the bonfire. This program is intended for Kol Hadash members OF ALL AGES, friends and guests. Note: Please bring your dish no later than 5:45. Dinner will start promptly at 6:00. Sing-a-long will start at 7:15. Questions? Please contact the office (info@KolHadash.com) or call [847.383.5184](tel:847.383.5184).

RSVP BY May 3: Return the below form by mail, call 847-383-5184, or go to: <http://tinyurl.com/KHbonfire17>

Name: _____ Email: _____

Number of people attending: _____ I will bring: MAIN COURSE to share
 HEARTY SIDE DISH to share

Return form to: Kol Hadash, 175 Olde Half Day Road, Suite 123, Lincolnshire, IL 60069

Please consider adding a tax-deductible donation to support this and other special programs. Donors will be listed as co-sponsors in the Shofar newsletter. THANK YOU!
\$20 SPARK • \$50 EMBER • \$100 TORCH! • www.tinyurl.com/KHsponsor

Meet Kol Hadash!



Meet Rick & Marsha Bolnick

What do Jewish people believe? That might seem like an odd question coming from a Jewish man who was raised in a Conservative synagogue, married a woman from an Orthodox family, and belonged to a Reform congregation as a family for seventeen years. But after their first trip to Israel, Rick Bolnick enrolled in a class at the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning to explore this question. After being taught what Jewish people are supposed to believe, it was surprising to Rick to realize all that he did NOT believe!

Fortunately, as part of the class, Rick heard the term “humanistic Judaism,” and after surfing the Internet, he discovered Kol Hadash. Rick and his wife, Marsha, attended an informal meet-and-greet gathering at the home of members Andrea & Mark Friedlander, where they met Rabbi Chalom,

Education Director Dawn Friedman, and several other Kol Hadash members. Two things grabbed them immediately: (1) Rabbi Chalom talked about what people can do themselves for forgiveness and world peace, rather than looking to a higher power to achieve these goals; and (2) Marsha realized that their two grown children probably would have actually liked Sunday School if they had attended the one at Kol Hadash.

Rick and Marsha joined Kol Hadash 5½ years ago. Rick is a regular attendee at the Adult Education classes and Shabbat services, sings in the choir, served on the Membership Committee and is now a member of the Steering Committee. Marsha bakes for the annual Taste of Kol Hadash event and the New Member Welcome event and enthusiastically hosts the Progressive Dinner.

When asked what he enjoys the most about Kol Hadash, Rick is very clear: the personal stories shared at Shabbat services during the candle-lighting, Ellen Apley’s “talent, encouragement and playfulness as choir director,” and the fact that Rabbi Chalom has made him think about Judaism “maybe for the first time.” Marsha enjoys the people and the new friends she has made, and loves hosting the Progressive Dinner.

The Bolnicks live in Highland Park but their kids attended Deerfield schools. Marsha is a former social worker and now works as an executive account manager for a license sports manufacturer. Rick is a clinical psychologist with a practice in Vernon Hills. Their 32-year-old son Cary spent several years in the Peace Corps in Ukraine and is now a history teacher at a Chicago high school. Their 30-year-old daughter Tracy is the Director of Talent Acquisition at a media agency in Chicago. She is married to Toby Bielenberg, a director at a national safety apparel company.

Marsha loves baking, is an avid reader, attends current events classes, exercises daily and follows all sports teams. Rick is interested in genealogy, takes improv classes, participates in a men’s group, works out and used to play racquetball until he was told to avoid jumping around due to his back.

Three things that few people at Kol Hadash know about Marsha and Rick:

1. Marsha was born and raised in Pittsburgh and lived in Lynchburg, Virginia, for eight years where she worked in a sheltered workshop for developmentally disabled adults, was a consultant to a nursing home and was very involved with Special Olympics.
2. Rick, who was raised in Rogers Park, once hitchhiked from Chicago to California and rode a motorcycle for years.
3. Several years ago, Marsha and Rick traveled to Bolnicki (now called Balninkas), Lithuania, obviously the ancestral town that gave rise to their surname. They got to sign their name “Marsha and Rick Bolnick” in the guestbook at the town’s tiny glass museum.

“Meet Kol Hadash”. . . Goes Social!

