



Escape From Egypt

photos by Stacey Hudson and Melissa Bellows - [see more online](#)

Upcoming Events

Sat 1	Kol Chadash
Sun 2	Choosing Israel
Mon 3	Sci Fi/Fantasy Book Club
Tue 11	Jewish Senior Connections
Fri 14	Kol Bachootz- Families Kol Bachootz- Adults
Sun 16	Tikkun Shavuot
Sn 16- Ts 18	SHAVUOT
Sun 23	Jews in Science #4

This Edition

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KR On The Move!
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- KoREH
- Brotherhood
- Engagement
- Early Childhood Education
USY & Kadima
- Tzedek Team
- Kol Rinah Families and Youth
- May 2021 Calendar

Come Cheer Kol Rinah's Co-Ed Softball Team!

Our May Schedule

May 2, 9:45am - Kol Rinah vs. Kol Rinah/Traditional (this will be fun!)

May 16, 9am - Kol Rinah vs. United Hebrew & Kol Rinah/Traditional vs. Shaare Emeth

May 23, 9:45am - Kol Rinah/Traditional vs. CRC

Questions? Contact Benjamin: benjamin.d.singer@gmail.com, or 314.239.1308

Tikkun Shavuot at Bais Abraham

A co-sponsored celebration of learning and Torah at Bais Abe, 6910 Delmar in University City. Dinner - 9:15 pm, Community Learning starts at 10:15 pm. Capacity is limited (registration is required). Deadline for registration is May 13. Sign-up at: Baisabe.com/event/tikkun2021 or call 314-721-3030. For more information contact: 314-721-3030, office@baisabe.com

Sunday,
May 16
9:15 pm

Kol Rinah Leadership

Kol Rinah Board

Gary Kodner	<i>President</i>
Randi Mozenter	<i>Chair of the Board</i>
Joel Schwartz	<i>VP Communications</i>
Dan Rosenthal	<i>VP Development</i>
Jeremy Buhler	<i>VP Education / Ritual</i>
Joel Portman	<i>VP Engagement</i>
David Cooperstein	<i>VP Facilities</i>
Denise Field	<i>VP Personnel</i>
Cindy Payant	<i>Secretary</i>
Janice Shenker	<i>Treasurer</i>

Serving Through 2021

Penny Alper, Richard Gavatin, David Geller,
Rhiannon Kaye, Blair Kweskin, Benjamin
Singer, Sara Sorenson

Serving Through 2022

Elisa Israel, Jerry Nuell, Sherri Sadon, Jim
Singman, Skylar Swim, Karen Wetmore

Serving Through 2023

Mike Besmer, Pat Cohen, Mike Gartenberg,
Esti Goldman, Maurice Guller, Karen Rader,
Alan Rosenberg

Past Presidents Board Representatives

Ralph Graff, Steve Keyser

Staff

Stacey Hudson	<i>Executive Director</i>
Nancy Greene	<i>Executive Assistant</i>
Meir Zimand	<i>Director of Operations & Finance</i>
Melissa Bellows	<i>Youth & Family Coordinator</i>
Alec Russo	<i>USY Coordinator</i>
Octavio Vargas- Norwood	<i>Janitorial</i>
	<i>Facilities / Maintenance</i>

Ritual

Noah Arnow	<i>Rabbi</i>
Marvin Lerner, Jonathan Belsky	<i>Ba'alei Kriah</i>
Mark Fasman, Benson Skoff zt"l,	
Mordecai Miller	<i>Rabbis Emeriti</i>

Education

Scott Shafrin	<i>Religious School Director / Associate Rabbi</i>
Melissa Bellows	<i>KoREH Assistant</i>
Liz Collins	<i>Early Childhood Center Director</i>

Auxiliary Groups

Bob Olshan	<i>Brotherhood President</i>
Joyce Gang, Susan Brown	<i>Sisterhood President</i>
Marilyn Dien	<i>Women's Social Group</i>

