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.

KR Family Retreat

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.
Mazal Tov!

January Birthdays
Aaron Vickar, Zendra Ashkanazi, Repps Hudson, Irving Applebaum, Bruce Lippmann, Eric Sheldon, Rachel Shilcrait, Shelley Shray, Beatrice Borenstein, David Samuels, Benjamin Weintraub, Mary Berger, Karen Huss, Paula Rubin Sparks, Lori Brok, Perry Epstein, Lorraine Schankman, Karen Wetmore, Cynthia Boxerman, Marilyn Miller, Meris Hamilton, Eli Karabel, Benjamin Levin, Norman Rader, Frances Robbins, Jeremiah Simmons, Kay Sandweiss, Martin Israel, Ariane May, Jessica Wax, Jacob Bashkin, Myron Parker, Michael Rauchman, Rosalie Berger, Laurie Raffelson, L. Louis Albert, Gary Kodner, Isaac Walker, Merav Portman, Molly Portman, Rabbi Scott Slarskey, William Goldstein, Bernard Kunitz, Ariel Goldstein, Jeffrey Wax, Margaret Bergmann, Sasha Kewskin, Nancy Goldstein, Rachel Levine, Jeffrey Marsh, Sanford Melnick, Andrea Gerowin, Simon Igielnik, Joyce Raskin, Gerald Cohen, Steven Marcus, Philip Cooke, Becky Shimony, Diane Singman, Craig Zaidman, Anna Asher, Marion Cohen, Nathan Cooke, Martin Kalines, Lisa Sheldon, Robin Weinberger, Deborah Levy, Steven Schultz, Lena Dworkin, Ruth Jacob, Joel Schwartz, Michael Shanas, Yiftah Goldstein, Ben Horwitz, Joshua Kalachek, Susan Walker

January Anniversaries
Alan & Molly Portman
Lawrence & Rosalyn Margulis
Bruce & Ellen Sabin
Leslie Birenbaum & Susan Roth
David Warren & Rhona Lyons
Yiftah & Caren Goldstein
Saul & Marilyn Dien
Paul & Karen Rader
Myron & Randee Jacobs
Scott & Courtney Kaar
Allen Levin & Joyce Gang

February Birthdays

February Anniversaries
William & Wendy Huss
Phillip & Deborah Gould
Robert & Rosalie Stein
Jonathan & Margaret Bergmann
Eric & Dana Emmenegger
Gerard & Golda Burke
Danny Gurvis & Esti Goldman
Gary Kodner & Peggy Nehmen

Thank You

Many thanks to the Kol Rinah families who contributed to my speedy recovery.
It was deeply appreciated.
Jean Marx

New Ashreinu Leaves
Michael & Wesley Raffelson's B'nai Mitzvah
by Rhoda and Alan (z'l) Grimsky

Condolences to the Families Of
Gerald S. Andrew
Shirley Gerring
Gertrude Heller
Marcia (Nudelman) Jacobs
Richard "Rick" Kalina
David Levy
Rachel Pearlman
Gloria Rubin
Naomi Silvermintz

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Thank you to Phil and Sima Needleman for their generous sponsorship of the newsletter.
Upcoming Events
Visit kolrinahstl.org for full event information
★ Jan 9 - New Baby Shabbat
   - Lauren Singman & Andrew Moss Auf Ruf
★ Jan 16 - Sisterhood Shabbat
★ Jan 24 - Build-A-Pair (MC & KRRS)
   - Seed Bomb (DorWays)
★ Jan 25 - Tu B'Shevat
★ Check the online calendar for January Member/Facilities small group meeting dates and times

Can You Find The 7 Tu B'Shevat Differences?

News & Notables
Linda and Fred Makler recently returned from Israel where they celebrated Linda's 55th reunion for graduates of the Jewish Agency's Institute for Youth Leaders from Abroad or the Machon. The unusual reunion consisted of a weeklong tour of Israel by the 1959-60 alumni of the Machon's 25th program. The original class had 97 participants, aged 17-21, who came not only from North America and Western Europe but even from North African countries where Zionist movements were still allowed to function. Linda, originally from St. Joseph, was one of three from B'nai B'rith Girls, one of the many Zionist youth organizations represented in the class.

The Machon required a year of leadership training in Israel and a two-year commitment to Jewish leadership upon returning. Linda became active in Hillel at the University of Missouri at Columbia where she met her future husband at an Oneg Shabbat. She feels that the experience in Israel changed her life.
A Message from Rabbi Arnow

Rabbi Noah Arnow  
RabbiArnow@kolrinahstl.org

Building a Singing Community

Kol Rinah is getting a singing lesson. Yes, Kol Rinah—our entire synagogue community—will be getting a giant singing lesson when Joey Weisenberg, our scholar-in-residence this year comes Friday-Sunday February 12-14. But the goal won’t be to teach us all to be opera singers. It will be to teach us how to sing together, as a community. This means this is for everyone—every member of the community, and not only those who sing well or loudly.