We’re excited to introduce Voices of Kol Hadash, a new playlist on our YouTube channel. The voices are our members’ – the stories are their journeys to Humanistic Judaism and Kol Hadash. *Listen. Enjoy. Share.*

Our first audio story went online in mid-March: “Finding My Jewish Home” by founding member Suzie Garfield, who shares her journey from “cardiac Judaism” to “gastronomic Judaism” to “pediatric Judaism” . . . to Humanistic Judaism!



More stories are being posted every two weeks. Watch for announcements on the KH Facebook page!



2016-2017 Adult Education with Rabbi Chalom

Humanistic Judaism: **PHILOSOPHY & INTELLECTUAL HISTORY**



Remaining 2016-17 Classes

April 4	Anti-Semitism
April 18	Jewish Pluralism
May 9	Israel
May 16	Jewish Peoplehood

The Jewish world today is more confusing than ever. Conflict both within the Jewish community and with the world around us seem to be getting more intense every month. How can we best understand what is happening, and what we can do about it?

Rabbi Chalom's newly organized Adult Education course covers Humanistic Judaism: Philosophy (September-January) and Intellectual History (February-May). This course is free of charge and open to all. Members are welcome to drop in on any session . . . attend as many (or as few) classes as you wish! ***All classes meet 7:30-8:30 PM at the North Shore Unitarian Church.***

Questions? Contact Rabbi Chalom (rabbi@KolHadash.com, 847-383-5184)

All are welcome!

Community Service Corner

Questions? Contact Lynn Miller (communityservice@KolHadash.com)

Blanket-Making for Chai Lifelines: April 30

Save the date **Sunday, April 30!** We will once again have our annual Day of Action community service project: making no-sew fleece blankets for Chai Lifeline, an organization that supports families with children who face serious illnesses. This is an all-ages activity for parents and their children. Note: April 30 is also Grandparents & Special Friends Day at Sunday School, with a full morning of activities planned. Questions & to RSVP, contact Dawn Friedman (education@KolHadash.com).



Join the Kol Hadash 5Kers: May 6

Run (or walk) and help raise money to end domestic violence in Lake County! Join the Kol Hadash team (KH 5Kers) for the fifth annual A Safe Place EmpoweRun on Saturday, May 6, at Independence Grove in Libertyville. Visit <http://asafeplace.dojiggy.com> for event info and to sign up to support the KH team! For more information, contact Sue Addelson (saddelson@comcast.net).

Volunteering at PADS: July 18

Kol Hadash is organizing a volunteer group to help out at PADS at the Kingswood United Methodist Church in Buffalo Grove. The goal of PADS (Public Action to Deliver Service) is to provide hospitality, food and overnight emergency shelter to the homeless. The sites are staffed by volunteers who prepare, supervise and clean sleeping accommodations as well as prepare and serve dinner, breakfast and a sack lunch. Two KH volunteers have already volunteered to staff the

overnight shift; we're looking for 6-8 KH volunteers to staff the dinner shift, from 6:30-8:45 PM. Students in 7th grade and above are invited to participate. We have also volunteered to provide a portion of the food to be served. To sign up, contact Lynn Miller (communityservice@KolHadash.com, 847-234-2599).

Rabbi Chalom's Haggadah Hotline!

We live in a DIY world, and Rabbi Chalom is here to help you make your own haggadah this Passover! As announced in the February *Shofar*, if you are looking for specific readings, translations, explanations for symbolic holiday foods, songs, or any other guidance on creating your family's Passover experience . . . the rabbi's hotline is open!

Contact haggadahhotline@kolhadash.com today!

There is no set fee this the rabbi's consultation, but a donation of \$50 (\$100 for general public) to Kol Hadash is suggested.

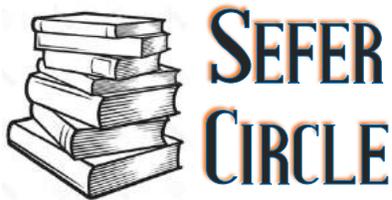


SAVE THE DATE!

