



*Shalom from Rabbi Chalom*  
**Humanistic Patriotism**

by Rabbi Adam Chalom ([rabbichalom@KolHadash.com](mailto:rabbichalom@KolHadash.com))

As July 4<sup>th</sup> approaches, we can appreciate how complicated Humanist patriotism can be.

We are familiar with frequent connections of piety and patriotism. We are lucky the “Star Spangled Banner” was legally declared the National Anthem in 1931; after its popularity during World War II, we could have easily wound up with “God Bless America!” Despite the Bill of Rights promise to not establish religion, and Thomas Jefferson’s vision of “a wall of separation between church and state,” presidents add “so help me God” to the Constitution’s prescribed oath of office, every presidential address ends with “May God bless the United States of America,” and for many it seems impossible to separate “God and Country.” Even my *alma mater*’s school song ends, “For God, For Country and for

Yale”!

All this religious endorsement of American nationalism might turn us off only by association. Added to this, Humanists tend to ask hard questions about group loyalty and identification. Does the group serve my needs and reflect my values? Is the connection meaningful, inspirational, beneficial, or simply a legacy of the past? It’s why many Humanistic Jews and their families have evolved from the religious institutions and traditions of their birth and upbringing. Internationalists have often been secular, since they see any human division by ethnicity, nationality, or religion as inevitably a hierarchy, a source of oppression and hatred.

Even if we try to be secular nationalists, our wider sympathies to all of humanity would seem in conflict with the inevitable prioritizations of our national group over others, be it on immigration laws, humanitarian aid, or economic priorities. If we had to choose between the Bill of Rights and the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which would we choose?

Some years ago, a Kol Hadash member told me she was considering putting up an American flag on her house, but she didn’t want others to think she was “one of *those* people.” A friend of hers rebuked her, saying, “No one political perspective *owns* the flag – it’s your flag too!” Likewise, the moral psychologist Jonathan Haidt remembered that after 9/11, he put two bumper stickers on his car: an American flag *and* a UN flag!

The truth is that love of country is challenging. Sometime love means we forgive or ignore our beloved’s guilt, and sometimes love means we call on them to correct it. Those kneeling to call America to live up to its vision that “all [people] are created equal” can be as patriotic as those who serve in the military or those who sweat through their American flag boxer shorts. Loving and even prioritizing our family (or our country) does not mean betraying ethics and commitments to a wider world, provided that family or national loyalty does not supersede the humanity of those beyond it. If our nation does good in the world, we can be proud. If we fall short, we can pull together to do better.

So feel free to fly those flags, sing those songs, walk in those parades, feel those feelings. And if you need an alternative, you can always sing “Godless America” to the same tune!

*The Shofar*  
The Monthly Newsletter of Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation

Affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism  
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Office Hours: Monday-Friday – 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

**Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation  
Staff, Officers and Committee Chairs**

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**Youth Education Director**

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**Music Director**

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**Executive Assistant**

Jeremy Owens, administrator@KolHadash.com

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**Steering Committee Vice-Chair**

Mike Lippitz, scchair\_vice@KolHadash.com

**Treasurer**

Ilya Talman, treasurer@KolHadash.com

**Secretary**

Marla Davishoff, secretary@KolHadash.com

Committee Chairs & Other Volunteers

**Book Club**

Stacey Max, bookclub@KolHadash.com

**Development Committee**

David Hirsch, development@KolHadash.com

**Finance Committee**

Ilya Talman, treasurer@KolHadash.com

**Membership Committee**

Sheila Sebor, membership@KolHadash.com

**Movie Group**

Leora Hatchwell & Susan Addelson,  
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**String Theory (Knitting Club)**

Victoria Ratnaswamy, knitters@KolHadash.com

**Theatre Club**

Garrett Cohn, theatre@KolHadash.com

**Values in Action Committee**

Lynn Miller, communityservice@KolHadash.com

**Winers (wine group)**

Mike Lippitz, wine@KolHadash.com

**Youth Education Committee**

Ilana Shaffer, YEC@KolHadash.com



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. Members are welcome to attend. Check the calendar in this *Shofar* or on our website to confirm this month's meeting date. Contact the SC chair for information.

The **Shofar newsletter** is published regularly for our members and interested community. To subscribe, or to contribute content, contact Jeremy Owens at [administrator@KolHadash.com](mailto:administrator@KolHadash.com). An electronic version is available at [www.kolhadash.com](http://www.kolhadash.com).

