Kol Rinah welcomes everyone. This means YOU! Kol Rinah is a dynamic and forward-looking congregation where all generations come together to experience Judaism in innovative ways. Our mission is to create a welcoming community that embraces Torah and meaningful worship, lifelong learning, music, Israel and Tikkun Olam, guided by the tenets of Conservative Judaism. We embrace a diversity of Jews and Jewish families, including Jews by choice and Jews by birth, Jews of all hues, Jewish singles, couples, and families, interfaith households, LGBTQ Jews, Jews of all abilities and disabilities, the Jew-curious, and more! If there is anything we can do to make you more welcome or to accommodate your needs, please let us know.

On September 10th, Mitch Shenker signed a contract with the Journey Fellowship in which they will purchase our property on Hanley and we will purchase theirs on 7701 Maryland Avenue (between Linden Ave & Hanley Rd). This is the first step in the process of our eventual move to a new synagogue that will be developed at that location. If you did not receive a letter in the mail about this, you will soon be able to find it and other updates and FAQ's on our website. We will also have brief updates from the Facilities committee in the Voice as we complete the milestones that get us closer to our move. Thank you to Barry Pessin, Alav Hashalom, and the Facilities committee for their contributions to this exciting project.
Mazal Tov!

November Birthdays

November Anniversaries
Sasha & Blair Kweskin
Samuel & Nadine Wilk
Bernard & Jean Pinken
Harold & Karen Karabell
Edward & Marla Myers
Justin Newstadt & Diana Fridberg
Michael & Gina Bernstein
Marvin & Doris Lerner
Zachary Cohen & Shayna Gordon
Steve & Darien Arnstein
Henry & Esther Lega
Mark & Alice Fasman
Stephen & Nancy Keyser
Michael Greenfield & Claire Halpern
Martin & Barbara Becker
Harvey & Jackie Fenster
Donald & Joanne Singer
Daniel & Amanda Radman
Maurice & Rachel Guller
Marc & Elaine Tenzer

December Birthdays

December Anniversaries
Robert & Joyce Olshan
Noah & Tammy Arnow
Marvin & Ginger Marcus
Benjamin & Rosetta Weintraub
David & Sue Cort
Howard & Jodi Granok
Ralph & Mimi Graff
Michael & Harriet Shanas
Alan & Bonnie Templeton
Merwyn & Maxine Kalina
Louis & Roberta Fine
Michael & Nancy Drake
Stan Braude & Nancy Berg
Rolf & Shelby Cooke
Mendel & Sandra Rosenberg
Daniel & Sherri Weintrop
Tony & Carole Granillo

Thank You
Thank you to all the lovely and dear people who made contributions and sent tributes on my birthday.

Irene Belsky
Ralph & I would like to thank the people who were in charge of making our simcha such a memorable time. They were very cooperative and took over the preparation of the luncheon along with the caterers. They saw to my extra needs by having special dairy products and pareve baked goods so that the orthodox part of our family could enjoy the luncheon. Everything was beautiful and tasted wonderful. Sue and her crew of sisterhood ladies were great to work with. A special thanks to this group. Also the office staff were there when we needed them. This was a milestone in our family with all 10 grandchildren present along with Ralph’s sister, niece and Anthony. Of course getting reacquainted with our granddaughter, Havah, from Haifa, Israel, put the icing on the cake. Last but not least, I want to thank the Rabbi for his kind words.

We would also like to thank the many donors who gave to the synagogue in Ralph’s Honor.

Shanah Tovah

Ralph & Mimi
Thanks to all who contributed to the Kol Rinah Women’s Social Group -
- for our anniversary -
- for my birthday -

Bonnie & Phil Levens

Myron Jacobs

Condolences to the Families Of
Deborah Anne LeCover
Frances Kootman
Kol Rinah Leadership

Mitch Shenker President
Patricia Cohen Chairman of the Board
Karen Aroesty, David Cooperstein, Debbie Igielnik, Randi Mozenter, Karen Rader, Sherri Sadon Vice Presidents
Jeremy Buhler Secretary
Lisa Gellman Treasurer

Board - Term Ending 2015
Monroe Ginsburg, Beth Levy, Dan Rosenthal, Debbie Rubin, Eric Sheldon, Aaron Vickar, Jeff Wax

Board - Term Ending 2016
Stephanie Berk, Gina Bernstein, Susan Cort, Dana Emmenegger, Esti Goldman, Michael Greenfield, Mindy Horwitz, Jim Singman

Board - Term Ending 2017
Jaron Asher, Marcia Sokol Anderson, Richard Gavatin, Tony Granillo, Elisa Israel, Scott Kaar, Bill Solomon, Debbie Zimmerman

Ritual and Education
Noah Arnow Rabbi
Mark Fasman Rabbi Emeritus
Mordecai Miller Rabbi Emeritus
Benson Skoff z”l Rabbi Emeritus
Marvin Lerner, Jonathan Beisky B’alei Koreh
Elyse Picker, Liz Collins Early Childhood Center Co-Directors
Paula Hertel Religious School Director
Rabbi Tracy Nathan B’nai Mitzvah Tutor

