Is there really such a thing as a “Chosen People”? After leaving Egypt, then celebrating the first-ever Passover, Jews received the Torah on Mt. Sinai. Some legends say God chose the Jewish people to receive Torah and, in the words of the Prophet Isaiah, be a “light unto the nations.” Another legend suggests we were not the chosen people, but the people who consciously chose the Torah. Other nations were approached to receive the Torah before Israel, but declined the invitation. Notwithstanding, the notion of “chosenness” has followed us through the centuries even to this day.

I subscribe to the teaching of Isaiah. I believe we (or, at least, those who consider Torah a driving force in their lives) have had, and continue to have, an influence on the inhabitants of this Earth. Our responsibility is not to make everyone Jewish, but to encourage the nations of this world to practice the ideals of Judaism. You may be surprised to learn we have enjoyed considerable success in this effort. One can look to Christianity as a competing theology or recognize the profound (and positive) impact Judaism has had on the formation of Church doctrine. One can see in

(continued on next page)
Message from the Rabbi
(continued from page 1)

Islam only the fury and terror of fundamentalism or recognize
a Jewish theological, cultural, and even ethical reflection in the
teachings of Mohammed. What is true for the great religions
of the Western world is also true for nation states.

As we prepare to re-tell our story of freedom and liberation,
let us not think our message falls on deaf ears. With the stories
told at the Seder table, we plant the seeds and nurture the
moral/ethical growth of generations present and future.

Hag Samayach.
Rabbi Howard Siegel and Ellen Lefkowitz

Request from Rabbi Siegel

Please keep us informed of significant events in your family
life. It is our desire to be of help and service to you in times of
special need. It is especially important that we know of those
in the hospital, and assisted living or nursing homes, so that
we can visit and they may be included in a prayer for recovery
at Shabbat Services.
To the members of the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and Rabbi Search Committee, thank you for all of your hard work and effort these last two years. Your focus and dedication helped ensure the achievement of our goals. Without each of you helping lead our shul, we would not be where we are today. It has been a blessing and my privilege to have served with each of you.

Thank you to the families of the members of these committees for the sacrifices you made to enable your loved one to do this holy work.

Chaverim…my time as President of our synagogue is coming to a close. These past two years, while not without its challenges, have been two of the most rewarding years of my life. The opportunity to serve our Kehillah Kedoshah – our holy congregation – as President has been challenging and fulfilling beyond words.

While we were faced with unforeseeable challenges at the outset of my term, as with all things in life, we grew stronger – as an Executive Committee, as a Board of Trustees, and most importantly, as a community of Conservative Jews living in North Tampa. While these challenges required us to redefine success and approach some things in a different light, the goals of my term as President did not change – enhance Board transparency to rebuild trust through communication and find ways to bring the Joys of Judaism back to Congregation Kol Ami!

As it says above our Aron Hakodesh, our holy ark, – Eevdu et Hashem b’simcha, Serve G-d with Joy, and in our vision statement – “Where Judaism and Joy are One” – Congregation Kol Ami is, and always has been, a place that brings joy to the lives of those who come to celebrate.

I think we have all found ways to bring Joy to Judaism over these last two years…under the leadership of Rabbi Siegel, we have experienced a Joy of Shabbat and for all things Jewish. Rabbi Siegel’s positive energy and love for Judaism has permeated our Kehillah in so many ways – our services, our social programming, last year’s trip to Israel, to name a few! Thank you, Rabbi Siegel, for your leadership, counsel, and joy that you have brought us. As we learn in Ecclesiastes, there is a time for all things in life. This was Our Time to have You in ours, and we are better because of our experiences with you. Thank you for bringing your light and joy to Congregation Kol Ami!

Without your support, our successes would not have been possible!

To the incoming Executive Committee and Board of Trustees, you have taken on the incredible task of continuing to move our Congregation forward. It will be hard work, but also, some of the most rewarding work you will ever do! It is rare that a new Board has the opportunity that faces you – the onboarding of a new Rabbi. This task will shape our shul for many years to come. I am confident that we have an incredibly talented team to lead us through this next chapter of our history.

The Future is Here, We are It!

CONGREGATION KOL AMI IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

2019-20 Board of Trustees Installation & Shabbat Dinner

FRIDAY APRIL 12

Shabbat Services & Board Installation - 6:30pm

Dinner - 7:30pm

DINNER - PLEASE SELECT ONE:

Asian Salmon
Herb Roasted Chicken
SERVED WITH:
Homemade Challah
Carrot & Ginger Salad
Fried Rice
DESSERT:
Parve Sweets & Fruit Salad

KIDS MEAL:
Hot Dogs & Tater Tots

COST
$18 PER ADULT (AGE 13+)
$11 PER CHILD (AGE 4-12)
FREE FOR AGE 3 AND UNDER

PLEASE RSVP TO THE FRONT OFFICE WITH MEAL SELECTION BY 3PM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019

FRONTOFFICE@KOLAMI.ORG
(813) 962 - 6338
Hamakom Yinakhem, Condolences to:

Scott & Donna Gray & their family on the passing of Scott’s beloved father, Dr. Warren Gray.

Ellen & Alan Nastir & their family on the passing of Ellen’s beloved mother, Hilda Rosen Steinberger.

The Szentivanyi family on the passing of our beloved congregant, Judith Szentivanyi.

Life Cycle Events

If you wish to have a life cycle event included in the ChaiLites, please contact Joanna Paley at least 2 weeks before the 1st-of-the-month publication date at 813-962-6338 or email frontoffice@kolami.org.

Hamakom Yinakhem, Condolences to:

Scott & Donna Gray & their family on the passing of Scott’s beloved father, Dr. Warren Gray.

