



Congregation Kol Ami

2023-2024

Kol Ami has a number of very active committees that support the programs and mission of our congregation. Many of these committees need volunteers - individuals who can help in a variety of ways. This booklet contains a list of the committees, a brief description of their roles, the chairpersons, their contact information, and an explanation of the volunteers' jobs.

On the back of the booklet, please select any committees of interest and return the form to the office. Please keep this booklet as a reference tool for when you are available to help.

It is not what one says, but rather what one does, that makes a difference in the world."

--Pirkei Avot, 1:17

Adult and Family Education

Chair: Cindy Schiff

The Committee on Adult and Family Education, Tree of Life Long Learning, coordinates and plans an extensive selection of exciting and innovative programs for all members of our congregation as well as for the entire community. Tree of Life Long Learning committee enthusiastically encourages families - grandparents, parents, and children alike - to come together to study Torah and other topics in concert. In addition to classes, Tree of Life Long Learning committee plans special events such as the annual Rabbi Joel Wasser Memorial Scholar-in-Residence Weekend.

Volunteers are needed to help develop and plan new educational programs. The Committee is always looking for people with ideas for classes and programs. They only meet a few times a year and would love to welcome new faces to the committee.

Chavurah

Chair: Beth Gaffney

The word "Chavurah" is commonly translated as "fellowship" and is derived from the Hebrew root that means "friend". In this spirit, the Chavurah Program at Kol Ami connects individuals and families to share Jewish life, gain a greater appreciation of Jewish tradition in an atmosphere that reflects personal warmth and an extended family feeling as well as creates a strong sense of Kol Ami Community and love of Judaism. Kol Ami creates Chavurot on an ongoing basis.

If you are interested in joining a Chavurah, please complete a Chavurah Interest Form, which is available from the Kol Ami office or on the Kol Ami web site.

College Outreach

Chair: Terri Hinds

The College Outreach Committee sends packages, emails and mailings to our undergraduate and graduate school students. Please keep the chairperson updated with current addresses.

Volunteers are needed twice a year (prior to Hanukkah/finals and Pesach) to assist in obtaining donations for the packages, organizing the packages, and preparing them for distribution.

Endowment Committee

Chair: Steve Specter

The Endowment Committee has the responsibility to raise funds for the long term needs of our congregation. The committee has started an endowment campaign to raise monies for the general endowment fund to support the various ongoing programs, staff, and building needs of Kol Ami.

If you are interested in donating or working as a campaign solicitor, please contact Steve.

Fundraising Committee

Chair: Roberta Baer

The Fundraising committee organizes social programs and entertaining activities that are intended to help raise funds for our Congregation. Current and past fundraisers include: Memorial Plaques, Tree of Life, Special Dinners and Events, The Annual Fundraising Gala.

House Committee

Chair: TBD

The House committee is responsible for the repair and upkeep of our physical plant. Volunteers are needed to assist with special projects as the need arises.

You must give some time to your fellow man. Even if it's a little thing, do something for which you get not pay but the privilege of doing it.

--Albert Schweitzer

Jay Fink Memorial Library

Chair: Beverly Fink

The Jay Fink Memorial Library provides materials and programming for the congregation, Kol Yeladim Religious School and the community. Located in the Chapel wing of our building, the library collection consists of a variety of materials that enable members to enhance their experience of Jewish life in a relevant Jewish library.

Library Staff Volunteers maintain our collection by cataloging books, computer data entry, putting bar codes and labels on items, and helping patrons find and check materials in and out of the library. Volunteers are also needed to help develop, refine and archive our collection of Congregation Kol Ami photos and historical files.

We are currently open on Sunday mornings to coincide with Religious School hours. We are looking for Library Staff Volunteers to be trained on our computer software to check books in and out as well as search our catalogued books. If you are interested in helping and can offer some time on a consistent basis, please let us know.

Kol Yeladim School Board

Chair: Shaina Shuford

The Kol Yeladim School Board works with the Education Director to set policy for and oversee the running of the Kol Yeladim Religious School as well as to volunteer when needed for school events.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Kol Yeladim School Board to help set the policy and direction for the school and to serve as volunteers for school functions/events when needed.