Auxiliary Groups
Jessica Wax DorWays Family Program Coordinator
Bob Olshan Men’s Club President
Micki Kingsley Sisterhood President
Marilyn Dien Women’s Social Group

Kol Rinah Office Staff
David Weber Synagogue Administrator
Nancy Greene Executive Assistant
Meir Zimand Operations/Facilities
Tasha Kaminsky Director of Programming

Committee Chairs
Richard Gavatin Adult Ed
Barbara Bianco Chesed
Jaron Asher, Gary Kodner Communications
Richard Gavatin, Michael Greenfield Constitution & Bylaws
Steve Rosenblum Development
Aaron Vickar ECC
Sue Albert, Dan Rosenthal Facilities
Lisa Gellman Finance
Marsha Birenbaum Halls & Catering
Esti Goldman-Gurvis, Bob Olshan Israel
Linda Makler, Monroe Ginsburg Membership
Elisa Israel, Scott Kaar Personnel
Marvin Marcus, Jeremy Buhler Ritual
Mike Levine Strategic Planning
Cindy Kalachek KRRS
Sherri Frank Weintrop USY

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Thank you to Phil and Sima Needleman for their generous sponsorship of the newsletter.

Our newsletter is designed by Tovah Enger with the indispensable help of her proofing team: Nancy Greene, Micki Kingsley, Cindy Payant & Sherri Frank-Weintrop. Thank you.
What’s Your Micro-Community?

There are the people who put out the food, and the people who help clean it up. There are the people who make sure the doors are unlocked, and then locked again. There are the people who read Torah, and assign aliyyot, and call page numbers, and teach Torah. There are the people who tap and sing while everyone washes hands. There are the people who make sure everyone has a ride there, and a ride home.

These are some of the people who make up the micro-community that gathers every Saturday afternoon for the end of Shabbat. We gather about two hours before Shabbat ends for mincha (the afternoon service), followed by seudah shelishiet (the third meal of Shabbat), some Torah study and conversation, birkat hamazon (the grace after meals), maariv (the evening service), and then Havdalah, the ceremony with which we end Shabbat.

Sometimes we are joined by someone with a yahrzeit saying Kaddish. Often, though, it’s the same fifteen or so people who come pretty regularly. And it’s an incredible community that exists. When someone is missing, his/her absence is palpable because it’s such a steady group in which no one can be anonymous. Everyone knows his/her roles, and everyone has a job. Because the pace is not hurried, there’s time to really talk, to really get to know people, to learn their stories, and to get involved in conversation. Because it’s a relatively steady group, we can study something continuously, and not go back and review too much each week.

This is not intended to be an advertisement for Kol Rinah’s Shabbat mincha/maariv, although it’s a delightful, sweet and wonderful micro-community. Rather, it’s just one example of the many micro-communities that exist within our congregation. Many of the weekday morning and evening minyanim have their own flavor, profile and attendees. The people who help cook and prepare kiddushes have their own micro-community. The people who study Torah during Musaf are a special micro-community. The people who study on Tuesday mornings are a beautiful micro-community. Those actively involved in Sisterhood and Men’s Club are part of important micro-communities. The people who park their cars in our parking lot while they go biking together are a micro-community. The parents who hang out in the lobby on Sunday mornings are an informal micro-community. And it’s an incredible community that exists. When someone is missing, his/her absence is palpable because it’s such a steady group in which no one can be anonymous. Everyone knows his/her roles, and everyone has a job. Because the pace is not hurried, there’s time to really talk, to really get to know people, to learn their stories, and to get involved in conversation. Because it’s a relatively steady group, we can study something continuously, and not go back and review too much each week.

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And if you can’t identify a micro-community at the shul you’re a part of, you need to find one! I’m happy to help you, or just find a friend or two, or make a new friend and come to something.

It takes time to form the familiarity and ease that we so appreciate in a micro-community. It’s the stuff the texture of life is made of. It’s holy, sacred and precious. And it means that each person matters—that you matter.

Jewish Food Pantry List For November

1. Canned Beef Stew/Chili/Pasta with Meat
2. Canned Tuna Fish
3. Kosher Food
4. Peanut Butter
5. Canned Fruit
6. Dry Pasta and Tomato Sauce
7. All Types of Canned Vegetables
8. Hand Soap, Toilet Paper and Laundry Detergent

For more info, contact Louise Levine 636.227.1259.
Shalom Kol Rinah. My name is Pardes Lyons-Warren and I’m this year’s Social Action/Tikkun Olam (SA/TO) Vice President of KRSTL USY. I’m super excited for this year because our theme is intercultural understanding and immigration. Throughout the year we will be doing activities to educate ourselves as a chapter, to help our community, and to raise money for organizations like the International Institute of St. Louis.