Ellen & Alan Nastir & their family on the passing of Ellen’s beloved mother, Hilda Rosen Steinberger.

The Szentivanyi family on the passing of our beloved congregant, Judith Szentivanyi.

Howad Kanter Kiddush Fund Luncheon

Please join us for our next Howard Kanter Kiddush Fund Luncheon on Saturday, April 13, 2019. This complimentary luncheon is catered by Nosh Caterers and is also open to non-members in the greater Jewish Community.

Although members are not required to RSVP to attend, we do ask that any non-members who plan to attend contact the Kol Ami office at (813) 962-6338 to make reservations so we can prepare appropriately.

The Kiddush Fund, created by Kol Ami member Howard Kanter (z"l), provides one Kiddush Luncheon per month on a Shabbat that does not have a Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by members or another committee of the synagogue.

Your extra donations (in addition to your usual contributions to Kol Ami) help insure this effort for years to come. Donors are recognized in the Weekly Watch and Shabbat Shalom the week of the sponsored luncheon.

We hope to see you on Saturday, April 13. Also, please be sure to mingle and introduce yourself to someone you don’t know at these wonderful opportunities to make new friends and enjoy fellowship with your Kol Ami family.

Kol Ami wishes to acknowledge our congregants who have recently read Torah:

Denise Freedman
Terry Rosenwasser
Steven Specter
Nancy Berman
Audrey Shor
Julian Melamed
Ethel Pila
William Kasenetz
Susan Leibowitz

We thank you for your efforts and dedication to Torah study. Todah Rabbah!
Facility Focus & Security Spotlight

By Mike Korenvaes, House Committee Chair

House Highlights

The following is a condensed version of my speech at the Annual Congregation meeting on February 25, 2019:

We have been awarded 2 Homeland Security Grants, in 2014 and 2017, for a total of $142,500. We have implemented the following so far:

• 32 cameras which are monitored
• 6 new power poles, 6 new building exterior lights and all LED
• Perimeter fencing installed around the entire property
• Security window film installed on doors and windows
• 5 Bench bollards installed in front of the Chapel/Board Room, School & Office
• Additional controls put on gates

Additional initiatives implemented:

• Deputy Coordinator in place for 4 years at Kol Ami
• 6 Assessments done since 2013
• Wireless intercom for entrance doors locked
• Night Minyans doors controlled by employees
• One gate only for entrance to property
• Paging system installed
• Cameras monitored and walkie talkies used for communication to Deputies on duty and security personnel
• Multiple Deputies for many events and services

Security Committee

Please thank your Security Committee for all that they do:

Jon Zimmer – Chairperson
Jeff Gad, David Horwitz, Darren Kasenetz, Mike Korenvaes, Ben Miele, Dan Ochman, Fred Perez, Mario Rodriguez, Jack Rudowsky, Cindy Schiff, Gary Teblum, Marc Tindell.

Please take time to thank the many Deputies who are here to serve and protect us. A special thank you to Sharon Bates and Markus Bates who have been our Coordinators for the past 4 years and welcome to Chris Depolis who is our new Coordinator.

Security Spotlight

by Jon Zimmer

If you have any information or suggestions to share regarding safety and security, or if you are interested in joining the Security Team, please feel free to contact Jon Zimmer at jonzimmer3@gmail.com

Yasher Koach to the following team members who volunteered their time to cover all Friday and Saturday Shabbat services in the month of March:

Cindy Schiff, Dave Horwitz, Dan Ochman, Jon Zimmer, Marc Tindell, Mario Rodriguez, Mike Korenvaes

Just Published!

SHALOM, MY HOLY FRIENDS!

is a bound compilation of Rabbi Wasser’s (z”l) sermons as he delivered them from the bimah here at Congregation Kol Ami.

To purchase your copy ($36 plus $4 for shipping, if applicable), contact the Kol Ami office at frontoffice@kolami.org
2019 Kol Ami Purim Carnival

Thank You to all our volunteers and sponsors for the Purim Carnival.

A very special Thank You to Jenn Halls, Abby Salem-Goldman, Mitch Weiss, and Nosh Caterers.

AEPi Guys & Sister
Sheryl & Ralph Bobo
Karen Borden
Broverman Family
David Caine
Larry Caine
Alissa Chernin
Sharon and David Cross
Staci & Kevin Cross Family
Rachel Degani
DePaul/Berman Family
Lauren Dunayer
Ehrenpreis Family
Jackie & Avi Elias
Jenn Flansburg
Barbara & Curt Freedland
Stacy & Jeff Gad
Terri Gainsburg
Anita & Herman Greenberg
Gaffney Family
Halls Family
Jennifer Halls

Lily Halls
Ari Horowitz
Stacy & S. Todd Howell
Jodi Kashansky
Kattan Family
Cindy & Mike Korenvaes
Lazarus Family
Fran & Dave Lazarus
Al Lenok
Addie Levert
Nair Family
Niehoff Family
Debbie Newhouse
David Pearlman / Deborah White
Jody & Yoav Rappaport
Abby Salem-Goldman
Shaina Shuford
Jessica & Chris Swere
Dana Tirrell
Tirrell Family
MK Williams
Jen Zimmer
Jen & Jon Zimmer
In Preparation for Passover

A. “Siyyum B’chorim” – A first born should fast on the day before Passover immediately after Sunset. This is done in commemoration of the deliverance of the first-born Israelites from Egypt. It has become the custom for synagogues to make a “Siyyum” (public completion of a tractate of Mishnah or Talmud) on the morning before Passover. Since the “Siyyum” is followed by a “Seudat Mitzvah” (festive meal – in this case a light breakfast), a first born who is present may eat. Having eaten, he/she need not fast that day. A “Siyyum” service, followed by a light breakfast, will be held at Kol Ami on Friday morning, April 19, from 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.