And Joey is the right person to do this. He’s the master of teaching communities how to sing together, and actually wrote a (the!) book on the topic a few years ago, called Building Singing Communities. I’ve known Joey for ten years now, and seen him grow and blossom as a composer, shaliach tzibbur (public prayer leader) and teacher. Playing the guitar, mandolin and percussion, he’s also “a multi-instrumentalist musician, singer and composer who has performed and recorded internationally with dozens of bands in a wide variety of musical styles.” Joey is a sweet, gentle and thoughtful soul from whom we have so much to learn.

Unlike many other scholars-in-residence, Joey will not be giving many lectures or talks. Rather, he’ll be singing with us, and helping us sing together in a few different contexts. Friday night and Saturday morning, he’ll be leading, or perhaps more accurately, taking over services. He has this magical way of getting people singing, humming, tapping, and moving, and helping us understand how we can do that even without him. He’ll also work with us (or some of us) to be a “spontaneous choir,” to accompany the shaliach tzibbur and engage the entire congregation.

Joey will also lead some singing that is not part of the service and not prayer per se, but rather where the goal is just to sing. Joey will likely teach us a few new melodies, some he has written from the five albums of original Jewish music he’s recorded in the last several years. Some of the melodies may already be familiar to some, since we use several of his melodies regularly on Friday nights. And I’m sure he’ll help us see the beauty in some old chestnuts of melodies too.

As we explore the theme of community this year, developing the singing part of our community is so important, and with Joey Weisenberg, we have an incredible opportunity. Keep your eyes open for all the events throughout the weekend of his visit. I can’t wait to sing with Joey, and most of all, with you!

Donate Your Old Siddur Sim Shalom!

Aleph, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal, is supporting the Abuyudaya people of Numutumba, Uganda, in their efforts to nurture their Jewish lives. One of the leaders of the Abuyudaya, Shadrach Mugoya, is studying for Smicha (ordination) in Aleph’s Rabbinic program; Shadrach took a donated Torah back to Uganda after Aleph’s study sessions last summer.

One of the most pressing needs for the community is prayer books. Supplying the community with copies of the old Siddur Sim Shalom (the weekday/Shabbat/Festivals version) has been identified as the most efficient way of meeting this need. This prayerbook is no longer in use by most congregations, but is recent enough that numerous copies should still be available in synagogues and private homes.

So we are asking those who have a copy or two at home that they are no longer using to consider donating them to this struggling community of African Jews. They can be dropped off at the Kol Rinah office; Mem Movshin, a Kol Rinah member and Aleph Rabbinic student, will forward them to Rabbi Leila Berner, who is accumulating them for shipment to Africa.

ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal is a worldwide effort to fully embrace a contemporary egalitarian Judaism as a profound spiritual practice and social transformer, reaching beyond religious boundaries and institutional structures.
Another Happy New Year
2016 is here!!

“Building Community” continues to be this year’s theme for KRRS. As an illustration, here are some events that occurred in November and December:

✩ A successful Shabbateeny (2nd/3rd graders) and Shabbaton (4th/5th graders) for youth at Kol Rinah and B’nnai Amoon with members of both staffs planning and working together. Common threads for these two programs were community and “tikkun olam”, caring about and for others in the community.

✩ Our students and staff making “stained-glass” Hanukkah cookies on an assembly line to serve their parents later in the morning. Thanks to the leadership of Meir Zimand and the extra hands of Joyce and Jerry Raskin.

✩ Everyone helping to create a Happy Hanukkah banner for the congregational Hanukkah Party.

✩ And on and on!

Learning to depend on others to successfully carry out a project or solve a problem is what helps build community. In this way, people of all ages learn to practice “give and take”, as well as how to support others and how to use everyone’s strengths for positive solutions.

January and February will be filled with many more opportunities for KRRS to continue learning the importance of caring for and about each other – being a community.

Be sure to check out our calendar on the Religious School portion of the Kol Rinah web site.

B’Shalom,
Paula
Paula Hertel
Kol Rinah Religious School
Sisterhood Kiddush Appreciation

In the past couple of months, the following events were sponsored and celebrated with a Sisterhood Kiddush; and we thank them all:

- The Faye Keyser Memorial Seudah Fund for sponsoring the Kiddush for the observance of the Veterans' Day Shabbat.
- Bill Solomon in celebration of Gene Barken’s 90th birthday at services and Kiddush.
- Sig and Carol Adler for the Kiddush in honor of Sig’s 80th birthday.

If you would like to celebrate your next simcha with a beautiful Sisterhood Kiddush, please contact Sue Propper at 314.395.1349 or e-mail her at: suemeryl@charter.net, and leave the rest to Sisterhood.

Membership – Thank you to those who have sent in dues checks, in response to the letters mailed out in October. If you haven’t returned the information stub with your dues check yet, please do. If we send in our national per capita for next year by year end, we can pay at “this year’s” rate. Your attention to this will save us about $300.