Committee Chairs

Stacey Hudson	<i>Building Opening Task Force</i>
Gina Bernstein, Dan Rosenthal	<i>Capital Campaign/Development</i>
Barbara Bianco	<i>Chesed</i>
Wendy Love Anderson	<i>Community Learning / Interfaith Inclusion</i>
Tovah Enger, Joel Schwartz	<i>Communications</i>
Denise Bobick	<i>ECC</i>
Jeremy Buhler	<i>Education / Ritual</i>
Dave Cooperstein	<i>Facilities</i>
Tony Granillo	<i>Engagement</i>
Janice Shenker	<i>Finance</i>
Marsha Birenbaum	<i>Halls & Catering</i>
Esti Goldman, Bob Olshan	<i>Israel</i>
Rabbi Scott Shafrin	<i>KoREH</i>
Denise Field	<i>Personnel</i>
Benj Singer	<i>Social Action / Tzedek Team</i>
Beth Rubin	<i>USY</i>
Ralph Graff, Richard Gavatin	<i>Verein Discussion Group</i>

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.

Condolences to the Families Of

Steve Birenbaum
Vivian Evans
William (Bill) Huss
Marion Meyer
Monica Neidorff
David Samuels
Michael Snyder

May their memories be a blessing.

KR On The Move!

Construction on Phase 1 of the *Monica Lynne Neidorff Early Childhood Center* is progressing as scheduled. Our contractor, BSI, made excellent progress with demolition, and has begun framing the walls for the new spaces. Installation of the Coffee Bar and Sanctuary Vestibule Casework began at the end of April. We still are waiting for Occupancy Permit approval from the city of Clayton before we move the Kol Rinah Offices to the newly renovated third floor of the building.

More pictures and info can be found on our website KolRinahStL.org.

Photos courtesy of Stacey Hudson

Our newsletter is designed by Tovah Enger with the invaluable proofing help of: Rabbi Noah Arnow, Nancy Greene, Missy Kayman, Micki Kingsley and Cindy Payant. Thank you!

A Message from Our Rabbis

Rabbi Noah Arnow - Senior Rabbi

RabbiArnow@kolrinahstl.org

On Hybrids

Tammy & I recently needed to replace our gas-powered minivan, and we joyfully got a greener (actually navy blue) hybrid minivan. There are times when hybrids are great options.

Much of the conversation in Jewish spaces these days is about how, as we emerge from the pandemic, we will keep certain things virtual, go back to in-person for other things, and perhaps also try hybrids.

We've learned that we can be effective on Zoom in so many ways. Committee meetings work pretty well on Zoom, and attendance is often pretty good. For people joining a committee, meeting just on Zoom can be hard though—it can be hard to “team-build” just on Zoom.

Minyan has been well-attended on Zoom, and yet we and I know that some people are not interested in prayer on Zoom, and really want and need in-person prayer. We've also been joined on our Zoom minyanim by a number of people who are not geographically proximate to St. Louis, and by people who are not able to easily travel even within the St. Louis area to come to minyan.

We've been able to bring in speakers and teachers from around the world to present virtually whom it would have been too challenging to have travel to St. Louis. We've also had good steady attendance from regulars and newer learners for our internal Kol Rinah classes that have again included people

who would not be able to come in person. I do miss the conversations and interactions that happen around a table that just can't be recreated on Zoom.

We've debuted our learning for next school's B'nai Mitzvah cohort, using outstanding curriculum from Moving Traditions (<https://www.movingtraditions.org/>) that engages parents and kids together and separately. We've done it completely on Zoom, and the program and attendance have been stellar. It might be a little more fun in person, but that would involve more cost, more babysitters, and less attendance.

A major component of the success of our virtual programming has been that everyone has been virtual—we all show up the same on Zoom. No one feels like a second-class citizen because they're home alone while everyone else is having fun together in person. Everyone can see and be seen, hear and be heard equally. So frequently before the pandemic, video conferencing would be used when everyone was together except one or two people who were joining virtually. It was so hard to include everyone, and hear and listen to everyone, and so frustrating to be the one person

attending virtually. Do you remember how challenging it was to be on speakerphone for a meeting where everyone else was together in person?

Hybrids of this sort are really challenging, and I have not heard from colleagues around the country who have found really satisfying technical solutions to make a hybrid experience work well for everyone.

But there's a different kind of hybrid. Sometimes we can meet virtually and sometimes we can meet in person. What if every other or every third committee meeting was in person, to maintain a feeling of presence, but keep attendance easy? What if some minyanim were in person and others were on Zoom, according to a schedule everyone would have? What if some classes and speakers were offered in person, and others were virtually? For our B'nai Mitzvah classes, maybe a few of the gatherings would be in person, and others would be virtual. Our board could meet in person a couple of times a year, and on Zoom the rest of the time.