In my opinion, almost all prejudice stems from ignorance, which is why I chose to focus on intercultural understanding this year. We’ve already done a program called “international night” where we explored cultures from every continent and discussed them in relation to Judaism. I’m excited to do more programs like that one, and to collaborate with other St. Louis youth groups from other religions. The other aspect of SA/TO this year is immigration because I would also love for our chapter to make a tangible change in our community. Over 5% of the St. Louis population is foreign born and organizations like the aforementioned International Institute of St. Louis are here to help them. We will be doing fundraisers for tzedakah for them and other charities as well as writing welcome letters to immigrant families and collecting cans for food pantries they can go to.

I’m absolutely thrilled to be representing KRSTL in SA/TO this year and I’m looking forward to working with our Kol Rinah community, our surrounding Jewish community, and our greater St. Louis community.

Pardes Lyons-Warren
Kol Rinah USY Social Action/Tikkun Olam (SA/TO) Vice President
Kol Rinah Religious School

Kol Rinah Religious School – Moving Forward

KRRS has officially begun its third year! Once again, we are blessed with a talented staff of teachers who consistently plan creative and meaningful lessons for our students. What a joy to work with them, as well as with our terrific Administrative Assistant, Ellen Cohen.

At an August Open House, our staff welcomed back many parents and students who were able to visit classrooms, talk with new and returning teachers, as well as nosh and chat with one another. Everyone viewed the beginnings of the KRRS Photo Gallery in our lobby which will change throughout the year.

Due to the High Holiday calendar, the school year actually started with Wednesday sessions. The first Sunday, September 20th, “Fantastic Family Day” started with Tashlich at Oak Knoll Park. Back at the building, families participated in a) Make-Take-Bake Challah with Meir Zimand; b) the “Shofar Factory with Rabbi Levi Landa; and c) creating Sukkah Wind Chimes with Emily Herman, our Art Specialist, and staff.

Special events to take place in November and December are:

- **Saturday, November 21st** - Second/Third Grade Shabbateeny at Kol Rinah
- **Fri./Sat., December 4th/5th** - Fourth/Fifth Grade Shabbaton at B’nai Amoona
- **Sunday, December 6th** – “Hanukkah Happening Day” for families and students

**B’Shalom,**

Paula Hertel, Director

Seek the sacred within the ordinary.
Seek the remarkable within the commonplace.

Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

Please continue to check our web page for this year’s calendar.

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**ISRAEL BOUND**

**a St. Louis Teen Adventure…**

**June 6-26, 2016**

Open to teens currently in 10th-12th grade

$5,350 All Inclusive

Earlybird pricing $5,200 through November 20, 2015

$750 travel grant given to all St. Louis teens!

- Explore ancient Jerusalem and modern Tel Aviv
- Climb Masada at sunrise
- Travel on camels in the Negev Desert and eat in a Bedouin tent
- Float in the Dead Sea
- Snorkel and swim in Eilat
- Connect with Israeli Teens
- Help others in a Community Service project
- Raft the Jordan River
- Reflect at the Kotel, The Western Wall...and much more!

For more information, contact Karen Rader at 314-442-3756 or email KRader@JFedSTL.org.
All profits from our kiddushes go to the shul in many different ways, including USY, Religious School, the ECC, Jewish summer camp scholarships, general operating funds of the Synagogue & maintenance of the kitchens and all equipment.

Contact Sue Propper
314.395.1349 or suemeryl@charter.net

November 1st
Facilities Report
10am & 4pm

December 6th
Congregation Meeting to elect new Board Members
10am

Chanukah is Coming!
Send your college student’s address in to Sisterhood so they can receive a Kol Rinah Chanukah package.
Contact Micki Kingsley, michele_kingsley@yahoo.com

Celebrate with a Kiddush by
Kol Rinah SISTERHOOD
All profits from our kiddushes go to the shul in many different ways, including USY, Religious School, the ECC, Jewish summer camp scholarships, general operating funds of the Synagogue & maintenance of the kitchens and all equipment.

Contact Sue Propper
314.395.1349 or suemeryl@charter.net
KRECC is off to a great start! Elyse and I are settling in and it has been wonderful getting to know our staff, families, and the children. This year in the ECC, one of our goals is building our school community. To start accomplishing this goal, our teachers have incorporated some techniques they were introduced to during teaching training week. Through a program called Conscious Discipline, our teachers now offer the children options for how they wish to be greeted when they enter the classroom each morning (a hug, high five, or smile are some of their choices), providing a “safe place” in the classroom where children can go if they need to cool down, rest, or reset, and singing a special “we wish you well” song for children not in attendance that day. Every Monday morning, we gather as a whole school for an assembly with music from Miss Suzy (our music specialist) to get us ready for the week.

This High Holiday season has also given us many opportunities to come together as a school community. On Rosh Hashana, parents and children sang songs with Miss Suzy, decorated beehives, created a shofar, and played with red and green apple playdough, and enjoyed a special treat of apples and honey and honey cake (baked fresh by our children with Miss Linda!) On Sukkot, families and teachers came together for dinner in the Kol Rinah Sukkah. The children took such pride in showing their parents the decorations they made and hung up in the Sukkah.