B. Search for the Leaven – The search for the leaven is customarily done on the night before Passover immediately after sunset. This year it takes place in the home on Thursday evening, April 18. For instructions on doing a “search for leaven” with the appropriate blessing, please refer to the opening pages of your Haggadah.

C. Burning of the Leaven – The burning of the “Chametz” gathered during the search on Thursday evening takes place on Friday morning no later than 11:00 a.m.

D. Meals Prior to Passover – It is customary to refrain from eating matzah on the day before Passover, so that one will eat the matzah with an appetite at the seder.

What is Chametz and what foods may not be used during Passover?

Chametz are those five grains that when in contact with water become fermented. The grains include: wheat, oats, rye, barley & spelt. Passover baked goods are made from flour which has not been fermented.

All these foods are considered Chametz and may not be used during Passover: leavened bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereals, and liquids containing ingredients made from grain or grain alcohol.

What foods require Rabbinic supervision before Passover?

Matzah, noodles, candles, cakes, beverages, canned and processed foods, butter, jam, cheese, jelly, relishes, wines, liquors, salad oils, gelatin, shortening, and vinegar require a “Kosher L’Pesah” label indicating they may be used on Passover.

What foods require no certification?

Pure natural coffee (instant or ground), sugar (not confectioner or powdered), brown sugar, saccharine, tea, salt, pepper, vegetables (string beans are permitted), pure garlic and onion powder, dried fruit, honey, Hershey’s cocoa, pure unadulterated safflower or soy bean oil, nuts (except legumes), dish detergent and scouring powders. Dairy products do not require certification if they are purchased and unopened before Passover.

What about canned tuna or salmon?

Oil packing introduces an uncertain element possibly containing additional ingredients. Therefore, use the water packed variety and purchase it before Passover.

Why do some Ashkenazim (Jews of Eastern European lineage) persist in not eating beans, rice, corn, peas, or peanuts on Passover?

Although these are not among the five species of grain that can become Chametz, Ashkenazim avoided their use because when cooked they tend to rise, giving the impression of being Chametz. Sephardim (Jews of Oriental lineage-Spain, Morocco, Iraq, Turkey, etc) do permit the use of these items. “Everyone” permits the use of Kosher for Passover Peanut Oil.

Kashering of dishes, stoves, microwaves, dishwashers, and refrigerators

Dishes – It is preferable to have dishes & utensils specifically reserved for Passover and stored away during the rest of the year. However, since this is not always possible, certain types of utensils may be “Kashered” for Passover. These include: silverware, knives, forks and spoons made wholly of metal (with no wooden handles), table glassware, fine translucent chinaware if not used during the previous year, metal pots & pans. Earthenware, enamel ware or porcelain utensils are considered porous and cannot be kashered for Passover.

(continued on next page)
Silverware, knives, forks, spoons, metal pots & pans are *Kasherad* by immersion in hot boiling water. This is done by filling a large pot with water and heating it to a boil. Then, each item is dipped into the boiling pot.

**Glassware** requires a thorough scouring. There is also a practice of soaking glassware for 72 hours.

**Stove** – The stove is prepared by thoroughly scrubbing and cleaning all parts and turning on full flame or using the self-clean cycle in the oven.

**Microwave ovens** present a special case since the inside surface does not become hot. Thoroughly clean the oven, then place a dish of water in the oven and allow it to reach a boil.

**Dishwasher** – Thoroughly clean the dishwasher and then run it empty for two cycles-one with soap and one without.

**Refrigerator** – Remove all Chametz food items and open packages. Clean thoroughly the inside of the refrigerator and its racks.

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**Time to Sell Your Chametz!**

Every Jew is required to rid their homes of food items containing any of the five grains forbidden on Passover: wheat, oats, barley, rye, or spelt. There are two suggested ways of removing your non-perishable food items containing “Hametz”: 1) Donate them to a local food shelf, or 2) place them in a closed-off area for Passover and have them technically sold to a non-Jew (who is not responsible for the observance of Passover). If you wish to pursue the 2nd suggestion, complete the attached form and return it, with a small donation, to Kol Ami no later than Friday, April 19, 2019. All donations will be contributed to the Jewish Family & Children’s Service Passover Fund.

*Please complete this form and return it no later than 12:00 noon, Friday, April 19, 2019.*

**AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT TO SELL CHAMETZ**

I (we), the undersigned, hereby authorize Rabbi Howard Siegel of Congregation Kol Ami to act as my agent to sell any Chametz (food and/or utensils) that may be in my (our) possession, wherever it may be in my (our) home and/or place of business or elsewhere, in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Jewish law, as outlined on the special contract of sale drawn up by Rabbi Siegel.

Name: ______________________________

Signature: ____________________________

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**New Class Series!**

**ISRAEL TODAY**

**WITH EPHRAIM GRAFF**

A DISCUSSION-BASED SERIES ON CURRENT EVENTS IN AND SURROUNDING ISRAEL

Topics will include:

- The Syria Mess - Who’s Who & the Impact on Israel
- The Upcoming Israeli Elections
- Netanyahsu Investigations & Police Recommendations
- Tunnels into Israel from Gaza & Lebanon
- US Disengagement from the Middle East

CLASS MEETS ONE SUNDAY PER MONTH AT 10 - 11AM

NEXT CLASS MEETS APRIL 28

MAY TBD | JUNE TBD

Email EGriff0424@aol.com for more info!
Shabbat in April

Gutsy Torah with Rabbi Siegel
Saturdays, April 20, and 27 at 8:30 a.m.