Volunteers are also needed to help with specific Kol Yeladim holiday celebrations and school events; to serve as class parents and make necessary phone calls to families and assist in classrooms when needed, as well as drive on field trips. We also need volunteers to answer phones during religious school hours and help with assorted tasks during religious school hours.

Recharge

Chair: Carolyn Fink

Recharge evaluates and makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding the future needs of our congregational family on a wide variety of topics. These topics include, but are not limited to, Personnel, Membership, Finance, Facilities, Ritual, Communication, Security, Leadership, Education, and Programming.

Volunteers are needed to provide thoughts and expertise in the areas listed above to help shape and update the existing Recharge for the synagogue.

Ma'asim Tovim

Chair: Sue Dvorchik

Ma'asim Tovim is a group of dedicated volunteers who are available to the congregation and their immediate family members in their time of need. The volunteers prepare meals, offer rides, make friendly visits and provide telephone reassurance and other support for all life cycle events.

Volunteers are needed to serve as weekly coordinators who act as the contact person between the congregant member and the team of volunteers to fulfill their needs. Volunteers are also needed to cook, deliver meals and drive, as well as other good deeds.

Membership Committee

Chair: Carlos Romay

The Membership Committee's mission is to bring in prospective members to the Kol Ami family. Volunteers are needed to serve on the Membership Committee to help in any aspect of recruitment including planning prospective member meet and greets. We are always looking for folks who are interested in being Kol Ami Ambassadors to greet prospective members at our Shabbat services so they will feel more connected to our Kol Ami community. Committee meetings are kept to a minimum and mostly we use email to keep in touch. Creative ideas and enthusiasm for growing and maintaining our membership are appreciated!

Brotherhood

President: Jon Zimmer

Our Brotherhood is made up of a diverse group of men. One of the goals of the Brotherhood is to provide opportunities and activities for the men in our Synagogue community to fellowship and develop camaraderie. It is a venue, if you will, for you to share your time, talents, knowledge and financial resources in a meaningful manner via the varied activities within the Synagogue. Some of the activities we are involved in include: the Annual Kickoff, Chai Guys Synagogue rejuvenation projects, High Holiday chair and Chumash setup, Sukkah setup, Chanukah Party (a joint effort with Sisterhood and Kol Yeladim), Yellow Candle boxing, the Annual Synagogue Picnic (also a joint effort with Sisterhood and Kol Yeladim) just to name a few. Become active, informed and involved! You might just find the experience life changing!

Please join (or rejoin) the Brotherhood and get active today.

Ritual Committee

Chair: Alan Borden

The Ritual Committee organizes Shabbat services, Holiday services, and works with the Rabbi to make ritual decisions. The Ritual Committee participates in discussion and decisions affecting ritual issues as they affect the congregation. The Ritual Committee helps prepare Torah and Service Assignment sheets by coordinating requests for individual honors, interfacing with the Rabbi, Cantor, and the Office; secures Service leaders and Torah readers; extends honors on Shabbat and Yom Tov mornings and assists honorees in anticipation of their ascending the Bima.

Security

Chair: Darren Kasenetz

The Security Committee helps to maintain and enhance safety and security of our Synagogue and School. Various volunteers are needed to provide security coverage for Shabbat services, work on emergency operation plans, security related landscaping, lighting, physical building security and safety audits, High Holiday security coverage and any other items that enhance the safety and security of Kol Ami. Meetings are held semi-annually. Training is provided and women and men 18 years of age or more are welcome to join the team. If you have an interest, please feel free to contact Jon at the above email or phone number or just see Darren and chat.

Sisterhood

President: Sharon Cross

Sisterhood is a vibrant and active group, serving many key roles in the daily activities of the synagogue. This past year, Sisterhood provided funds to purchase three canopies which were used at the Earth Day event and will be used during outdoor synagogue activities. Sisterhood sponsors Yom Tov kiddushes as well as non-sponsored Shabbat kiddushes. Sisterhood also provides the MazelGrams program—an easy way to send Rosh Hashanah greetings to your Kol Ami friends and family.