We invite the Kol Rinah community to join ours during the upcoming Scholastic Book Fair taking place November 15-20. Our school benefits greatly from the proceeds, and the books make great Hanukkah gifts for your friends and family!

Check out our ECC photos on back cover, page 20!
Welcome The New Members of 5775 - 5776/2015

The Kol Rinah Membership Committee is proud and excited to “recap” our new members since January 2015. New Members of Kol Rinah include Joann and Jeff Carra, Zach Cohen and Shayna Gordon, Diana Fridberg and Justin Newstadt, Michael Ginsburg, Ben and Jessica Igielnick, Janet and Jeff Jacob, Jennifer Lotsoff and Family, Mem Movshin, Don and Sharongay Pearline, Ron and Marsha Portman and Family, Shirley Portman, and Jack and Renee Rosen. Please give all our new members a big Kol Rinah Welcome and Shalom when you see them at services and/or special events.

Questions on aging? Don’t know where to turn?

Our caring and professional staff will connect you to programs and resources available to seniors in the St. Louis area.

Make Money for Kol Rinah with Schnucks eScrip

Did you know in one easy step you can personally raise hundreds of dollars for Kol Rinah without spending any extra money? Every time you make a purchase at Schnucks simply have your eScrip card scanned and up to 3% of the money you spend on your groceries goes straight to Kol Rinah. Pick up a Schnucks eScrip card in the front office or request to have a card sent to your home.

YKR?

Why do You belong to Kol Rinah? What made you join? What keeps you here?

We are interested. Please let us know.

Email your answers to YKR@KolRinahStl.org or the office.

St. Louis JCC Maccabi Games Volunteers Needed

The JCC Maccabi Games® is the largest Jewish youth event in the world. From July 31 - August 5, 2016 our community will welcome more than 1,000 visiting teens from across the globe and involve all of Greater St. Louis, including 400 host families, 1,000 volunteers and 200+ local teen athletes. Learn more and volunteer at https://maccabistlouis.org/about-the-maccabi-games/
Sisterhood

Micki Kingsley
michele_kingsley@yahoo.com

Sisterhood Kiddush Appreciation

Thank you to the following families for sharing their simchas with a Sisterhood Kiddush:

* Gershon and Patsy Spector to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary
* The family of Frances Oppenheim in honor of Frances’ 80th birthday.
* Marian Katz for sharing her 90th birthday.
* Paula Rubin Sparks and Peter Sparks to celebrate the bar mitzvah of their son Joey.

We would like to help you celebrate your next simcha with a beautiful Sisterhood Kiddush. Just call Sue Propper at 314-395-1349 or e-mail her at: suemeryl@charter.net, and leave the rest to Sisterhood.

Supper in the Sukkah!

* Thanks to Howard Belsky, Sue Propper, Aleene Zawada, Ava Small, Marion Cohen, Barbara Bahn and Joyce Gang, with special thanks to Jean Marx and Phyllis Warner, for ensuring success. Even the weather was beautiful; and the evening was topped-off by Karen Kern, leading us in new and old melodies after dinner. And we all enjoyed “helping” her sing niggunim (tunes).
* Thanks to everyone who turned out to support Sisterhood and this year’s Supper in the Sukkah.
* Finally, thank you to Marjorie Feldman who developed the Sisterhood Lunch and Learn on October 10, and for publicizing and arranging for the speaker on Human Trafficking.

Membership – you should have received a letter for Sisterhood dues renewal. We hope you will return the information stub and your check so that we will be able to send in our per capita dues to Women’s League as soon as possible to take advantage of last year’s rate.

If you are not yet a member of Sisterhood, you should have received a letter too. Please think about joining. Our funds raised by dues and events give back so much to the synagogue.

Space is limited here, so I will tell you all about the Torah Fund kick-off event next time. Thank you for supporting the Jewish Theological Seminaries over the years. They depend greatly on the money collected by Sisterhoods across the country.

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Learn Haftarah, Trope or Prayer

What do you want to learn: trope (Haftorah and/or Torah trope), a specific prayer, such as "Ashrei, "Prayer for Israel", etc? I am willing to teach you whatever you want.

Contact Howard Belsky to set up a schedule.
314.546.0810 or howardbelsky@gmail.com

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You Can Create A Jewish Legacy Today!

1. I have already made provisions to create a Jewish Legacy for BSKI, Shaare Zedek and/or Kol Rinah. (Please let us know)

Fax this form to Kol Rinah Office at 314-727-0080

2. Please contact me about how I can leave a Jewish Legacy to Kol Rinah and/or a community agency.

Name:

Contact number:

www.KolRinahSTL.org
Kol Rinah Families had a fabulous time working together to design and decorate beautiful challah plates and challah covers for their family. We can’t wait to see how wonderful they look once they are fired. We hope these become a special part of each family’s Shabbat table. This program is part of Kol Rinah’s upcoming family retreat and was made possible through a generous grant from the Gladys K. Crown Foundation honoring the memory of Shirlee Green, and the Jewish Federation’s Rich Fund.
Men's Club

Bob Olshan

Shanah Tovah u’Metukah! I hope you all had a very meaningful High Holidays, Sukkot and Simhat Torah.