We have a lot to figure out, but this is just one way of thinking about how to bring the present into the future!

Preparing for a Bar or Bat Mitzvah

Our synagogue has partnered with Moving Traditions (www.movingtraditions.org) to pioneer a new and exciting approach to preparing our families and students of every gender identity, background, and family tradition for the b'nai mitzvah in a way that connects Jewish wisdom to the interpersonal and social elements of this coming-of-age ritual.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Mazel Tov!

May Birthdays

Amy Zaidman, Joel Frankel, Asher Sabin, Samuel Sabin, Lauren Wolf, Esti Goldman, Noah Arnow, Rhona Lyons, Berta Hyken, Sonia Barrett, Rena Buhler, Judy Allen, Abigail Simmons, Gail Brody, Sara Kavanaugh, Abby Schneider, Idan Lerner, Katherine Tynan, Laila Bach, Gloria Feldman, Franklin Haspiel, Zachary Gannam, Rachel Kodner, Loren Bach, Jonah May-Rauchman, Sara Sorenson, Rosalie Stein, Bryan Sanger, Tobi Don, Lori Siegel, Alan Snyder, Samuel Bernstein, Davanna Renee, Russell Gottlieb, Bonnie Shafrin, Jada Fox, Naomi Zaidman, Donald Levy, Denise Bobick, Elisa Israel, Jael Rogers, Joshua Stein, Leah Berger, Leonid Grossman, Shirley Fredman, Cindy Ginsburg, Joseph Kavanaugh, Nicky Rainey, Nancy Rosman, Marc Levin, Edward Schukar, Michael Bernstein, Stephanie Levy, Frances Wilner, Aaron Praiss, Gretchen Schisla, Nicole Rainey, Hannah Rainey, Delia Rainey, Deborah Rubin, Patricia Cohen, Phillip Gould, Zeke Swim, Michael Stein, Emily Ginsburg, Josh Horwitz, Jonah Levy, Saloane Sapot

May Anniversaries

Kim Anderson & Marcia Sokol-Anderson
Alex Befeler & Serra-Lesa Ivener
Corey Feit & Jenna Lew-Feit
Guy Friedman & Laura Horwitz
Hal & Marcia Goldsmith
Michael & Abby Goldstein
Russell & Rachel Gottlieb
Brad & Mindy Horwitz
Joshua & Cindy Kalachek
Richard Kodner & Gail Brody
Andrew & Nancy Rosman
Steven & Andrea Rosenblum
Harold & Diane Sanger
Alan & Robin Weinberger
Mike & Sherri Besmer
Philip & Leslie Johnson

** Listed chronologically in the month*

June Birthdays

Jerry Raskin, Helene Meyer, Daniel Buch, Ari Horwitz, Nathan Goldstein, Jacob Goldstein, Hannah Friedman, Cheryl Wasserberg, Susan Cort, Hanan Nathan-Slarskey, Nicola Hudson, Tasha Kaminsky, Courtney Rader, Sophia Gottlieb, Julie Ettinger, Christopher Mollett, Matt Reznick, Ruth Asher-Koshner, Leora Spitzer, Isaac Besmer, Jonathan Dien, Bruce Dien, Phyllis Katz, William Mathis, Jon Santer, Randi Mozenter, Florence Cohn, Amitai Shafrin, Golda Burke, Jacob Shanas, Allen Levin, Rachel Bezalel-Buch, Nancy Berg, Jeffrey Jacob, Laura Horwitz, Serena Sabin, Merwyn Kalina, Sherri Sadon, Elana Gottlieb, Lauren Bernstein, Nick Riggio, Shira LeDeaux, Enid Perll, Rosetta Weintraub, Hazel Sohn, Mindy Horwitz, Stan Braude, Ari Brenner, Harriet Shanas, Yitzchak Santer, Monroe Ginsburg, Cecilia Asher, Ava Duel, Deborah Finkelstein, Lily Friedman, William Kaufman, Kenneth Weintraub, Katherine Gross, Stacey Hudson, Robert Stein, Phil Levens, Jacob Kalachek, Marc Spector, Kenneth Stein, Alan Garelick, Samantha Mollett, Susan Lew, Judel Lew, Fred Makler, Rebecca Gannam