- A weekly Shabbat morning discussion of the Torah portion of the week with some attitude. A wonderful way to learn there is more to Torah than meets the eye!

Sundays in April

Israel Today with Ephraim Graff
Sunday, April 28 at 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

- Gaza and the election results

The Kushner Series
Book Review & Discussion with Rabbi Siegel
Sunday, April 28 from 7-8:30 pm at Carrollwood Barnes and Noble

- “When All You’ve Ever Wanted Isn’t Enough – The Search For a Life That Matters.”

Tuesdays in April

L’Chaim – Sharing Life’s Lessons
Tuesday, April 2, 9 and 30 at 11:00 a.m.

- Discussion topics vary with a different leader each week. Friendly group sharing our life’s lessons. Everyone is welcome.

Judaism 101 with Rabbi Siegel
immediately followed by Beginning Hebrew
Tuesday, April 2, 16 and 30 at 8:00 p.m.

- Everything you wanted to know about Judaism from birth to death, celebration to celebration, Egypt to Israel, and more! Text: Living Judaism by Rabbi Wayne Dosick

Wednesdays in April

“Good Ole’ Fashioned Bible Study” with Rabbi Siegel
Wednesday, April 3 and 17 at 11:00 a.m.

- Each week a different topic of Torah study will be discussed utilizing articles written by contemporary Rabbis and Bible scholars. Among the weekly topics of Torah discussion will be: Justice, women, ecology, land of Israel, relations with Gentiles at home and abroad, War and Peace, and many others!

Thursdays in April

Talmud Study with Rabbi Siegel
Thursday, April 4 and 18 at 10:30 am

- Swimming in the Sea of Talmud:
  Talmud Study with Rabbi Siegel

- “How about taking a dip in the sea of Talmud (Jewish Law)?” Jewish Law confronts everything from Capital punishment to How to Make Rain. There is seldom a dull moment in this learning. This is open to everyone from beginners thru experts. Texts are provided.

Judaism 101

"Back to the Basics"
Taught by Rabbi Howard Siegel

Everything you wanted to know about Judaism from birth to death, celebration to celebration, from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the modern State of Israel, and more! Each week will cover a new topic and discussion based on the text Living Judaism by Rabbi Wayne Dosick.

April 2, 16, and 30

Jay Fink Library

The Kushner Series
Book Review & Discussion with Rabbi Siegel
Sunday, April 28 from 7-8:30 pm at Carrollwood Barnes and Noble

- “When All You’ve Ever Wanted Isn’t Enough – The Search For a Life That Matters.”

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Sisterhood’s Challahpalooza
Equals Yummy Challahs!

On Thursday, March 14th, the Board Room became a cooking prep “kitchen” (no baking occurred). Over 20 adults and teens came to learn how to make challahs. Amanda Moonitz led the “class” in making the challah dough. Of course, people were free to make their dough to suit their tastes: plain, raisins or with chocolate chips. No sisterhood event is complete without food so while the dough was rising, the class was enjoying a light parve dinner including challah rolls (purchased, not home baked). Once the dough had the first rise, Amanda showed everyone how to “punch” the dough down, separate and braid the challahs. Toppings of sesame seeds, poppy seeds, and everything mix were available for people to individualize their challahs. Then challahs were put in pans and wrapped securely to take home, bake and use for Shabbat dinner.

It was a fun and social time for everyone. Check out the pictures! Hopefully everyone’s challahs turned out delicious. Plans are being made for another Challahpalooza next year, so if you missed out on this one, you’ll have another chance, and of course, those who came this year will certainly be welcome next year as well!

Sisterhood Needle Workers

Sisterhood Needle Workers meet weekly, every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Jaffe Board Room. A special Sunday session has been planned for Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. It is open to everyone and provides crafters an opportunity to socialize, exchange information, and learn new techniques.

One of the current charity projects the group participates in is Warming the World, a local nonprofit organization that provides hats to newborns around the world. Hats can be knitted or crocheted; however, many of our group prefer to use a circular loom. Last year, the organization sent hats to six states (IL, TN, MS, AL, FL and MN), Puerto Rico, Ecuador, Brazil, Iceland, Guam, Burundi, Somaliland, the American Heart Association, several organizations that help mothers worldwide, and one organization that helps babies locally.

For information about the Sisterhood Needlework Group or contributing to Warming the World, contact Carol Tarica at carol.tarica@yahoo.com

(Sisterhood cont’d. on next page)
Are You Ready to Nosh on a Hamantasch?

Sisterhood and Kol Yeladim Religious School students and parents joined forces on Sunday, February 24th to bake about 500 delicious hamantaschen to be served for the Purim Carnival. How do we know they are delicious? Those working in the kitchen had the opportunity to sample the “reject” pile! Rabbi Siegel also acted as a taste tester and pronounced them delicious! Flavors included chocolate, cherry, lemon, apple and prune (for the traditionalists). Are you gluten-free and/or dairy-free? We even made GF-DF hamantaschen for you!!

Special shout-out to Gwen Niehoff for making all the dough (18 batches) and Jamie Krischer for serving as mashgiach.

Thank you to all the Sisterhood and parent/teen volunteers who helped this morning: Allison Agliata, Elizabeth Broverman, Abby Cross, Ellen Ehrenpreis, Jeremy Ehrenpreis, Kaili Gaffney, Cindy Korenaes, Debbie Newhouse, Sari Solondz, Dana Tirrell and Lisa Weinberger. If anyone who helped was inadvertently left off this list, please know we thank you and appreciated your help.