Here Comes Kol Rinah’s Men’s Club’s Fall Grand Slam! 2 on, no one out!
1. **Steak & Scotch in the Sukkah with a Taste of Talmud - a Spirited Hit!**
   
   Yeshar Koach to Rabbi Arnow for our Taste of Talmud, and our chief Steak Chef Gerard Burke and everyone else who helped build the Sukkah and make Steak & Scotch in the Sukkah such a Chaggigah (Celebration).

2. **Hearing Men’s Voices on Inclusion - was a Deep Hit.**

3. **Sushi & Saki Shabbat - Will be a Far East Hit. Come to Asia for Shabbat!**
   
   Bruchim Habaim (everyone’s welcome)

   Make reservations for Sushi and Saki Saturday, Nov 20th at 7pm. Once again we are honored to be hearing from our very own Marvin Marcus, Professor of Japanese Language and Literature at Washington University. Come explore the tastes and spirit(s) of Japan and enjoy hearing about Japanese Culture & Literature. Can you write a Shabbat Haiku? Send them in and we’ll vote.

4. **C’mom Baby…. Sports Night with KMOX’s Tom Ackerman - it’s out of here! A Grand Slam!**
   
   Make your reservations now for Sports Night on Nov. 15th with Tom Ackerman, Sports Director at KMOX, overseeing a department that serves as the flagship station for the St. Louis Cardinals and St. Louis Blues. He is also the lead sports anchor on KMOX’s “Total Information A.M.” and a host on the Cardinals Radio Network.

RSVP to office 727-1747. For more info go to our website or contact Bob Olshan olshanr@gmail.com

Bob Olshan
President, Kol Rinah Men’s Club
Men’s Club Presents our

**Annual Sports Dinner**
with KMOX Sports Director,

**Tom Ackerman**

Sunday, November 15, 6:30pm

*Spaghetti Dinner * Prizes * Raffles * Q&A

Advance cost: $15 Adults, $12 Men’s Club Members, $5 Children 18 and under  
At the door: $18 All Adults, $5 Children 18 and Under  
**RSVP** to the office **before Nov 10.** 314-727-1747 or office@kolринahstl.org

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The Kol Rinah Women’s Social Group
invite you to High Tea!

Sunday,  
Dec. 20  
2-4 pm.  
High Tea  
at Kol Rinah

**RSVP by Dec. 15**

Musical entertainment by Madeline Kaufman

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www.facebook.com/KolRinahSTL
The Story of Mary Blistein Berger and Henry Berger

Everyone has a story except Mary and Henry Berger. They don’t have just one story. There are many stories within their story!

All four of Mary Berger’s grandparents emigrated, at various times, from Europe to the United States. Unfortunately, both of her maternal grandparents died before Mary was born, and her paternal grandfather died when she was just two years old. Consequently, Mary really knew just one grandparent, her father’s mother, whom she called Grammy. According to Mary, Grammy, who visited her family every summer after her husband died and stayed for about 3 months, was Mary’s “connection to Yiddishkeit and Jewish traditions.”

Her father, Edward, was born in Europe in 1905, and immigrated to this country with his parents at the age of 3 months. They lived first in Providence, RI where they had family but later moved to Pittsburgh, PA. Edward graduated from high school and attended the University of Pittsburgh. Mary remembers that her dad was a serious man, always passionate about justice, conscientious about his work, “a great lover of plants and of symphonic music and opera.” Growing up in the 1920s, his awareness of anti-Semitism and nativism in America distressed him. As a result, he struggled with his inclination to assimilate.

Mary’s mother, Belle, was very articulate and capable. In addition, she was politically progressive, a wonderful gardener and a good friend. Her great interest in Child Development and Early Childhood Education resulted in her establishing her own pre-school in Pittsburgh in 1938 at a time when there were very few pre-school opportunities.

Both of Mary’s parents were avid readers, followed national politics and world events and loved music. They encouraged music lessons for their children and the importance of practicing. Mary studied the flute and her sister Alice, the piano.

Mary was born in 1941 in Canton, OH, where her father was employed as a termite inspector. When Mary was 2 years old, the family moved to Whitefield, New Hampshire where her father was the manager of a furniture factory. Whitefield had a population of 1200 people, none of whom were Jewish! As a result, Mary feels that she and her family lived in two worlds - - a secular world outside the home and a Jewish world at home.

Mary went to school in Whitefield for the first and second grades. Looking back, she feels that her family lived a “culturally rich life” in Whitefield.

After living in Whitefield 6 years, her Dad’s company transferred him to another of its furniture factories, which was located in Winooski, VT near Burlington. The family moved to the Burlington area, which had a small, close-knit Jewish community, and they joined the Conservative Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, where they connected with other Jewish families and where her father served as President and then Chairman of the Board.