If you are not yet a member of Sisterhood, please think about joining. Even if you feel you don’t have time to be active in the Sisterhood at this point in your career or busy life, the funds raised by the dues and donations go to the synagogue and many of its programs.

The Torah Fund Kick-Off program was lovely. The food was delicious, followed by an informal talk from Tammy Arnow, including how important JTS was and continues to be in her life; and a discussion she led on different kinds of “communities” within and without the synagogue. If you haven’t sent in your donation for the Torah Fund 2015-2016 campaign, please consider doing so. All donations go to support the Jewish Theological Seminaries.

If you’d like to participate in Women’s League Shabbat on January 16, please call and we can talk about it. Thank you.

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.

Our personal consultations are free and confidential.
8:30 am-5 pm Monday through Friday
(314) 812-9300

elderlink
ST. LOUIS
www.elderlinkstlouis.org

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
Sing with Joey Weisenberg
Our Scholar-in-Residence

As we explore the theme of community this year, developing the singing part of our community is so important. This program will provide an incredible opportunity.

Keep your eyes open for all the events of this fabulous weekend.

Sing with Joey!

Fri-Sun, Feb 12-14

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ISRAEL BOUND
a St. Louis Teen Adventure...
a Summer to Remember

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 KRad@IFedSTL.org.
KRECC is having a busy winter! In November, our Preschool Parent Organization (PPO) sponsored a Scholastic Book Fair. Thank you to everyone who shopped. You supported our school and encouraged reading for young children. For Thanksgiving, children, families and staff joined together to sing, listened to a message of thankfulness from Rabbi Noah, and ate a yummy feast. Each class helped prepare the food! For Chanukah, and under the direction and guidance of our art specialist, Ms. Erin, students learned about a Jewish artist, Louise Nevelson. The children learned that Louise didn’t have a lot of money growing up. She would collect “junk” from the streets of New York to create art, which she then painted a monotone color. Using her art pieces as inspiration, the children decorated a menorah built from cardboard boxes with “junk” and then painted it silver. This menorah was on display in the ECC for Chanukah. At our family Chanukah celebration, children sang songs, ate yummy donuts, and had an opportunity to spin dreidels, “flip” latkes, and create and eat an edible menorah.

In honor of Marty Schaeffer’s retirement as Director of KRECC, Kol Rinah Synagogue gifted the ECC three KidKraft wooden Shabbat sets, to enhance the welcoming of Shabbat. Thanks to a generous donation from the Kol Rinah Sisterhood, the ECC was able to purchase a quad stroller for our infant rooms to replace our aging triple stroller and two wall mounted easels for our art classes.

On January 13, KRECC will host a professional development night for St. Louis Jewish early childhood centers. This year’s theme is “Engaging Children in the Classroom.” Over 80 teachers will come together for an evening of learning. We look forward to our teachers incorporating new ideas into their classrooms and watching our children continue to thrive.

(photos on page 9)

I am still energized by our wonderful Kol Rinah Family Retreat! It was a wonderful weekend where families were able to RETREAT from their busy lives and enjoy a beautiful Shabbat with their family and friends, old and new. We were a group of 70, and we ranged in age from infants to grandparents, and everyone blended together beautifully. We enjoyed playing, praying, learning, eating and being together. Some of the highlights for me were Kabbalat Shabbat over-looking the lake, watching children and adults enjoy the friendly competition of relay races and Minute-to-Win-It games, the older children acting out the Torah portion Shabbat morning, enjoying a beautiful nature walk as a group, a competitive game of kickball between the children and their parents, and most of all watching everyone enjoy being together in a Shabbat-filled, tech-free weekend in a scenic natural setting. Thank you again to Tammy Arnow for all her help and guidance in making the weekend a reality and our committee Leise Rosman, Cindy Kalachek and Jennifer Rogers. Thank you to Rabbi Noah Arnow for his leadership prior to and during the weekend, and to Rabbi Tracy Nathan and Rabbi Scott Slarskey, and most of all, thank you to everyone who attended. Participants stepped out of their comfort zone at times, fully participated, and helped make the weekend what it was. After a very busy weekend, we decided to postpone an activity and bring it home with us – so join us on Sunday, January 24 to create Seed Bombs. Come get your hands dirty and create flower “bombs” using native Missouri flower seeds. We will be donating some and families will be able to take them home as well. This will be a great retreat reunion, but everyone is welcome to join us. Watch for more information coming soon.