June Anniversaries

Michael Cannon & Denise Field
Lauren Buchsbaum & Nick Riggio
Mark & Mary Engel
Gary & Fran Kaar
Ben & Joan Barzilai
Josh & Laura Chaise
Stuart Hoffman & Rita Rothschild
Steven Brody & Brenda Grossman
Richard & Jody Feldman
Michael & Alisa Reichman
Michael & Karen Wetmore
William & Stacey Hoffman
Eric Flug & Gretchen Schisla
Alan Snyder & Sharon Rosenberg
Repps & Stacey Hudson
Alfred & Sheila Rosenfeld

Leonid Shmuylovich & Ilana Rosman
Zachary & Julie Leeds
Howard & Jacqueline Berliner
Jeremy Buhler & Wendy Anderson
Martin & Margaret Israel
William & Helene Mathis
Naomi Hoffman & Loren Bach
William & Meris Hamilton
Enrique & Becky Lerner
Jerry & Joyce Raskin
Arlene & Tim O'Connell
Sanford & Elaine Melnick
Sanford & Cynthia Boxerman
Marc & Priscilla Alper
Burton & Benita Boxerman
Judel & Susan Lew

A Special Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to Andrew & Lauren Moss on the birth of Danielle Josie Moss on Tuesday, April 6th. Proud grandfather is Jim Singman. Mom, Dad and sister, Charlotte, are all doing well.

Thank You

Thank you all for your generous donations, heartfelt condolences, and all the kindnesses in Steve's memory. We are overwhelmed with gratitude at your thoughtfulness and caring.

Marsha Birenbaum & Family

Thank you to all my friends for my birthday wishes: Margie Gillerman, Burton & Benita Boxerman, Gail Appleson, Les Birenbaum and Susan Roth, Marshall Myers, Jerry Nuell, Linda & Fred Makler, Margaret Israel, Meir Zimand & Family, Cindy Payant, Ron Portman, Betty & Don Siegel, Linda Biggs, Al & Sheila Rosenfeld, Marcia & Roger Brockman, Linda Carton, Judy Pearlstone, Abe Horowitz, Sandy & Neal Goldford, Barbara Bianco, Mary Berger, Randi Mozenter, The Keyser Family, Micki Kingsley, Susan & Max Brown, Al Leving & Vivienne Palmer-Young

Harlan Radinsky

President's Message

Gary Kodner - Kol Rinah President

president@kolrinahstl.org

Kol Rinah IS surviving the pandemic

Kol Rinah as a whole is doing well given the extreme conditions and safety protocols we operate under. We were not able to open our new building as planned and we miss our in-person gatherings, kiddushes, and celebrations. But we are surviving. Kol Rinah has adapted and stayed strong and viable. In fact much has been accomplished. We learned how

to use Zoom meetings and stream our services. We reopened our ECC and KoREH religious school. We succeeded in accomplishing our Phase 1 Capital Campaign goals. We completed Phase 1 construction. We started a second campaign for our ECC and began that buildout. We also kept our staff employed, and received a large government PPP loan to help.

Of course every year has unique challenges and unexpected road blocks. But we learn how to adjust and deal with them, using courage, innovation and determination. I would say Kol Rinah exceeded my expectations in a very extraordinary year. We remain financially strong and continue to plan and build for our future.

I still remember our February 2020 board meeting (our last LIVE meeting). One of the board members asked Marsha Sokol Anderson about the Corona virus and how serious it was. At that time we knew so little. The President of the United States was telling us it was a minor thing. "a few isolated cases and it would disappear very quickly". I personally thought it would be like the annual flu season and we might see 30- 40 thousand cases, but life would go on as usual. Marsha warned us that this is "going to be a big deal. Don't listen to what politicians say. Take precautions, it will infect thousands" She turned out to be right. The board has not met live since that date.

As more people get vaccinated, we get a little more anxious to break out, drop our guards, return to life as it was before COVID. We are not out of the woods yet. Life may not return exactly as we remember it. But we will persevere. We will continue to be cautious. Kol Rinah will not just survive this, we will adjust and build a better future!

Attend a Shabbat Morning Service In Person



Seats are limited, so sign up now!