Mary attended public schools in the area and joined the band and the orchestra in both the Essex Junction Middle School and the Burlington High School. While Mary was in high school, she also attended Ohavi Zedek’s High School Extension Program on Sunday mornings and was an active participant in USY-Young Judea.

After graduating, Mary attended the University of Vermont, where, in her junior year, she became active in the Hillel chapter on campus. Interestingly, both of Mary’s parents became involved with Hillel, too. First, each worked with B’nai B’rith to raise money for a new Hillel House; and second, Belle became the secretary of Hillel and an assistant to the director. After receiving her B.A. degree in Sociology, Mary enrolled in Bank Street Graduate School in New York City and she graduated with New York

Continued on page 15
state certification in Early Childhood Education. She next taught for one year at Shaaray Tefila preschool in Manhattan.

Mary went home for the summer in 1966 and there met Henry Berger, who would, in time, become her husband.

Henry’s story is quite a bit different from Mary’s. Late in the 19th century Henry’s paternal grandfather’s family emigrated from Austria-Hungary to London where his grandfather, David Berger, was born. He then immigrated to the United States by way of Montreal and then to Philadelphia where he met and married Bessie Steinman, whose family had come from Ukraine. David became a prominent member of the Jewish community as well as a very successful businessman. However, when the Stock Market crashed in 1929, David “lost everything,” became depressed and died soon afterwards. His son, Ernie, who went by his nickname, Ernie, graduated from high school and enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business in the fall of 1928. But, Ernie had to withdraw from school the next year because of the effects of the Great Depression. He found temporary employment as a janitor for a Soviet-owned export company. He also played piano in speak-easies in Philadelphia.

Henry’s maternal grandmother, Lillian Rae, known to everyone as Rae, came from a family of German immigrants, who were not Jewish. They settled in Frederick, MD, which had a large German population. At first they had a farm and later operated a grocery store and saloon in Frederick. Rae attended public schools and while in high school met Leo Weinberg whose family had also emigrated from Germany and owned a shoe store. Leo went to law school following graduation from Frederick High School while Rae worked as a telephone operator. In 1908 the two married and Rae converted to Judaism. They had three daughters, the oldest named Leah Frances, who became Henry’s mother.

Leah Frances and Ernie (Henry’s father) met each other at a fraternity party in Philadelphia in 1930 or 1931. They began dating and married in 1932. The next day the couple opened a jointly-owned book store, Bergers’ Book Mart and Gift Shop. It became Frederick’s premium book and greeting card store.

The couple had two sons, David, born in 1935, and Henry, born in 1937.

Sadly, Henry’s mother Leah Frances became ill when Henry was not quite 7 years old. She was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease), and died on the eve of Passover 1948 at age 38. Her death was hard on the whole family, but possibly hardest on Henry’s brother David because David was both the first-born child and also a big baseball fan, who loved the New York Yankees. Lou Gehrig was one of David’s favorite players!

During their mother’s illness, a physical therapist named Ruth, who was not Jewish, came to their home to treat Leah Frances. Leah Frances became fond of Ruth who had previously been married and had a 6 year-old daughter, Miriam. Leah Frances told Ernie that she wanted him to remarry after she died and identified Ruth as someone whom he might wed. In 1949 Ernie and Ruth married. Ruth and Miriam were warmly welcomed into the Berger family. Ruth did not convert to Judaism but honored David and Henry’s Jewish identity. (Interestingly, Henry’s step-sister, Miriam, converted some years later, when she married a Jewish doctor, David Richter).

Meanwhile, Henry attended segregated schools, which not only excluded African-Americans but also Catholics at that time. The few Jews that attended were a distinct minority. Henry’s faith was revealed in elementary school when, one Columbus Day, the teacher asked what event in 1492 was being observed. His hand went up, and he replied that 1492 was when Jews and Muslims were expelled from Spain, an answer the teacher had not anticipated. In high school Henry internally objected to the all-Christian student-led prayers broadcast over the public address system at the beginning of each school day. Henry realized that his classmates knew nothing about Jews and Judaism and that some held anti-Semitic beliefs. Henry went to the principal and said he would like to conduct the morning devotions so that the school would understand what a Jewish prayer was like, and Henry was allowed to do just that. He included an English rendition of the Shema and the verses that follow it while stressing the need to be aware of and understanding in regard to other people’s beliefs. Later, he was told that no one had ever done that before.

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Henry was also a reporter for the school newspaper and occasionally wrote what today are called “op-eds”. In one article written in May 1954, he registered strong endorsement of the U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing school segregation. Most, if not all, of his classmates approved.

After graduation Henry, who had always had a strong interest in history and politics as well as international affairs, wanted to attend college but not an Ivy League School. He looked to the Midwest state universities and chose Ohio State, which at the time had one of the highest percentages of foreign students among colleges in the country as well as a diverse enrollment among students from the United States, both of which appealed to Henry. Moreover Ohio State had an excellent Geology Department, and Paleontology (historical geology) was his initial academic major. By his junior year, however, Henry had changed his mind and declared Political Science and History as his fields of concentration.