Kol Hadash's First-Ever
**BONFIRE SING-A-LONG
& POT LUCK DINNER**

FREE OF CHARGE!
Saturday, May 6, 5:45-8:00 PM
Heller Nature Center

ALL ARE WELCOME! Invite friends and relatives.
We'll enjoy a pot-luck dinner indoors and then sing around the fire outside.
RSVP here: <http://tinyurl.com/KHbonfire17>



Exploring Jewish books with Rabbi Chalom

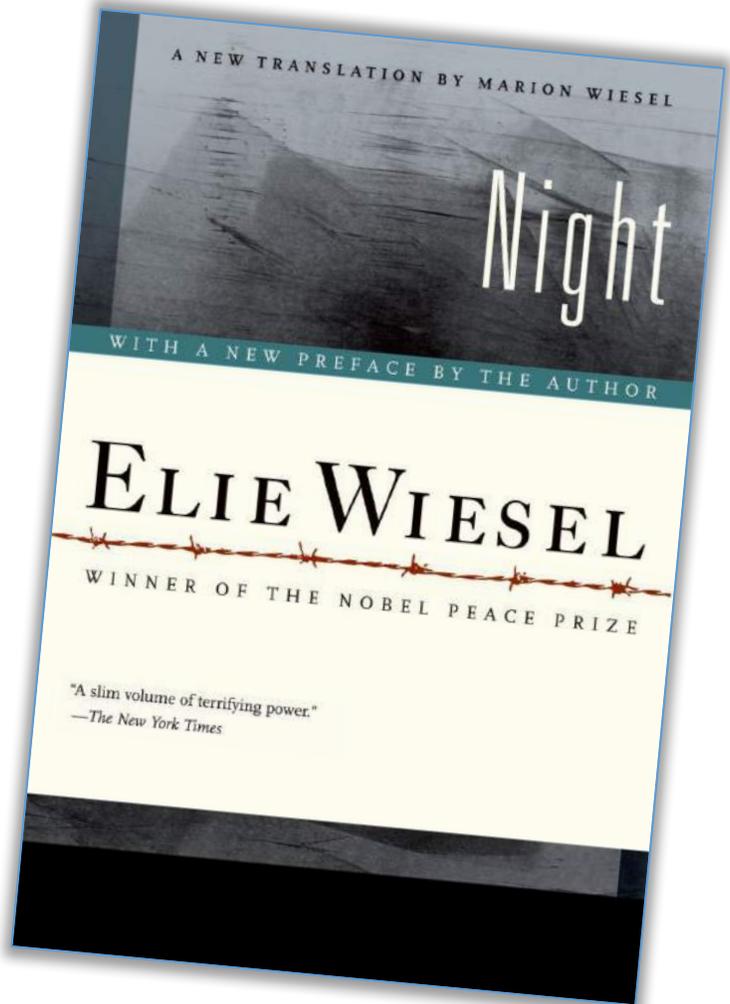
Night
by Elie Wiesel

Wednesday, April 19
7:30 PM
North Shore Unitarian Church

Rabbi Chalom's Sefer Circle is a
bimonthly book discussion.
Sefer is Hebrew for *book*.

Originally published in English
in 1960, Wiesel's searing 120-
page memoir evokes the horror
and tragedy of the Holocaust as
few pieces of writing can do.

In the week between the end
of Passover and Yom Ha-
Shoah/Holocaust Memorial
Day, we will return to 1944
Hungary and the life of a young
man consumed in flame and ash.



***Sefer Circle discussions are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
ALL ARE WELCOME!***

Kol Hadash News & Announcements

Annual Meeting Set for June 16

Be sure to join us on Friday, June 16, 7:30 PM, for a Shabbat service and the Annual Meeting of the congregation. At the Annual Meeting, the rabbi and key committee chairs provide reports and reflections on the congregational year that is ending and the year to come. The 2017-18 budget will also be presented to the congregation.

Help Us Spread the Word

Rabbi Chalom is a great marketing tool for Kol Hadash. If you know of any local organizations (or better yet, have contacts at any local organizations) that might be interested in having Rabbi Chalom speak or do a program, please contact Andrea Friedlander at membership@KolHadash.com.

Thank You!