A very special thank you has to go to all the Kol Yeladim students, their wonderful teachers, and Education Director, Jenn Halls, for their help in making this a fun activity filled with lots of ruach!

Plans are already in the works for next year’s hamantaschen baking! If you missed out on this year’s fun, watch for the date and make plans to join us next year.

Let Sisterhood share your Simcha!

Does your family have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah coming up? Celebrating a special Birthday, Anniversary, Baby Naming or other Simcha? Would you like to sponsor a Kiddush or Kiddush luncheon?

For more information about Sisterhood Simcha Kiddush prices, please contact Sisterhood: sisterhood.kolami.tampa@gmail.com.
Moving To the Future

It’s been almost two years since the Men’s Club was reinvented as the Brotherhood of Kol Ami. What a ride it has been!

In addition to all the service and support Brotherhood traditionally provides for Kol Ami, many new programs were successfully launched. New programs were: 2nd Sunday Brunch and Speaker, Chefs of Brotherhood, Cigars and Scotch, Draft Beer Nite, and Firearm Safety Course with Shooting Range Access. Combined with ongoing events such as the Super Bowl Party, Chai Guys, Hockey Nite (with other Men’s Clubs), and World Wide Wrap, it’s been a busy 2 years…… And then there was Nefesh Mountain!

Chai Guys is a very productive program that men and women enjoy. Our Super Bowl Party continues to grow as more men and families join in the fun. Socially, Brotherhood launched Craft Beer Night, Cigars and Scotch, and a Firearm Safety course. World Wide Wrap launched the “Build a Pair” Program when it partnered with our religious school in purchasing “Build A Pair” sets of faux tefillin from the Jewish Federation of Men’s Clubs. This activity permitted our younger students to build their own set of tefillin as they learn what tefillin are and how they are used. If there are other programs you would like to see Brotherhood initiate, please let us know.

The Brotherhood Board has done an amazing job in creating and organizing fun events for the men (and women) of the congregation. Many of these have been subsidized by Brotherhood as a way to give back to our members. We have used the resources of the past to create and fund new programs. Now we face the “Perils of Success”.

An organization is only as good as its leadership and the involvement of its members in its activities. In March, you received the result of the Brotherhood’s nominating committee. A new Board, composed of a number of younger members, is stepping up to lead. At Shabbat services on Friday, April 5th at 6:30 p.m., a brief installation ceremony will be held followed by a celebratory Brotherhood-sponsored oneg.

To continue our success and introduce new activities to excite and build comradery between the men of Kol Ami requires each individual member to step up. Brotherhood’s success requires you to volunteer to assist in the organizing and running of these activities. If you only volunteer to assist with one small piece of one program, the results multiplied by 100 would be awesome. We also need to develop additional sources of revenue to fund these activities. We have been using our reserves these past two years and the trend cannot continue. Our financial review indicates that we are spending more than we receive. The board continues to evaluate various solutions and you will hear more about those as we refine our ideas.

I trust you all will give your support to our new Brotherhood Officers and Board as they continue to bring comradery and fun to the 21st century Kol Ami. Together we have and will continue to be a positive force within Kol Ami.

Shalom, Barry
The Academy at Kol Ami

We invite all 8th-12th graders to join us for a year of discussion and learning. Classes will meet at Kol Ami on Sunday mornings, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Grades 8/9 and 11/12 meet once per month. Confirmation (10th Grade) meets twice per month.

For more information, Academy dates, or to register, please visit the Post B’nai Mitzvah Class on the Kol Ami website.

8th / 9th Grade

The 8th and 9th grades will be instructed by Rachel Degani. We will engage the students through discussions that will bring Pirkei Avot, the ethics of our fathers, and Torah to the forefront of their lives. We will also include some young adult Jewish book studies and writing from a Jewish perspective.

Confirmation (10th Grade)

Confirmation will be instructed by Rabbi Siegel. The Kol Ami Confirmation program will be a program of Jewish and American Civics! The late U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice, Louis Brandeis said, “We must learn to be better Jews by first learning to be better Americans.” This year’s class will explore the basics of democracy and government in a uniquely Jewish way.

The culminating event will be a 4-day trip to Washington, DC to meet with politicians, Jewish activists, and experience “up close and personal” the workings of the Federal government, and how teenage Jews can make a difference. (Trip pricing and dates will be available soon.)

Sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush

Sponsor for a Life Cycle Event
Birthday, Graduation, Anniversary, Baby Naming or Wedding
Friday Oneg $40
Saturday Kiddush $180
Help Kol Ami!!

Contact the executive director – Mitchell Weiss at 813-962-6338 or execdirector@kolami.org

Kol Amigos Softball Team Shows Great Effort Once Again in JCC Tournament

Kol Amigos got together again for a push to improve on last year’s success. The team started practicing in October to prepare for the 13th Annual JCC Softball Tournament on March 3rd. Our now cohesive group representing Kol Ami has a formula of practice early and often until the Tourney. Kol Amigos got off to a great start to the tournament this year by beating Hillel Academy 10-3 and continued its winning ways from last year. Unfortunately, Kol Amigos fell short in the next two games. Was there something in the Gatorade? Once again, our spirits were high with even more desire to win next year. The true win for Kol Amigos was the great time we shared together practicing and participating at this community event. To cap off the great day, we enjoyed food and beverages as a team after the tournament.

Thank you to everyone who participated this year. A special thanks to our supporters and tailgaters who came out to the tournament. The team will start practicing for the 14th Annual JCC Tournament after the High Holidays. New Amigos are always welcome and encouraged to join us for fun, friendship, and of course, softball!