In his 4 years at Ohio State, Henry became very active in Hillel as well as in campus politics. With a group of students, he helped found a political party that was committed to bringing about changes in student government. They wanted it to become more broadly representative. The party also fought segregated housing owned by the university and opposed the university’s gag rule against political speakers on campus.

The first two objectives were achieved and the last in the years after Henry graduated.

By this time, Henry felt that he should become a teacher, but few schools at the time were offering teacher certification and simultaneously a master’s degree in an academic subject. But the University of Wisconsin did offer such a program and he went there. According to Henry, his years at the University of Wisconsin (1959-65) were among the best years of his life because Wisconsin had a superior History Department (it still does!) and he blossomed in the intellectual and political activist atmosphere of the school. When the Chair of the History Department told him that he thought Henry “was Ph.D. material,” Henry decided to continue his graduate studies.

During those years, Henry became actively involved in two causes: Civil Rights and opposition to the Vietnam War. One of Henry’s fondest memories was becoming a delegate to the 1964 Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City and voluntarily giving up his credential badge to an African-American woman named Fannie Lou Hamer. Fannie was a member of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and needed a badge in order to appear before the convention credentials committee to make the case for replacing the all-white Mississippi delegation with a racially integrated group.

Following the convention, Henry helped to create an organization of students in Madison, called Measure for Measure, which connected with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) chapter in northern Mississippi. In the spring of 1965, Henry with two undergraduates and an anti-Vietnam War veteran drove to Mississippi to deliver supplies to black communities in Clarksville, Rosedale and Greenwood. During their time in Mississippi, they were followed by state police officers. Overnight they lodged at the home of a black minister. Henry, one of the undergraduates, and the minister hit the floor when shots were fired through the window by unknowns. No one was injured, but the next day they drove nervously and silently to the Tennessee border. Henry also participated in the Vietnam War Teach-In at Wisconsin in May 1965.

Henry received his doctorate in American and Modern European History. Meanwhile he had accepted a teaching position at the University of Vermont. He taught there for 5 years. During those years, he met his future wife, Mary, but first he met Mary’s mother at Hillel. Surprisingly, they realized that they both had a connection to Frederick, Maryland, and that Henry actually knew Mary’s aunt. When Mary came home for the summer, her mother invited Henry to dinner and “the rest is history.” Mary and Henry were married in Burlington in October 1966. Their son, David Aaron, was born in 1968.

The Berger family moved to St. Louis in 1970 when Henry accepted a position as Professor of History at Washington University. After arriving, they became members of B’nai

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Amoona Synagogue. Their daughter, Leah Rachel, was born here in 1971.

In 1975-76, they spent a year in Montreal, Canada where they lived in a Jewish neighborhood. Henry taught at Concordia University. Mary was a full-time mom and home-maker, who took classes in Early Childhood Education. David and Leah both went to a Jewish day school. Since Mary’s parents lived in Burlington, VT, which was just 90 miles away, they were able to visit each other frequently.

The Bergers returned to St. Louis at the end of the summer of 1976. Mary became a substitute teacher and began taking classes in order to acquire certification in Early Childhood Education. She volunteered in the Flynn Park Elementary School, where her children were enrolled. In those years, Mary also became active in the Peace Movement and in local civil rights causes. Henry helped to found the Jewish Studies Program (now a Department) at Washington University, expanded it to become Jewish and Near Eastern Studies and served as Chair of the program.

The family left Shaare Zedek because it was not egalitarian. Mary and Henry joined a Reconstructionist Havurah, and in 1997, they were co-founders of the Reconstructionist Minyan, which held services at the Hillel House and lasted about ten years. For a while, the Berger family was without a congregation. Then in 2007, they rejoined Shaare Zedek, which by then was an egalitarian and diverse congregation.

Their son, David, a drum player, graduated University City High School, attended the New School in New York and the University of New Orleans. He is a professional musician and lives in New York.

Their daughter, Leah, graduated from Kalamazoo College in Michigan. During her time there, she went to Sierra Leone for 4-5 months, one of Kalamazoo’s Year Abroad programs. While there, Mary visited her for 3 weeks. Trained as a therapist, Leah is also the manager of a Farmers’ Market in Cincinnati where she now lives.

Henry, like his brother David, became a passionate baseball fan. Henry’s favorite team used to be the Brooklyn Dodgers, but for the last 35 years, it has been the St. Louis Cardinals. Unfortunately, Henry’s brother David, like their mother, suffered from ALS and died in 1972.

Henry retired in July 2005 and is Emeritus Professor of History, 35 years after he began teaching at Washington University. Soon after he retired, however, he was asked to teach a three-semester course, which he did in 2006, 2007 and 2008. As Emeritus Professor Henry has an office just off the hilltop at WU. He is the book review editor of Common Reader, a university periodical. He devotes much of his time to researching and writing. Henry’s latest publication is a book titled St. Louis and Empire: 250 Years of Imperial Quest and Urban Crisis (Southern Illinois University Press).