B’Shalom,
Jessica Wax
(Retreat photos on cover)
I am Amarys Evans, currently a junior attending Crossroads College Prep School and the Communications Vice President of the Youth group at Kol Rinah. During my freshman year in high school, I was invited to a lounge night event at Kol Rinah. Going to that one fun lounge night got me hooked. I then started going to lounge nights. Kol Rinah St. Louis is a wonderful community and I am so grateful to be a part of the United Synagogue Youth (USY) group. USY has brought me to have so many opportunities and has given me various choices of USY trips and conventions. My first convention was when I was in the eighth grade, called Kadima Kinnus. Since then, I’ve been to four other conventions. This year, my junior year, and living in St. Louis, our USY region hosted Kinnus 2015. The theme was Straight Outta EMTZA: Becoming the Change We Hope To See.

Living in the city of St. Louis, I did not know what Kinnus would be like this year. During my USY career, St. Louis had only hosted Winter Shabbaton, but this year my city was hosting Kinnus. Having the majority of the midwestern USY chapters come down to St. Louis to have a great and fun time and keep shabbat was great, not to mention the wonderful break from sitting on a bus for more than enough hours. Checking into the hotel and the convention was one thing, but seeing and greeting friends from different states and chapters after long miserable months was the best thing. On Thanksgiving day, a lot of us were very thankful for being able to come to this year’s Kinnus and spending the weekend with the best people. After Thanksgiving dinner, there was a free concert at the convention, Rick Recht. Rick Recht is a rock musician that performed a wonderful amount of songs for the teens at Kinnus 2015.

During this recent conference there were many activities we participated in to make a change in the world. The day of the Social Action/Tikkun Olam Carnival and Chalutzim Fair was full of very fun activities, but it was also charitable because the majority of the teens, including me, made cups of soup and donated canned goods as a wonderful donation to a local food pantry. The theme of the convention, Becoming the Change We Hope To See relates well to the presentation from Amy Hunter. Amy Hunter talked about certain zip codes and stereotypes in St Louis, some things I could relate to. She also told some heartbreaking personal stories of her children growing up in University City. I could tell that Amy Hunter’s presentation reached a lot of the teens’ minds who were listening. Kinnus 2015 showed many truthful aspects as to how EMTZA can become the change the world can see.

We will be having two Scholar-in-Residence programs in the next 6 months. On February 12-14 Rabbi Joey Weisenberg of New York will be the SIR and emphasize music in community building (joeyweisenberg.com). On May 5, 2016, Rabbi Elianna Yoluk, native St. Louisan and family member of the Belskys, will be talking about LGBTQ inclusion in the Jewish Community (www.rabbielianna.com).

In preparation for Elianna’s visit there will be a “traveling exhibit” on the topic on inclusion. Look for it around the time of Passover.

The Adult Education Committee has an ongoing program on Ethical Wills. Donald Singer is holding periodic meetings, following Shabbat services. Those interested in participating, look for the “Ethical Will Planning table” at Shabbat luncheons.

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**Jewish Food Pantry List For January**

1. Canned Beef Stew / Chili / Pasta with Meat
2. Canned Tuna Fish
3. Kosher Food
4. Any Type of Canned Vegetables
5. Canned Fruit
6. Peanut Butter & Jelly
7. Toilet Paper, Hand Soap, Tooth Paste and Detergent

For more info, contact Louise Levine 636.227.1259.
Greetings from the Facilities Committee

As you all know, the Facilities Committee is a working committee whose responsibility is to research, advise the Board and complete the tasks that are assigned by the Board relating to the future location of Kol Rinah.

We have reported to the entire congregation both through meetings and in print throughout the ups and downs of this process. We have been open to your questions in person or by email and will continue to do so. Often this process may have seemed enigmatic to you due to the necessities of legal and negotiation constraints.

We have now begun the process of working with the nationally known architectural firm of Finegold Alexander, out of Boston (http://faainc.com/). Moe Finegold and his excellent team have begun the process of evaluating the property on Maryland Avenue in Clayton between Hanley and Linden to determine the extent of work needed to create a synagogue that will meet our needs for the next 50 years. They are leading a team of engineers and designers who will help to develop recommendations for the property and will shepherd that design through the governmental processes required by the city of Clayton.

They are currently working on providing us with an evaluation of the preexisting structures as well as some initial design options for the site. We will also have a tentative schedule for the Clayton process.

In December we introduced the opportunity to join in on small group meetings among Kol Rinah members to elicit your input on our home of the future. Our hope is to continue to conduct similar conversations that engage the congregation in a productive way, to allow everyone to express their hopes and desires for any future facility of Kol Rinah, no matter the location. We expect that through these small group conversations discussions will not only cover the physical needs of the congregation, but also the ways in which people hope to feel and experience the spaces of Kol Rinah for the next 5, 20, or even 50 years. We hope that these conversations will help to answer as many questions as possible, so we will have people in each small group taking notes and recording responses, which we can then collect, sort through, and distribute congregation-wide.

We encourage all of you to take part in the opportunities and responsibilities you have to build our future together with positive input and suggestions.