- To the families who hosted our recent Family Home Shabbat gatherings: the **Jacksons & Aristodemos** (February 17) and **Leah Sosewitz & Helga Gruenbauer** (March 31).
- To the **4th/5th Grade school families** for hosting the oneg for their class Shabbat service on March 3, with special thanks to Mimi Saks for coordinating.
- To **Susie & Larry Dworsky** for hosting the oneg at our March 10 Shabbat Purim celebration.
- To the many **teen and adult volunteers** who made our March 12 Purim Carnival a big success. Watch the *May Shofar* for photos and full list of participants!
- To the **6th Grade school families** for hosting the oneg for their class Shabbat service on March 17, with special thanks to Karen Jackson for coordinating.
- To **Leena Schwartz** for taking our Sunday School class photos on March 5. The photos are viewable on the school Flickr page and will appear in our digital yearbook, which will appear online in May.
- To **Susan Addelson, Suzie Garfield, Mitch Apley, Mark Friedman and Zack Klein** for their work in planning, recording and editing the Voices of Kol Hadash audio stories. See page 6 for details on how to hear this great new audio series.

Family News and Announcements

- If you have a graduating senior in your family (child or grandchild) this spring, let us know the details so we can spread the word in the Shofar! Send the details to shofar@KolHadash.com and we'll publish all announcements this summer.



Support Kol Hadash whenever you make a purchase at Amazon! Amazon Smile has the same product listings at the same prices as ordinary Amazon.com, except that 0.5% of Amazon Smile purchases are donated to your designated charity. Please consider shopping at Amazon Smile and designating Kol Hadash: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-4454948>

This Month's Yahrzeits

The following names will be read at the **April 7 Shabbat** service at the North Shore Unitarian Church. If there is a name missing or if you would like to have a name read at the service, please contact the Kol Hadash office (847-383-5184, administrator@KolHadash.com).

Bernice Aaron	Cathryn Adams
Rose Adler	Dorian Chalom
Nathan Eichner	Cyma Hefter
Bill Korr	Morris Lambert
Belle Marks	Phillip Mintz
Louis J. Moses	Rita Muroff
Aaron Pashkow	Leonard Shepard
Roslyn Simon	Miriam Sitrick
Philip Sitrick	Louis Sonshine
Hortense Stichler	Molly Yoelin

This Month's Birthdays

Elana Gibson	April 2
Sophie Gibson	April 2
Howard Jacobs	April 6
Larry Deutsch	April 12
Grayson Landsman	April 12
Lita Passen	April 15
Connor Perlin	April 16
Howard Adler	April 21
Jordan Cohan	April 22
Olivia Cohan	April 22
Mark Milstein	April 22
Quinn Hirsch	April 23
Elliot Miller	April 25
Ken Wexler	April 27
Bobby Jacobs	April 30

This Month's Anniversaries

Paula & David Harris	April 13
Susan & Roger Addelson	April 23
Victoria & John Ratnaswamy	April 29



Save the Date!

Please note these future events.

May 5	New Membership Model Info Session
May 6	Bonfire Sing-a-long & Pot Luck Dinner
May 12	Confirmation
May 17	Book Club
May 19	Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Gruenbauer
May 20	Bar Mitzvah of Jonah Aristodemo
May 26	Bat Mitzvah of Lili Katz
June 4	KH FUNdraiser 2017: Dinner @ Bella Via Restaurant & Maxwell Street Klezmer Band
June 16	Annual Meeting
June 21 & 24	Shabbat Storytime for Young Children
July 14 & 28	Shabbat Services

Tributes, Donations & Gifts

Kol Hadash offers several opportunities for donations:

Annual Appeal *End-of-calendar-year donations to support Kol Hadash activities*

Event Sponsorships *Funding to support specific Kol Hadash events*

Friedman Family Fund *Restricted fund for bringing in external speakers and performers*

General Fund *General support for Kol Hadash operations & activities*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund *Funds available to the rabbi to allocate for charitable purposes*

Tzedakah Fund *Supports organized charitable activities in the name of Kol Hadash*

Weiss Choir Fund *Supports the High Holidays Choir; established by Kol Hadash founding members James & Minerva Weiss*

Yom Kippur Memorial *Remembrance donations during the High Holidays*

Youth Group Fund *Supports special activities for Kol Hadash teens*

To donate to any of our funds, please make your check payable to "Kol Hadash" and send with instructions about the gift to: Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation, 175 Olde Half Day Road, Suite 123, Lincolnshire, IL 60069. The congregation expresses its gratitude to the following individuals, whose donations were received as of the middle of last month.