## View from the Chair

by Steering Committee Chair Susan Addelson ([scchair@KolHadash.com](mailto:scchair@KolHadash.com))



Dear Kol Hadash Family,

*How is Kol Hadash like a coffee mug?*

Paraphrasing Rabbi Adam, Kol Hadash is like a coffee mug: you only get out of it, what you put into it. I'd like to recognize our incredible Steering Committee, who individually and collectively put a lot into Kol Hadash this past year. Please join me in a heartfelt thank you to our retiring and returning Steering Committee members and a

hearty welcome to our new members.

Roger Addelson

\* Sue Addelson – Chair

Rick Bolnick

William Brinkman

Bill Brook (retiring)

Garrett Cohn

\* Marla Davishoff - Secretary

Andrea Friedlander

Mark Friedman (retiring)

Rick Henricksen

David Hirsch

Terry Kass (new)

Alan Klein (new)

\* Mike Lippitz – Vice Chair

Stacey Max (retiring)

Lynn Miller

Dan Polonsky (retiring)

Victoria Ratnaswamy (new)

Sheila Sebor

Marcy Schumacker

Ilana Shaffer

\* Ilya Talman – Treasurer

*\* Indicates Kol Hadash officer*

I look forward to working with our new Steering Committee in the coming year. Please join us the first Thursday evening of every month for our Steering Committee meetings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room at the Kol Hadash office. Your input is always welcome!

Looking forward to see you at this month's events.

Shalom,  
Sue

## HELP WANTED *Shofar* Editor

After 17 years, *Shofar* editor Mark Friedman has decided to step aside and hand off the role of editing our monthly newsletter. We are using this transition as an opportunity to consider alternatives to a monthly printed newsletter and to bring in new volunteer talent from the Kol Hadash community. If you have skills and experience in writing/editing, proofreading/copyediting, graphic design or photography, we'd love to work with you! To find out more, contact Sue Addelson ([scchair@kolhadash.com](mailto:scchair@kolhadash.com)).

## This Month's Events at Kol Hadash

### Summer Family Picnic & Concert

**Sunday, July 8, 4:00-7:00 PM • Mitchell Park, Deerfield (Hazel Ave. and Wilmot Rd.)**

Enjoy an evening outdoors together with a live band (5:00-6:30) and picnic dinner. Join us for this all-ages family event – adults and children can chat and hang out or play on the playground and fields, too. Non-members are welcome to join us! The evening is free of charge: bring your family's picnic items (food, drinks, blankets, chairs and frisbees, balls, etc). RSVP to Ilana Shaffer ([youthed@KolHadash.com](mailto:youthed@KolHadash.com), 773-209-8266) so we can reserve lawn space together.

### Shabbat Service: *Reckoning with the Past*

**Friday, July 13, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church**

A traditional Torah reading for this Shabbat is one of the most challenging, prescribing the secondary status of women; the massacre of Midianite men, women and children; and the dispossession and religious persecution of other nations. In America, in Israel, and as human beings, we face the challenge of reckoning with the dark corners of our collective experience. How can we best understand, evaluate, repair and move forward?

### Book Club: *The Boys in the Boat*

**Wednesday, July 18, 7:30 PM • Kol Hadash Office**

The KH Book Club has selected *The Boys In The Boat* by Daniel James Brown as their summer pick. The book tells a story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times – the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.

### Values in Action: Annual Planning Meeting

**Friday, July 20, 6:45 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church**

Join us prior to the Shabbat Service for an informal meeting of the Values in Action Committee. *All are welcome* to discuss upcoming community service and social action events for the coming year...bring your ideas and volunteer spirit! Questions? Contact Lynn Miller ([communityservice@KolHadash.com](mailto:communityservice@KolHadash.com))

### Shabbat Service: *The Limits of Pluralism*

**Friday, July 20, 7:30 PM • North Shore Unitarian Church**

A challenge any society faces is the question of limits. How should we balance individual freedoms with behavior that affects others? Do we tolerate those who would not tolerate us, and would even argue to fundamentally change our system of laws and customs? Who decides, and by what criteria? Join us for a stimulating discussion.

### Kol Hadash Winers

**Saturday, July 28, 7:30 PM • Home of Irene Chase & Jeremy Gibson, Highland Park**

In July the Winers explore “guilty pleasure” pairings of wines with foods. One of our hosts admits to Merlot and Phish Food ice cream! Yum? Do you have a tasty-but-tacky wine and food combo you'd like to share? Join the Winers at Irene Chase & Jeremy Gibson's home and bring your favorite guilty pleasure food and drink. Apple wine and brie anybody?