Save The Date for Trivia Night
March 12, 7:00 p.m. at Temple Israel
Co-sponsored by the KR Sisterhood & Men’s Club

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. Contact Tasha Kaminsky in the office for your card! tasha@kolrinahstl.org
MEMBERSHIP NEWS: The Second Annual New Member Shabbat was held on December 5th and featured several of our new members from 2015. Most new members submitted bios and pictures of themselves for the Shabbat Card insert, so if you see any of them, please stop and introduce yourself and help them feel part of our Kol Rinah Family. A special thanks to Steve Keyser for co-sponsoring the lovely Kiddush Luncheon that followed.

Also, the two of us, Linda Makler and Monroe Ginsburg, Co-Chairs of the KR Membership Committee will be "passing the torch" on to Joyce Olshan and Debbie Rubin in 2016. We would like to thank all our wonderful Committee Members for your commitment in attending meetings, support with phone calls and feedback, and wearing your nametags at Shabbat and special events. Thanks also for all the hard work that was required during the High Holidays to keep our membership safe and secure. Other activities in which our Committee were involved included the dedication of the Rudy Oppenheim z"l Ambassador Program, the 2014 Membership and Photo Directory, Mitzvah Day Canned Goods and Movie Ticket Giveaway, Passover Seder Match Up, Israel Dance Evening, Welcome Basket Deliveries, New Member Sukkot at Rabbi Arnow's Sukkah, and New Member Shabbats. Our committee always received strong support from Rabbi Arnow, Gary Kodner, David Weber, Meir Zimand, Tasha Kaminsky, Nancy Greene, Micki Kingsley and the entire Office Staff. Randi Mozenter and Sherri Sadon advised and encouraged us. We could not have done this alone - it was and is a Kol Rinah Team Effort. Monroe and I will still remain active members on the Committee and help with the transition.

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

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

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

Name: _____________________________________________
Contact number: ____________________________________

Volunteers Needed for the St. Louis JCC Maccabi Games

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/
Men, don't miss out! Join Kol Rinah's Men's Club if you haven't already. This month you'll be receiving an invitation to join Kol Rinah's Men's Club (thank you for those who have already joined). Please don't forget to send in your dues so you can be a part of our mission to involve Jewish Men in Jewish Life. We will continue developing programming that better connects people of all ages to our Jewish community, and hope to form a community with meaningful long-lasting relationships based on camaraderie, common interests and core values.

We had a very special Sushi and Sake Shabbat dinner program honoring the memory of Rachel Pearline z"l, daughter of Don Pearline. We asked people to write some Haiku's in her memory. You can read some of them on our Men's Club page at kolrinahstl.org.

Yeshar Koach again to Marvin Marcus for another wonderful talk about Japanese Literature, with a little yiddishkite thrown in to spice it up - like the connection with Japanese Literature and the Torah!

We also had one of our best Sports Nights with Tom Ackerman. His stories of his early career with Jack Buck and also Bob Costas were personal and heartwarming. What a great night. Yeshar Koach to Jeff Wax, Dave Propper, and everyone else who helped make it such as successful evening.

Everyone is welcome to join us for World Wide Wrap on February 7th. Come bond with us!

Now is the time to pay your 2016 Men's Club membership dues. Please consider donating more than the $36 to help with new and better activities and to support our youth and their participation in Jewish summer/educational programs and trips in the coming year. Perhaps we can have another Minyan (10 guys) donate $100 - be a Men's Club Minyanaire. Stimulate your intellect and spirituality – join us in our effort to build a stronger Men’s Club for Kol Rinah. Thank you for all our Minyanaires from last year - we did make a minyan and that means over $1000 for Men's Club programs!

In brotherhood,
Bob Olshan, President

Upcoming Men's Club Programs
- Jan 24th – Build a Pair with KRRS
- Feb 7th – World Wide Wrap

Sisterhood Shabbat!

Please Join Us!
Saturday, January 16, 2016

If you would like to participate in the service, please contact Sisterhood President, Micki Kingsley. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions.
The Story of Meir and Rachel Zimand

Meir Zimand's father, Rabbi Ephraim Zimand, who is now Rabbi Emeritus of Traditional Congregation in St. Louis, was an only child, who grew up in the Bronx and later got his Smicha (ordination) from Yeshiva University in New York. He then served as rabbi in Ohio and in two cities in New York State before coming to St. Louis to be the rabbi of Traditional Congregation, which is considered “Conservadox” by many people because it falls between Conservative and Orthodox. He is a very warm and friendly person and is well liked by all who know him, including teens and younger children in the congregation.

Meir's mother, Esther, who was probably inspired and influenced by her own mother, Meir's grandmother Hanah, because Hanah actually went to and graduated from college around 1936! Esther was the oldest of three children. Her father was also a rabbi while her mother was primarily a homemaker. Esther was trained as a teacher at Stern College (for women), which is a branch of the all-male Yeshiva University in New York. After graduating, Esther taught at the Hebrew Academy of the Capitol District (HACD), a Jewish day school for Albany and the surrounding area. When the family moved to St. Louis, she taught at the Epstein Hebrew Academy for several years - - until Meir graduated from the academy. Later, Esther became the Director of the Florence Melton Adult Mini School in St. Louis and realized that she loved teaching adults more than anything!