Anonymous, in memory of Roland "RIF" Finkelman

Joan Chase, to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, in memory of Stuart Chase, loving husband, father and grandfather

Happy Stone & Rick Henriksen, to the General Fund

Joyce & Richard Hirsch, in memory of Roland "RIF" Finkelman

Kol Hadash Sponsorships

We thank the following members for their generous support of Kol Hadash programs.

Hanukkah Celebration Sponsors

Laura & Ken Burk

Fay Eisenberg

Ami & Dan Polonsky

Chris Johnson Speaking Appearance Sponsors

The Friedman Family Fund

Susan Wagner & Mike Lippitz

Community Passover Seder Sponsors

Susan & Roger Addelson

Laura & Ken Burk

AJ & Rabbi Adam Chalom

Marla & Craig Davishoff

Becky & Paul Gustafson

Joyce & Richard Hirsch

Annual Appeal

We thank the following members for their donations to the Kol Hadash Annual Appeal

Anonymous

Marsha & Rick Bolnick

AJ & Adam Chalom

Irene & Allan Dorfman

Andrea & Mark Friedlander

Happy Stone & Rick Henriksen

Glynis & David Hirsch

Karen & Chris Jackson

Richard Katz

Nina & Michael Lipkin

Margie Marcus

Louise Neidorf

Lita Passen

Judith Perlman

Mimi & Brad Saks

Sheila & Ronald Sebor

Michele & Joel Shoolin

Merle & James Styer

Laurie & Michael White

Kol Hadash FUNdraiser 2017 – Sunday, June 4

Be sure to reserve June 4 for a special Kol Hadash dinner at Bella Via Restaurant in Highland Park and a festive concert by the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band! Full details in next month's *Shofar!*



**MAXWELL STREET
KLEZMER
BAND
CHICAGO**

Celebrate and Commemorate Through Kol Hadash

Fill out and mail the form below – or – donate online at www.KolHadash.com

When choosing to make a contribution in honor or in memory of someone, consider a donation to Kol Hadash. Your generosity will support our programs, our school, and our future growth, and those you designate will receive a special acknowledgement of your gift on their behalf, in addition to your message being printed in the *Shofar*.

Choose from the following tribute funds:

- ☆ Kol Hadash General Fund – *General support for Kol Hadash operations and activities*
 - ☆ Kol Hadash Tzedakah Fund – *Supports organized charitable activities in the name of Kol Hadash*
 - ☆ Kol Hadash Youth Group Fund – *Supports special activities for Kol Hadash teens*
 - ☆ Friedman Family Fund – *Restricted fund for bringing in external speakers and performers*
 - ☆ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – *Funds available to the rabbi to allocate for charitable purposes*
 - ☆ Weiss Choir Fund – *Supports the High Holidays Choir; established by Kol Hadash founding members James & Minerva Weiss*
-

Enclosed please find \$_____ for the _____ Fund from:

Your Name

Your Address & Phone #

Message for *Shofar*/Acknowledgement letter:

The Occasion (e.g., “in honor of” or “in memory of”)

Please send acknowledgement to:

Please print legibly and include complete address. Thank you!

Recipient's Name

Recipient's Address

Mail completed form and payment to:

Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation, 175 Olde Half Day Road, Suite 123, Lincolnshire, IL 60069

Thank you for your generosity!