Once again, Sisterhood has an exciting year of programs and events planned. For some of the events we will be partnering with Brotherhood, Kol Yeladim Religious School and Security committee. With these programs/events come many volunteer opportunities including helping prepare a Friday night oneg or Shabbat Kiddush on Friday morning, helping put out food and/or clean up on Saturday, working on a committee to plan/organize an event or assist at the event/program. Your help makes these wonderful activities happen. Don't forget to visit our well-stocked Gift Shop for all your Judaica needs.

Please join Sisterhood this year, get involved and attend these great events!

Social Action Committee

Chair: Michelle Winarsky

Kol Ami's Social Action Committee is looking for volunteers to help with Tikkun Olam, Repairing the World, by coordinating programs and projects that help others in our community and beyond. We had a very successful year last year. We collected 3 trunk loads of Bare Necessities to be distributed to Tampa Jewish Family Services, The Spring, and the Joshua House. In April, we celebrated our 3rd Annual Earth Day, recycling electronics, computers, printers, microwaves, cell phones, confidential paper documents, as well as donating furniture, clothing, and small appliances. Legal Shred: collected 8000+ lbs. of on-site paper shredding, Goodwill: filled a 54' trailer of household items, Homemakers (Catholic Charities set up apartments for the homeless): collected 2 box trucks full of household items, TJFS Food Bank: 2 shopping carts full of non-perishables, SEER Electronics recycling, filled a 53' semi-trailer truck, Jewish War Veterans collected over 30 flags for proper disposal, Cell Phones for Soldiers 90 Cell phones collected, Lion's Club collected 85 pairs of eyeglasses, Soles4souls collected 100 pairs of shoes and the Blood Bank collected 11 Pints of blood. We are looking for new great ideas and fresh members and look forward to a productive and active year. The Social Committee plans programs designed to bring our congregational family together for enjoyable social functions. The Social Committee is looking for people willing to help organize, create and participate in social events at Congregation Kol Ami. A sense of humor, desire to have fun and the ability to "think outside the box" are preferred attributes for those willing to serve on this committee!

Youth Committee

Chair: David Berger

The Youth Committee works with the Youth Director, Maci Morse, who in turn works with the Boneem, Kadima and USY Advisors to develop and supervise the Youth programming for Kol Ami.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Youth Committee.

The Youth Committee will help develop and assist in setting a policy for and oversee the running of the Youth Groups. Volunteers are also needed to act as chaperones and drivers at youth events, assist with food preparation and set up for fund raising events such as the annual Tikkun Olam dinner. The Youth Committee is responsible for setting policies and procedures to ensure the safety of the staff and youth groups. The Youth Committee is also responsible for making sure the Kol Ami Youth Department follows the guidelines and procedures set by the HaNegev Region of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Congregation Kol Ami

**3919 Moran Road
Tampa, FL 33618**

Phone: (813) 962-6338

Fax: (813) 968-2219

School: (813) 960-3654

Website – www.kolami.org

Rabbi Rachel Blatt

President Kevin Cross

Executive Director – Mitchell Weiss

Education Director – Jennifer Halls

Youth Director – TBD

“I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.”

Edmund Everett Hale

Congregation Kol Ami Committee Interest Form

**Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Kol Ami.
Please select all the committees that are of interest to you and
return this form to the Kol Ami office.**

Thank you again for your help.

Committee on Adult & Family Education	_____
Chavurah	_____
College Outreach	_____
Endowment Committee	_____
Fundraising Committee	_____
House Committee	_____
Jay Fink Memorial Library	_____
Kol Yeladim School Board	_____
Recharge	_____
Ma'asim Tovim	_____
Membership Committee	_____
Brotherhood	_____
Ritual Committee	_____
Security Committee	_____
Sisterhood	_____
Social Action Committee	_____
Social Committee	_____
Youth Committee	_____