Sincerely, Coach David Berger and Coach Jason Broverman

Front row, left to right, Audrey Shor, Michael Leaf, David Berger, Karla Solomon, Lauren Dunayer, Gwen Niehoff. Back row, left to right: Matt Niehoff, Jason Broverman, David Bern, Jeff Gad, Avi Elias, Mike Korenvaes, Moises Kattan, Rob Bern.

Friday Oneg $40
Saturday Kiddush $180
Help Kol Ami!!

Contact the executive director – Mitchell Weiss at 813-962-6338 or execdirector@kolami.org

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The 8th and 9th grades will be instructed by Rachel Degani. We will engage the students through discussions that will bring Pirkei Avot, the ethics of our fathers, and Torah to the forefront of their lives. We will also include some young adult Jewish book studies and writing from a Jewish perspective.

Confirmation (10th Grade)

Confirmation will be instructed by Rabbi Siegel. The Kol Ami Confirmation program will be a program of Jewish and American Civics! The late U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice, Louis Brandeis said, “We must learn to be better Jews by first learning to be better Americans.” This year’s class will explore the basics of democracy and government in a uniquely Jewish way.

The culminating event will be a 4-day trip to Washington, DC to meet with politicians, Jewish activists, and experience “up close and personal” the workings of the Federal government, and how teenage Jews can make a difference. (Trip pricing and dates will be available soon.)

Sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush

Sponsor for a Life Cycle Event
Birthday, Graduation, Anniversary, Baby Naming or Wedding
Friday Oneg $40
Saturday Kiddush $180
Help Kol Ami!!

Contact the executive director – Mitchell Weiss at 813-962-6338 or execdirector@kolami.org

Kol Amigos Softball Team Shows Great Effort Once Again in JCC Tournament

Kol Amigos got together again for a push to improve on last year’s success. The team started practicing in October to prepare for the 13th Annual JCC Softball Tournament on March 3rd. Our now cohesive group representing Kol Ami has a formula of practice early and often until the Tourney. Kol Amigos got off to a great start to the tournament this year by beating Hillel Academy 10-3 and continued its winning ways from last year. Unfortunately, Kol Amigos fell short in the next two games. Was there something in the Gatorade? Once again, our spirits were high with even more desire to win next year. The true win for Kol Amigos was the great time we shared together practicing and participating at this community event. To cap off the great day, we enjoyed food and beverages as a team after the tournament.

Thank you to everyone who participated this year. A special thanks to our supporters and tailgaters who came out to the tournament. The team will start practicing for the 14th Annual JCC Tournament after the High Holidays. New Amigos are always welcome and encouraged to join us for fun, friendship, and of course, softball!

Sincerely, Coach David Berger and Coach Jason Broverman

Front row, left to right, Audrey Shor, Michael Leaf, David Berger, Karla Solomon, Lauren Dunayer, Gwen Niehoff. Back row, left to right: Matt Niehoff, Jason Broverman, David Bern, Jeff Gad, Avi Elias, Mike Korenvaes, Moises Kattan, Rob Bern.

Friday Oneg $40
Saturday Kiddush $180
Help Kol Ami!!

Contact the executive director – Mitchell Weiss at 813-962-6338 or execdirector@kolami.org
Spring has sprung! We had a wonderful March and we are looking forward to a fantastic April. The highlight of March was our wonderful Purim Spiel, Purim on the Roof. Our students did an amazing job after months of prep work. A big shout-out to MK Williams, Addie Levert, and Rachel Degani who were so wonderfully involved with making this a success! The Purim Carnival was SO much fun. We had a few new activities, games, and, of course, the Petting Zoo was a huge hit! A MEGA shout-out to all the volunteers who helped out for the carnival! We had an amazing group of Parents, USYers, 7th graders, AEPi students, and congregants who all stepped up to make a fun, HAPPY day! All of this could not have been done without Abby Salem-Goldman, my irreplaceable Assistant Director!

April is looking like a fantastic month! Pesach is just around the corner! Our All School Model Seder will be on Wednesday, April 17 for our 3rd-7th grade students. Rabbi Siegel will lead our Seder and it is sure to be an exciting adventure as we help Moses lead our people to the Promised Land… so get your backpacks ready! Our 5th and 6th graders will be leading us in Saturday morning Shabbat services on April 13th; they have been working hard all year to show off their davening skills. We hope you will join us on April 13th for this wonderful class Shabbat.

As we wind down for the academic year, let’s gear up for Summer! Camp Kavod is coming to Kol Ami again this year! We will be offering a 1-week summer camp for incoming 3rd – 7th grade students. Come create a kibbutz in our own backyard! Look for details in the Weekly Watch, ChaiLites newsletter, Shabbat Shalom book and in the community! Camp dates are June 3rd-7th. Register today either online at www.kolami.org or send me an email (education@kolami.org) and I will get you the paperwork! Sign up before all the spots are gone!

**Upcoming Events**

4/7........... No School
4/13........ 5th & 6th Grade Class Shabbat
4/13........ Shabbat School (6th & 7th Grades)
4/14........ Confirmation Class (10th grade only)
4/21........ No School (Pesach)
4/24........ No School (Pesach)
4/27........ Shabbat School (6th & 7th Grades)
4/28........ Academy (8-12th Grades) at Kol Ami
L’dor Va Dor: From One B’nai Mitzvah Class to the Next!  
6th & 7th Grade Shabbat

OUR ADVENTURES ARE JUST BEGINNING

SATURDAY, MAY 4

9:30AM SERVICES FOLLOWED BY KIDDUSH LUNCHEON

Join us in celebrating our 7th Grade B’Nai Mitzvah students as they pass the torch to our current 6th Graders! 7th grade students will lead Shabbat Services with assistance from the 6th grade class.