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Winers, 7:00 PM @ Home of Andrea & Mark Friedlander
2 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	3	4 Adult Ed, <i>Anti-Semitism</i> , 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	5 Passover Storytime, 10:30 AM @ The Book Bin (Northbrook)	6 Steering Committee Mtg., 7:30 PM @ KH Office	7 Shabbat Service, <i>The Year of Sevens: Israel Anniversaries</i> , 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	8
9 Sunday School, 9:30 School Passover Seder, 10:30 Staff Mtg, Youth Grp, Hebrew/Mitzvah, 11:30 Passover Storytime, 2:30 PM @ DF Barnes & Noble	10 First Night of Passover 	11 Kol Hadash Community Passover Seder 5:00 PM Bluegrass Restaurant Highland Park	12	13	14	15 Movie Club, Time & Theater TBD
16 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER	17	18 YOM HAZIKARON Adult Education, <i>Jewish Pluralism</i> , 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	19 YOM HA'ATZMAUT Sefer Circle Book Discussion: <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel, 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	20	21 7 th /8 th Grade Yom HaShoah Shabbat Service, 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	22
23 Sunday School, New Membership Model Info Session, 9:30 7 th /8 th Field Trip (Holocaust Museum, 10-2:30 Hebrew, 11:30 (No Mitzvah)	24 YOM HASHOAH	25 New Membership Model Info Evening, 7:30 PM @ KH Office	26 Membership Committee Mtg., 7:30 PM @ KH Office	27	28 Family Home Shabbat Pot Luck Dinner, 6PM @ Home of Ilana & Marty Shaffer	29
30 Sunday School w/PreK, Grandparents Day, 9:30 Day of Action, 11:00 Hebrew/Mitzvah, 11:30						

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Steering Committee Mtg., 7:30 PM @ KH Office	5	6 BONFIRE SING-A-LONG & POT LUCK DINNER 5:45-8:00 PM @ Heller Nature Center
7 Sunday School, YEC Mtg, 9:30 Staff Mtg, Youth Grp, Hebrew/Mitzvah, 11:30 JUF Israel Solidarity Day, 2:00 PM @ Ravinia Festival	8	9 Adult Ed, <i>Israel</i> , 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	10	11	12 Confirmation Shabbat Service, 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church 	13
14 MOTHER'S DAY Sunday School, Adult Ed., 9:30 Hebrew/Mitzvah, 11:30	15	16 Adult Ed, <i>Jewish Peoplehood</i> , 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	17 Book Club, 7:30 PM @ KH Office	18	19 Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Gruenbauer, 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	20 Bar Mitzvah of Jonah Aristodemo, 10:30 AM @ Unitarian Church
21 LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday School, Open House, 9:30 4 th /5 th Grade Hero Museum, 10-11 All-School Party, 11-11:30	22	23	24	25	26 Bat Mitzvah of Lili Katz, 7:30 PM @ Unitarian Church	27
28 No Sunday School! <i>Have a good summer...school starts on September 10!</i>	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Coming June 4!</i></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">MAXWELL STREET KLEZMER BAND CHICAGO</p>		

Jewish United Fund's

Israel Solidarity Day

featuring the Walk with Israel



**SUNDAY
MAY 7, 2017
2-6 PM**

Ravinia Festival
200 RAVINIA PARK ROAD,
HIGHLAND PARK

HEADLINE ENTERTAINER
Idan Raichel

Rain or shine!

Performances will take place under the Ravinia Festival Pavilion (seating is first-come, first-served); open seating on the lawn.

- 1:15 p.m.** Registration
(Pre-register at www.juf.org/ISD to receive a "speed pass"!)
- 2:00 p.m.** Opening Ceremony
- 2:15 p.m.** Three-Mile Walk with Israel & One-Mile Family Walk
featuring JCC Chicago fitness activities
- 3:30 p.m.** Jamman Drum Circle
- 4:00 p.m.** Mama Doni and the Nefesh Mountain Band
for families with young children
- 5:00 p.m.** Idan Raichel Concert

All day!

Activities for children of all ages
Kosher food for purchase
NEW! *Israeli Market Place and Art Festival*

Free parking is available at Ravinia Festival. Metra's Union Pacific North Line makes Sunday stops at the Ravinia station. Shuttle buses will transport participants from the Ravinia stop to Ravinia Festival and back.

Donations will help 6,500 at-risk youth in JUF's Israel Partnership Region.

Give **\$18 or more** toward Israel Solidarity Day and receive an Israel Solidarity t-shirt on May 7th!

Give **\$100 or more** toward Israel Solidarity Day and receive a \$100 JUF Israel Experience Voucher or JUF Mission Voucher! (Limited to one voucher per person per year.)



This event is open to the entire community. Ravinia's facilities are fully accessible, including parking, seating, pathways and restrooms.

Register: www.juf.org/ISD

Call: (312) 444-2905

Email: IsraelSolidarity@juf.org