Henry and Mary are two active and busy, principled individuals who have spent much of their lives working for causes and issues they believe in. They are very proud of their children, David and Leah. All four are remarkable people!
### November 2015 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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| **1**  
Sun | 8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden  
9am Communications Mtng - Library  
9:30am Religious School  
10am & 4pm KR Facilities Report  
12:30pm "Public Speaking Part 1: The Basics"  
6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv | 9am Communications Mtng - Library  
9:30am Religious School  
10am & 4pm KR Facilities Report  
12:30pm "Public Speaking Part 1: The Basics"  
6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv |
| **2**  
Mon | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
7pm Ritual Meeting - Sara Myers Room 106 |
| **3**  
Tue | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
8am "Moral and Ethical Issues" - Sara Myers Rm 106  
4:15pm KRRS Class  
7:30pm USY Lounge Night | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
8am "Moral and Ethical Issues" - Sara Myers Rm 106  
4:15pm KRRS Class  
7:30pm USY Lounge Night |
| **4**  
Wed | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
4:15pm KRRS Class  
7:30pm USY Lounge Night | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
4:15pm KRRS Class  
7:30pm USY Lounge Night |
| **5**  
Thu | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
7pm Executive Committee Mtng - Lib | 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
7pm Executive Committee Mtng - Lib |
| **6**  
Fri | Kol Rinah Family Retreat  
7am Shacharit  
4:38pm Candle Lighting  
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat | 9am Communications Mtng - Library  
9:30am Religious School  
9:30am Sisterhood Mtng - Aud  
10am Men's Club Board Mtng - Lib  
6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv |
| **7**  
Sat | Parshat Chaye’i Sarah  
Kol Rinah Family Retreat  
Veteran’s Day Shabbat  
9am Shabbat Service  
12pm Poetry Reading Program  
3:35pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/  
Ma’ariv  
5:36pm Havdalah | 8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden  
9am Communications Mtng - Library  
9:30am Religious School  
9:30am Sisterhood Mtng - Aud  
10am Men's Club Board Mtng - Lib  
6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv |
| **8**  
Sun | 8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden  
9am Communications Mtng - Library  
9:30am Religious School  
10am Men's Club Board Mtng - Lib  
6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv | 8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden  
9am Communications Mtng - Library  
9:30am Religious School  
6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv  
6:30pm Men's Club Sports Dnr - Aud |

**Please Help Make A Minyan!**

Building Inclusive Community

Visit kolrinahstl.org for our full interactive calendars
Kol Rinah Event Submission Guidelines

**Time Window:** An event request form should be submitted a minimum of 6 weeks prior to a regular sized event and 3 to 6 months prior to a large event (up to 1 year for a Shabbat).

1. Review Kol Rinah’s "All Calendar" on the Kol Rinah (KR) website to make sure there are no conflicts. Then follow the easy instructions found under "Event Request" in the KR website Calendar heading of the menu bar. **The planner must provide all information needed for publicity.**

2. Our Rabbi and David Weber will receive the form submission and ask any clarifying questions to vet the event. Generally, in a schedule conflict, first come first served, but KR may supersede that rule for the vital interests of the synagogue.

3. Once approved, Meir Zimand will notify the event planner and enter the event on the KR calendar, beginning the publicity effort. Generally, events will get a flyer by Gary Kodner and then will be publicized (in the month prior to the event): in the Shabbat sheet and weekly e-mails, on the bima, in the Voice/EXTRA, sent to the Jewish Light and on the website and lobby display. **If there is a need to deviate from this plan or if additional PR is requested, the office will coordinate with the planner.**

Kol Rinah Kashrut Rules & Etiquette

1. **All food** brought in to the building must be checked by the Kol Rinah staff for acceptable hechshers. **“Tablet K” is NOT an acceptable hechsher for Kol Rinah.**

2. If food is not delivered during normal business hours, please call David Weber so arrangements can be made for the food to be checked.

3. No food is to be brought in, delivered or removed at Kol Rinah on Shabbat or any other holiday.

4. There is to be **NO** cooking of food on Shabbat.

**General Kitchen Reminders**

★ If you must be in the kitchen, please do not touch or take any food items from the refrigerators, freezers, and cabinets that do not belong to you. Every food item, even if not specifically marked on the food item itself, has been purchased and intended for use at a particular event.

★ Please refrain from visiting the kitchen prior to Kiddush being served on Shabbat. It is disruptive to the volunteers trying to prepare and plate food for Kiddush.

*We are looking for volunteers to assist in preparing kiddushes. Please call Betty Siegel at 314.991.0709 or Marsha Birenbaum at 314.725.1100 if you are interested.*

Any questions should be directed to David Weber by phone 314.727.1747 (office) or 314.541.7322 (cell) or email dweber@kolrinahstl.org