Rabbi and Esther Zimand had six children, including two sets of twins. Meir and his twin brother, who was named Nachum at birth but who changed his name to Natan at the age of 18, were the last of the six Zimand children; and, since Meir was born 5 minutes after Natan, he is the youngest of all.

Meir was born in Toledo, Ohio when his father was a rabbi there. Then, the family moved to Albany when Meir was one year old because his father had accepted a position as Assistant Rabbi in an Albany synagogue. After three years, Rabbi Zimand became the Rabbi of the only Orthodox synagogue in Schenectady, New York. As a result, the family moved to Schenectady where Meir attended the Schenectady J.C.C. Pre-School and went on to the Hebrew Academy of the Capitol District (HACD), where his mother was teaching, for Kindergarten through 6th grade.

Just before Meir's 12th birthday, the family moved to St. Louis because his father was hired to be the rabbi of Traditional Congregation. In St. Louis, Meir attended Epstein Hebrew Academy for the 7th, 8th, and 9th grades and then went to Block Yeshiva High School (Block YHS).

After graduating from high school, Meir spent two years in the Yeshivat Ohr Yerushalayim on Mosheav Beit Meir in Israel, came back to the States and attended the yeshiva in Skokie, IL for a year. From there, he went to UMSL part-time and worked part-time at Barnes Retina Institute - - which started out as a summer job but lasted 6 years. From there, Meir worked in Rachel's brother's business, which was a clearinghouse for stockbrokers. After that, Meir was employed by Jonathan Spetner, an insurance broker. Then In 2002, Meir became Office Coordinator at BSKI; and, when BSKI merged with Shaare Zedek, his position changed to Bookkeeper as well as Operations and Facilities Coordinator. Meir, who considers himself to be Modern Orthodox, likes to cook and bake in his spare time.

When asked what it was like to be the son of a rabbi, Meir first indicated that on the one hand, people had high standards and expectations for him. For example, he remembers, as a child, playing with a few other children in a back classroom late in the day one Yom Kippur, and a congregant said to him, “Is that the way the son of a rabbi should behave?” On the other hand, Meir stated that he learned how

Continued on page 15
to do things properly from both his parents, adding that he always had a great relationship with his mother as well as his father! The children knew what their parents expected without being told.

Ephraim and Esther had a profound, positive influence on Meir and his siblings. Among other things, all the children were given Hebrew names and gave their own children Hebrew names (which were not translated into English equivalents); all married Jewish people; and, all went to Israel after high school.

Rachel's early life was very different than Meir's primarily because she was raised in a secular home with one exception: her two brothers, Jordan and Bruce, both celebrated becoming a Bar Mitzvah. On the other hand, neither Rachel nor her sister, Beth, became a Bat Mitzvah. Also, none of Rachel’s three siblings married Jews.

Rachel was the third of Ruth and Robert’s four children. The two boys came first, then Rachel, and 22 months later, Beth completed the family. Rachel was born on February 29th in Rolla, MO, when her family lived there because her father had been hired by the University of Missouri at Rolla to be Professor of Philosophy of Religion. Being born in a leap year on the 29th of February always made Rachel feel special because every four years her family and friends made a big fuss over her “real” birthday!

Rachel attended Mark Twain Elementary School in Rolla through the 5th grade. Amazingly, like Meir, her family moved to St. Louis right before she turned 12 years old. Once in St. Louis, Rachel completed 6th grade and was enrolled in Parkway South High School for 7th through 12th grades. Interestingly, two years after Rachel graduated from that school, Parkway South Senior High eliminated their 7th and 8th grades and sent all middle school students to the Parkway South Junior High. From the time she was little, Rachel loved theater, an interest she shares with her father. They also share sound tracks (CD’s).

Meanwhile, when Rachel was 18 years old, her parents, began to change. They became more observant over several years and went from being non-observant to being Conservative. What prompted the change was the death of Rachel’s maternal grandfather and her parents’ wish to say Kaddish for him. Therefore, they joined B’nai Amoona. However, Rachel and her siblings didn’t want to change. In fact, they resented their parents’ decision and became rebellious. Interestingly, over time, Robert and Ruth went one step further. They became Orthodox and joined Tiferes Israel Chevra Kadisha Congregation in Chesterfield; but, their parents’ religious journey didn’t end there either. They recently stopped keeping kosher and observing Shabbat and thus have made a full circle.

After graduating from high school, Rachel auditioned for and was accepted by Webster University’s Theater Conservatory, where she studied Acting and performed in the choir and all the school’s plays (including musicals). After 2 years, Rachel changed her major to English Literature and was able to receive her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Literature two years after that. Rachel continued her studies at Webster University and not only received two teaching certificates - one in Drama and Public Speaking and the other in English Literature - but also went on to complete a Master of Arts Degree in Teaching.