### ***Mazel tov!***

Congratulations to Noah Apley and his family on his terrific Bar Mitzvah on June 1. Noah's presentation traced the history of Jewish Americans' contributions to musical theatre, with a focus on Ben Platt, the star of Broadway's *Dear Evan Hansen*.





**Confirmation 2018!**

Congratulations to our 2017-18 10<sup>th</sup>-grade confirmants, Ben Katz and Kate Kramer, and their happy, proud families! Many thanks to Confirmation teacher David Hirsch for guiding our Confirmation Class through their two-year study of comparative religion, the capstone of the Kol Hadash Sunday School experience.

**Last Day of School**

On May 6, students, teachers and parents enjoyed a festive last day of the 2017-18 school year with special activities in class, an all-school party with slide show, and of course our 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades Model Wedding (which concludes the class's study of life-cycle events in Jewish culture). Rabbi Chalom conducted the "wedding," which featured two happy brides, Emily and Lily.

Have a good summer, everyone! Join us for our Back-to-School Bagels in the Park on August 19 and the first day of 2018-19 classes, September 9.



**Values in Action**

Many thanks to these Kol Hadash volunteers who helped serve dinner at the St. James Church soup kitchen in Highwood on June 14: Sue Addelson, Emma Kowalenko & Anthony Bilotti, Marsha & Rick Bolnick, Alexandra Brook, Irene & Al Dorfman, Jill Dorfman, Faye Eisenberg, Andrea Friedlander, Joyce & Rich Hirsch, Lynn Miller, Victoria, Lily & Julia Ratnaswamy, and Nan Weiss-Ham. Thanks also to the Sunday School children and adults who made placemats and centerpieces for this dinner.

*All Kol Hadash members are invited to join us for Values in Action 2018-19 planning on July 20; 6:45 PM, at the Unitarian Church (see page 3 for details).*

# Kol Hadash News & Announcements

## Two New KH Groups

Looking for something new at Kol Hadash? Two new groups are forming for the new year...a perfect chance for you to join in!

**Genealogy Group** Marcy Schumacker is gauging interest for a KH genealogy group to work on Jewish genealogy, share DNA results and explore genealogy websites and tools. Even if you don't have time to join the group, Marcy is hoping to collect a database of Kol Hadash members' DNA results to see how many of us are related. (Marcy recently discovered that she is a distant cousin to Joyce Hirsch!) Whom do you think your Kol Hadash cousins are? Contact: Marcy (847-559-9456, [rite\\_schu@hotmail.com](mailto:rite_schu@hotmail.com)).

**Women's Group** Many of us have retired or semi-retired and have some time to create new experiences for ourselves. The question is, "Are you interested in forming a women's group?" There is no prescription, just an idea! Contact Joyce Hirsch if you are interested in finding out more info (847-446-6949, [jah231@comcast.net](mailto:jah231@comcast.net)).

## Thank You!

Thank you and congratulations to these KH members, who were honored at our June Annual Meeting for reaching the following membership anniversaries:

### Five Years

Sandra Schechner & William Brinkman; Karen & Chris Jackson; Lisa & Jon Landsman; Ilana & Marty Shaffer

### Ten Years

Alexandra & Bill Brook; Joan Chase; Marla & Craig Davishoff; Suzanna & Larry Dworsky; Gil Feldman; Happy Stone & Rick Henriksen; Dori Rosenbloom Mirman & Chet Mirman; Sharon Rothstein

### Fifteen Years

Sharon & Richard Fellars; Alan Klein; Susan & Andrew Kramer, Jan & Phil Reed; Sara & Ed Samson

## Family News

Mazel tov to Paula & Dave Harris on the baby naming ceremony for their granddaughter, Sage Patinkin.

Deep condolences to Janet Century on the recent loss of her mother, Dolores Century.

Following our June *Shofar* graduation news, here are some more *mazel tovs* to our members during graduation season:

- Mazel tov to Marcy & Paul Schumacher on their son Sam's graduation from the University of Chicago with an MA in Computer Science.
- Mazel tov to Marla & Craig Davishoff on their son Levi's graduation from Cove School.
- Mazel tov to Faye Eisenberg on her son Kyle Lorenz's graduation from Evanston Township High School.

## This Month's Yahrzeits

The following names will be read at the **July 13 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](mailto:administrator@KolHadash.com)).