All School Passover Seder

Wednesday, April 17th  
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Join us for a mock Seder full of stories, food, and fun! For all Kol Yeladim students in 3rd - 7th grade.

Please Select A Dinner Option:

Chicken Nuggets  
Veggie Nuggets (Vegetarian)  

Sides To Include:

Matzah Ball Soup (Vegetarian)  
Hard-boiled Eggs  
French Fries  
Fruit & Passover Desserts

RSVP with meal selection by 5PM on Monday, April 15

KOL YELADIM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
EDUCATION@KOLAMI.ORG | (813) 960 - 3654
WWW.KOLAMI.ORG/YOUTH-EDUCATION
Youth Groups

By Rachel Degani, Youth Director

March was a big lock-in month for Kol Ami USYers and Kadimanicks. As all great lock-ins should, the kids had a great time eating, schmoozing, watching movies, playing games, and very little sleeping... from which the chaperones are still recovering.

On March 2-3rd, Kadimanicks enjoyed their Universal Studios themed lock-in, with Harry Potter themed activities such as Quidditch and making butter beer, Jurassic Park themed man-hunt, and classics such as gaga, icebreakers, and more. USYers had a great time at their Nick-at-Nite themed lock-in, dubbed KAUSY-at-nite on March 9th-10th. USYers participated in SpongeBob cake decorating, Fresh Prince of Bel-Aire song games, Nickelodeon trivia, man-hunt, and more.

Boneem and Chaverim had a blast at the annual Purim Carnival on March 17th and are looking forward to their annual Chocolate Seder on April 14th.

(Youth Groups continued on next page)

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Thank you for helping to provide essential services to those in our community who need it most. For more information about the TJFS Community Food Bank, contact Lea Merrill Davidson-Bern, Food Bank Director and Volunteer Coordinator, at 813-960-1848.

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Congregation Kol Ami • April 2019 • Adar II / Nisan 5779
USYers had another busy month with their KAUSY-at-Nite Lock-in on March 9-10 and Sub-regional SATO Sunday on March 31. They are ramping up for their annual regional convention in South Florida on April 12-14 and elections / beach day.

Pictured clockwise from photo above, at the Kadima and USY Lock-ins:
1. (l to r) Felicia Scheiner and Ari Solomon
2. (l to r) Alissa Chernin, Ashley Weinberger, and Lia Agliata
3. Alissa Chernin
4. (l to r) Ashley Weinberger, Gabe Kashansky, Lia Agliata, William Kasenetz, Jamison Seldes, Brodie Newhouse, Yana Dixon, Jacob Chernin, and Orlando Dixon
April 2019 Events & Happenings at Kol Ami

**Tuesday, April 2**
- TOLLL: L’Chaim – Sharing Life’s Lessons .................11:00 a.m.
- Sisterhood Needle Workers ........................................ 1:30 p.m.
- Recharge Kol Ami Committee Meeting .................. 6:00 p.m.
- TOLLL: Judaism 101 with Rabbi Siegel ................. 8:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 3**
- TOLLL: “Good Ole’ Fashioned Bible Study”
  with Rabbi Siegel ..............................................11:00 a.m.
- Kol Yeladim Religious School ..................................5:00 p.m.
- Ritual Committee Meeting ...................................... 6:00 p.m.

**Thursday, April 4**
- TOLLL: Talmud Study with Rabbi Siegel ..................10:30 a.m.
- Kol Yeladim Religious School ..................................5:00 p.m.
- Ritual Committee Meeting ...................................... 6:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 5**
- Pizza and PJ Shabbat ...........................................6:00 p.m.
- Shabbat Services
  (Brotherhood Installation of Officers) .................. 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 6**
- Shabbat Services ..................................................9:30 a.m.
- Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Sisterhood .......... 12:00 p.m.

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**Sunday, April 7**
- No Kol Yeladim Religious School
- Tampa Jewish Family Services Trifecta
  (Schaarai Zedek) ............................................. 6:00 p.m.

**Monday, April 8**
- Sisterhood Board Meeting .................................. 6:45 p.m.
- Brotherhood Board Meeting ................................ 6:45 p.m.
- Executive Committee Meeting ............................... 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 9**
- TOLLL: L’Chaim – Sharing Life’s Lessons .................11:00 a.m.
- Sisterhood Needle Workers ........................................ 1:30 p.m.
- Finance Committee Meeting .................................. 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 10**
- Kol Yeladim Religious School ..................................5:00 p.m.

**Thursday, April 11**
- Board of Trustees Meeting .................................. 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 12**
- Shabbat Services (Birthday/Anniversary Shabbat)
  Board of Trustees Installation Shabbat .............. 6:30 p.m.
- Board of Trustees Installation Shabbat Dinner .......... 7:30 p.m.
April 2019 Events & Happenings at Kol Ami (cont’d)

**Saturday, April 13**
5th & 6th Grade Led Shabbat Services .........................9:30 a.m.
Shabbat School (6th & 7th Grades) ..........................9:30 a.m.
Howard Kanter Kiddush Luncheon ............................12:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 14**
Kol Yeladim Religious School .................................9:00 a.m.
Kol Yeladim School Board Meeting .........................9:30 a.m.
Youth (3rd-8th graders) Chocolate Seder ..................12:45 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 16**
Sisterhood Needle Workers ...............................1:30 p.m.
TOLLL: Judaism 101 with Rabbi Siegel ....................8:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 17**
TOLLL: “Good Ole’ Fashioned Bible Study”
with Rabbi Siegel ...........................................11:00 a.m.
Kol Yeladim Religious School ..............................5:00 p.m.
All School Passover Seder ..................................5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, April 18**
TOLLL: Talmud Study with Rabbi Siegel ...................10:30 a.m.