Rachel believes that her father, who always questioned things, struggled with issues of faith from an “all-or-nothing” point of view, and her mother’s feelings about religion are a reflection of her father’s. She also thinks her parents, who both grew up in Philadelphia, not only have many things in common, but have maintained a really good relationship over the years.

Rachel’s mother, Ruth, got a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Missouri at Rolla. Then, when Rachel was in high school, the family moved to St. Louis so that her mother could attend St. Louis University where she, in time, earned a Ph.D. Degree in Clinical Psychology and has had a career as a therapist ever since. At some point, however, her mother was also the Director of the Florence Melton Adult Mini School in St. Louis.

It’s interesting that although Rachel’s parents were no longer Orthodox, Rachel, at the age of 25, started to become observant! In fact, Rachel stated that she became “100% Orthodox;” and, because she wanted to learn more, Rachel decided to go to the Neve Yerushalayim Yishiva for Women in Har Noff, Israel to
study. During the 5 months Rachel was a student in Har Nof, she had a great teacher named Rebetzin Tziporah Heller, who, according to Rachel, was “an amazing speaker and teacher and had a great sense of humor.” Once Rachel became Orthodox, she stopped performing in skits and choirs unless they were all-women performances.

When Rachel came back to St. Louis, she finished her student teaching; and, sometime later, she helped produce a play called “Jerusalem 3000,” which was written and performed by the girls of Block Yeshiva High School. All this time, Meir, who was working at the Barnes Retina Institute and going to UMSL, hadn’t met Rachel yet.

Interestingly, Meir’s and Rachel’s parents came to know each other before Rachel and Meir met. First, after Rachel’s father retired, he considered teaching at the Melton School and made an appointment to meet with Meir’s mother, Esther, who was Director of the school at that time. Also, when Rachel’s parents were considering the possibility of joining Traditional Congregation, they met Meir’s father, Rabbi Ephraim Zimand.

Meanwhile, Rachel and Meir met each other through a mutual friend on a blind date. When Rachel's parents met Meir, they liked him right away, so much so that Rachel jokingly said, “I think that my parents like Meir more than they like me.”

On their first date, Rachel and Meir went to No-Bull Café, a dairy kosher restaurant, then to a movie and ended the evening at Baskin Robbins. It didn’t take long for Rachel to realize that Meir was “the most kind, patient and caring person she had ever met,” and that when they were together, they laughed a lot. Meanwhile, Meir, who admitted that he “was dating to find a wife,” not only thought that he and Rachel had the same values, a factor that was very important to him, but also that “she is a very loving and caring person.” In no time at all, they became “best friends,” and both “knew very quickly that they were meant for each other!”

After getting married, Rachel was hired to teach English Literature and Composition at the Block Yeshiva High School. In addition, she taught several years off-and-on at a college-preparatory Catholic high school for women called Nerinx Hall, which was near Webster University. After teaching a few years, Rachel decided to accept a position with the McGraw Hill Education organization, where she remained for seven years. At McGraw Hill, Rachel researched English textbooks for professors and helped them select appropriate books for their classes.

Rachel and Meir became engaged 7 months after they met and then married 11 months later. Rachel taught for a year and then got pregnant. They have been married now for over 19 years and have two sons: Asher, age 17 and Levy, age 14.

According to Meir’s descriptions of his sons, Asher is a conscientious and sweet boy, except when it comes to his brother, as well as a voracious reader, who enjoys telling jokes and making people laugh so much that he plans to become a comedian. In addition, Asher can forego instant gratification. For example, when he was very young and his teacher gave the children tickets for good behavior, Asher would accumulate the tickets so that he would get a bigger prize.

Levy, according to Meir’s assessment, is also very sweet and affectionate. In addition, Levy is “always smiling, very determined, very talkative to people he knows, very imaginative and has inherited his mother’s love for theater.” Both boys attend Block Yeshiva High School.

Ever since her children were born, Rachel has been working part-time 5 days a week at Block YHS. Most of that time, she was teaching Literature and Composition, but now, due to the school’s current financial situation, she is no longer teaching but has become the school’s secretary. In her spare time, Rachel likes to listen to music, to watch old TV shows but most of all to read. Meir added that (like their son Asher) “Rachel is a voracious reader.”

After meeting Meir and Rachel Zimand, one comes away thinking that they have a very good marriage. They have much in common and not only enjoy each other’s company but also like to interact with other people. They are adaptable, flexible and devoted parents, who are very proud of their children. What more could a person ask for?
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Please include your full name and address.
The National Mah Jongg League will mail the card to your home.