Alvin Arbetman	Dorothy Arbetman
Ninette Freed	Felice Friedman
Lois Galvin	Abert Goldman
Jerome Gurewitz	Jim Gustafson
Lawrence Handelsman	Warren Herron
Yona Holland	Susan Landsman
Gladys Leichenko	Charles Lippitz
Sherwin Malis	Gail Mesirov
Elliott Mirman	Monne Moses
Rose Pashkow	Shirley Robin
Charlotte Schoenbrod	Sigfried Silberman
Frieda Simon	Sylvia Simon
Mary Lu Spencer	Max Wagner
Sherwin Wine	

## This Month's Birthdays

Maya Samlan	July 2
Lynn Miller	July 3
Leena Schwartz	July 6
Lisa Friedlander	July 8
Kevin Malis	July 8
Sandra Aristodemo	July 10
Scott Gerberding	July 10
Ryan Malis	July 11
Nancy Sohn	July 13
Mike Simon	July 15
Richard Hirsch	July 18
Ilya Talman	July 18
Helga Gruenbauer	July 19
Gabriella Brook	July 20
Ron Schwartz	July 24
Raif Wexler	July 24
Marty Shaffer	July 26
Ellard Pfaelzer, Jr.	July 27
Kim Stone	July 29

## This Month's Anniversaries

Marilyn Litz & Miki Field	July 11
Silvia Goldman & Ilan Yavitz	July 12
Laura & Ken Burk	July 17
Nancy Sohn & Mike Simon	July 22
Glynis & David Hirsch	July 27



## Save the Date!

Please note these future events.

August 2	Ravinia Night
August 3, 10, 24	Shabbat Services
August 19	Back-to-School Bagels in the Park
August 23	B Mitzvah FAQs for Parents
September 9	First Day of Sunday School & Parents Forum
September 9-10	Rosh Hashana Services
September 18-19	Yom Kippur Services
September 30	Sukkot Service & Pot Luck Dinner
October 2	Tuesday Adult Ed Course begins
October 13	Progressive Dinner

## 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*

**Lippitz/Wagner Jewish Humanistic Ritual Fund** *Restricted fund supporting the development, dissemination and practice of Jewish humanistic rituals and music*

**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*

**Susan & Roger Addelson**, to the Tzedakah Fund, in support of the Soup Kitchen at St. James Parish

**Paula & David Harris**, to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, with thanks to Rabbi Chalom for officiating at the beautiful baby-naming ceremony for our granddaughter, Sage Harper Patinkin

**Nan Weiss-Ham & Eldon Ham**, to the Tzedakah Fund, in support of the Soup Kitchen at St. James Parish

**Roz & Arthur Kroft**, to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, in honor of Rabbi Chalom for his wonderful help and service for Noah Apley's Bar Mitzvah

## Many Ways to Support Kol Hadash

### Host an Oneg

Many members choose to lend a hand by hosting an Oneg Shabbat, the refreshments served following Shabbat services. Hosting an oneg an easy way to help out and get involved in Kol Hadash. We can also pair you up with an oneg co-host if wish! Contact David Hirsch ([oneg@KolHadash.com](mailto:oneg@KolHadash.com)) if you are interested in hosting an oneg at any of these upcoming Shabbat services. Thank you!

September 28	October 12
November 9	November 30
December 14	December 21

### Event Sponsorships

Event sponsors' donations help us keep admission fees low and allow us to make events accessible to all. We invite our members to sponsor upcoming events such those listed below.

*Sunday School Welcome-Back Bagels in the Park, August 19*

*Sukkot Celebration, September 30*

*Progressive Dinner, October 13*

To become a sponsor, visit <https://kolhadash.com/civcrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=1>



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>

## Celebrate and Commemorate Through Kol Hadash

*Fill out and mail the form below – or – donate online at [www.KolHadash.com](http://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
- ✧ Lippitz/Wagner Jewish Humanistic Ritual Fund – Restricted fund supporting the development, dissemination and practice of Jewish humanistic rituals and music
- ✧ 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

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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!



**Kol Hadash**

HUMANISTIC  CONGREGATION

175 Olde Half Day Road

Suite 123

Lincolnshire, IL 60069

**Your July *Shofar* is enclosed!**

***This month...***



**Summer Family  
Picnic & Concert**

Sunday, July 8, 4:00-7:00 PM  
Mitchell Park, Deerfield  
Details Inside!