**Friday, April 19**
EREV PESACH
Taanit Bechorim “First Born Siyyum”
(followed by Breakfast) .....................................7:30 a.m.
Erev Pesach I Services / Shabbat Services ...............6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 20**
PESACH DAY 1
TOLLL: Gutsy Torah with Rabbi Siegel ...................8:30 a.m.
Pesach Day I Services / Shabbat Services ...............9:30 a.m.
Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Sisterhood ............12:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 21**
PESACH DAY II / No Kol Yeladim Religious School
Pesach Day II Services ......................................9:30 a.m.
Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Sisterhood ............12:00 p.m.

**Monday, April 22**
PESACH

**Tuesday, April 23**
PESACH
Sisterhood Needle Workers ..................................1:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 24**
PESACH
No Kol Yeladim Religious School

**Thursday, April 25**
PESACH
Erev Pesach VII Services .....................................7:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 26**
PESACH VII
Pesach VII Services ...........................................9:30 a.m.
Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Sisterhood ............12:00 p.m.
Erev Pesach VIII Services / Shabbat Services ..........6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 27**
PESACH VIII
TOLLL: Gutsy Torah with Rabbi Siegel ...................8:30 a.m.
Pesach VIII Services / Yizkor/ Shabbat Services ....9:30 a.m.
Shabbat School (6th & 7th Grades) .........................9:30 a.m.
Kiddush Luncheon sponsored by Sisterhood ............12:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 28**
Kol Yeladim Religious School .................................9:00 a.m.
TOLLL: Israel Today with Ephraim Graff ..................10:00 a.m.
Sisterhood Needle Workers .................................10:00 a.m.
Academy (8-12th Grade) ......................................10:30 a.m.
Confirmation (10th Grade only) .............................11:30 a.m.
Rabbi Kushner Book Review Series with Rabbi Siegel
at Carrollwood Barnes & Noble ............................7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 30**
TOLLL: L’Chaim – Sharing Life’s Lessons ................11:00 a.m.
Sisterhood Needle Workers .................................1:30 p.m.
TOLLL: Judaism 101 with Rabbi Siegel ....................8:00 p.m.

**Tampa Jewish Family Services Community Food Bank**

Tampa Jewish Family Services (TJFS) food distribution is offered once a month at the agency’s Citrus Park and Brandon locations.

Distribution dates for April are:
- **Citrus Park**: April 4
- **Brandon**: April 11

Both locations offer emergency food bank distribution on weekdays by appointment only. Pick-up for both services must be arranged in advance by calling 813-960-1848. Please help spread the word in your community that this service is available in Citrus Park and Brandon. If you would like to make a contribution, please drop off canned goods or a monetary donation to the agency’s Citrus Park location at 13009 Community Campus Drive, Tampa, FL 33625. Brandon location is Congregation Beth Shalom, 706 Bryan Rd, Brandon, FL 33511.

TJFS will never turn away an individual or family in need.
As a service to our members, we are offering the opportunity to honor loved ones’ anniversaries, birthdays, other special occasions, or to express your gratitude for someone’s kindness. With a donation of $25 we will procure a quarter-page spot in the Chai Lites. If you are interested, contact Mitch at execdirector@kolami.org.
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Rabbi Len Rosenthal
By Sharon & Dave Cross

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Howard Kanter Kiddush Fund
IN HONOR OF
Mark Jaffe on being honored by the Professional Societies of the Tampa Jewish Federation
By Mary & Rich Kanter

IN MEMORY OF
Rabbi Len Rosenthal
By Mary & Rich Kanter
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IN HONOR OF
The Freedland family on the birth of their Grandson, Michael Jacob Carranza
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The Freedland family on the birth of their Grandson, Michael Jacob Carranza
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By Frank & Shirley Entis, and family

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IN MEMORY OF
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By Linda & Max Zalkin
Father, Murray Daniels
By Alan & Marilyn Daniels

Ma’asim Tovim Fund
IN HONOR OF
The Freedland family on the birth of their Grandson, Michael Jacob Carranza
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Sheri & Bill Peterson
Cindy & Mike Korenvaes
Karen Schilit’s Birthday
By Sharon & Dave Cross

IN MEMORY OF
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GET WELL WISHES TO
Karine Rahel bat Beila
By the Kattan Family

(April Donations continued on next page)
Donations (cont’d)

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Chai-R-ing Babysitters

Babysitters: Send your name & telephone number to frontoffice@kolami.org.

Parents: Email frontoffice@kolami.org for contact info for babysitters. Interview the sitters you hire – we do not provide references for babysitters.

Kol Ami’s KAMEL Program
Sponsored by Ma’asim Tovim (Good Deeds) Committee, the Kol Ami Medical Equipment Loan (KAMEL) Program pairs up congregants who are willing to loan their currently unused medical equipment to other congregants who are in need of such equipment on either a short- or long-term basis.

If you have extra equipment (e.g., canes, walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, grab bars, etc.) you are willing to lend, or if you would like to borrow equipment, please contact Ma’asim Tovim Chair, Sue Dvorchik at susiedv1@gmail.com or contact the Kol Ami office at (813) 962-6338. We will try to make the “shidduch” (match)!
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KOL AMI'S ANNUAL END OF THE YEAR PICNIC

Sunday, May 19, 2019

11:30am - 1pm

Join us for delicious food, drinks, fun & games!

SAVE THE DATE!