More information: Contact Marian Katz or Marilyn Dien

Kol Rinah Women’s Social Group

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Please return your order with your check (payable to Marian Katz)
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Kol Rinah
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**January 2016 Calendar**

**Tevet / Shevat 5776**

Visit kolrinahstl.org for our full interactive calendars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Fri</td>
<td>KR Office Closed - ECC Closed&lt;br&gt;8am Shacharit&lt;br&gt;4:32pm Candle Lighting&lt;br&gt;6pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Sat</td>
<td>Parshat Shemot&lt;br&gt;9am Shabbat Service&lt;br&gt;3:35pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/ Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;5:35pm Havdalah</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Sun</td>
<td>KRRS Winter Break&lt;br&gt;8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden&lt;br&gt;9am Communications Mtg - Lib&lt;br&gt;6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv</td>
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<td>4 Mon</td>
<td>ECC Resumes&lt;br&gt;7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Tue</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;8am &quot;Moral and Ethical Issues&quot; - Sara Myers Room 106&lt;br&gt;6:30pm Finance Committee Mtg - Lib</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Wed</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;1pm KR Women’s Social Group Mtg - Sara Myers Room 106&lt;br&gt;4:15pm KRRS Classes&lt;br&gt;7pm USY Lounge Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Thu</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;7pm Executive Committee Mtg - Lib</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Fri</td>
<td>7am Shacharit&lt;br&gt;4:39pm Candle Lighting&lt;br&gt;6pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>9 Sat</td>
<td>Parshat Va’eira&lt;br&gt;New Baby Shabbat&lt;br&gt;Lauren Singman / Andrew Moss Auf Ruf&lt;br&gt;9am Shabbat Service&lt;br&gt;10:30am MifgaShabbat - Chapel&lt;br&gt;11am Tot Shabbat - Sara Myers Rm 106&lt;br&gt;3:40pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;5:41pm Havdalah</td>
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<td>10 Sun</td>
<td>Rosh Chodesh Shevat&lt;br&gt;6:45am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/ Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;7pm Ritual Mtg - Sara Myers Rm 106</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Mon</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;8am &quot;Moral and Ethical Issues&quot; - Sara Myers Room 106&lt;br&gt;10am Poetry Chavurah - Sara Myers Room 106&lt;br&gt;11:45am JCRC Mtg</td>
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<td>12 Tue</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;4:15pm KRRS Classes&lt;br&gt;6pm ECC Dinner &amp; Mtg - Sara Myers Rm 106/Chapel/Mirowitz&lt;br&gt;7pm USY Lounge Night</td>
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<td>13 Wed</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;4:15pm KRRS Classes&lt;br&gt;6pm ECC Dinner &amp; Mtg - Sara Myers Rm 106/Chapel/Mirowitz&lt;br&gt;7pm USY Lounge Night</td>
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<td>14 Thu</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;7pm Kol Rinah Board Mtg</td>
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<td>15 Fri</td>
<td>7am Shacharit&lt;br&gt;4:46pm Candle Lighting&lt;br&gt;6pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>16 Sat</td>
<td>Parshat Bo&lt;br&gt;Sisterhood Shabbat&lt;br&gt;9am Shabbat Service&lt;br&gt;10am Shabbat Room Open - Sara Myers Room 106&lt;br&gt;3:45pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/ Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;5:47pm Havdalah</td>
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<td>17 Sun</td>
<td>8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden&lt;br&gt;9am Communications Mtg - Lib&lt;br&gt;9:30am Religious School&lt;br&gt;6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Mon</td>
<td>ECC Open&lt;br&gt;Martin Luther King Day&lt;br&gt;8am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Tue</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;8am &quot;Moral and Ethical Issues&quot; - Sara Myers Room 106</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Wed</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;4:15pm KRRS Classes&lt;br&gt;7pm USY Lounge Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Thu</td>
<td>7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Fri</td>
<td>7am Shacharit&lt;br&gt;4:53pm Candle Lighting&lt;br&gt;6pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Sat</td>
<td>Parshat Beshalach&lt;br&gt;9am Shabbat Service&lt;br&gt;10:30am MifgaShabbat - Chapel&lt;br&gt;11am Rhythm n Ruach - Sara Myers Room 106&lt;br&gt;12:30pm Torah Talk - Sara Myers Rm 106&lt;br&gt;3:55pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/ Ma’ariv&lt;br&gt;5:55pm Havdalah</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Sun</td>
<td>8am Shacharit at 1107 E. Linden&lt;br&gt;9am Communications Mtg - Lib&lt;br&gt;9:30am Religious School - Build-a-Pair with Men’s Club&lt;br&gt;10:30am Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah Seminar&lt;br&gt;4:30pm Seed Bomb program - Aud&lt;br&gt;6pm Mincha/Ma’ariv</td>
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**Please Help Make A Minyan!**

Building Inclusive Community

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www.KolRinahSTL.org
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**

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Want A Family Member In A Nursing Home To Get A Visit?

For a visit from the Chesed committee or to volunteer, call Barbara Bianco 314.727.2399 or email barbarab2@aol.com