Stay after services to tour our new building
We observe COVID safety protocols • Registration is required



Kol Chadash, A Musical Shabbat Service

We are creating new models of prayer and services to engage us differently, and perhaps engage with more people in our community. The music is a mix of the fresh and familiar, filled with harmony, joy, and spirit. We want to hear your thoughts so that we can assess how we're doing and improve as we move forward.

**Saturday
May 1
9:30 am**

Kol "Bachootz": Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat for Families

Families are invited to sign up for a short and sweet Friday night service beginning at 5:45. Masks are required for those over the age of 2, and families will be asked to sit in designated, distanced areas. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets! Families will need to sign up for a spot – The number of spots available is TBD. For more information Contact melissa@kolrinahstl.org

**Friday,
May 14
5:45 pm**

Kol "Bachootz": Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat for ADULTS

Kabbalat Shabbat: Kol Bachootz! - Bring your own lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat service in our courtyard. Pre-registration and masks are required. Participants must sign up to attend, total number of participants TBD. For more information Contact melissa@kolrinahstl.org

**Friday,
May 14
7:00 pm**

Shabbat Mincha/Maariv/Havdalah (Live at Maryland Ave)

Shabbat Mincha, a little studying, Maariv and Havdalah, beginning 70 minutes before Shabbat ends. Pre-registration, masks, and social distancing required. No food/beverages will be served. To be continued each Shabbat, beginning May 15. Parking available on street or at Laclede Center lot across the street. RSVP to 314-727-1747 or Nancy@kolrinahstl.org

**Saturday,
May 15
7:40 pm**

Monthly on Sundays 2021-2022

Verein Presents a Series: Jews in Science

Join us on Zoom at 4pm one Sunday a month as distinguished members of our community give presentations about Jewish Scientists and their contributions to the world. To RSVP, visit kolrinahstl.org/jews-in-science-series. To view previous sessions in the series, visit, kolrinahstl.org/videos.



May 23 - *Rosalind Franklin, her contributions to science and her Judaism*

by **Dr. Howard Granok**, Science Dept. Chair, Crossroads College Preparatory School; Adjunct Instructor, Wash U in StL

June 20 - *Eric Kandel, Neuroscientist – Winner of the 2000 Nobel Prize*

How his early experiences in Vienna under Nazism influenced his life and his life's work on the biology of memory.

by **Dr. Deborah Rubin**, MD, AGAF, William B. Kountz Professor of Medicine, Professor of Developmental Biology
Associate Director for Faculty Affairs, Director Women's' GI Committee



July 18 - *Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Supreme Court Justice*

by **Lawrence Friedman**, Attorney and Partner at Thompson Coburn LLP. In Law school, one of his professors was Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

August 15 - *Louis Brandeis, Supreme Court Justice*

"Louis Brandeis: Lawyer, Judge, Scientist?"

by **Sandy Boxerman**, Attorney; Shareholder, Capes Sokol

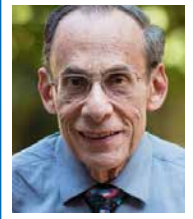


September 19 - *Albert Einstein, his life as a Physicist and a Jew*

by **Dr. Bob Olshan**, Retired Boeing Engineer, PhD Tel Aviv University, BS/MS from U of Illinois

October 10 - *Albert Einstein, his work*

by **Dr. Marty Israel**, Professor Physics at Wash U



November 21 - *Hedy Lamarr, Inventor of Wi-Fi, GPS and Bluetooth*

by **Linda Spitzer Gavatin**, Retired Business Management & Computer Accounting Professional

December 19 - *Aaron T Beck, Psychologist/Psychiatrist*

Turning 100 this year. Considered the founder of cognitive behavior therapy.

by **Dr. Randi Mozenter**, Clinical psychologist, board certified in Clinical Psychopharmacology,
Clinical medical staff at Barnes Jewish Hospital, Wash U Medical School.



Kol Rinah
Building and Growing Together

KolRinahStL.org • 314.727.1747

Sisterhood

Joyce Gang, Susan Brown - Sisterhood Co-Presidents

jdgang@hotmail.com, susanmbrown77@gmail.com

Sisterhood is a giving part of the Shul. And we have fulfilled one of our roles in the Shul by donating significant funds to the Shul by way of Mishloach Manot, funds to USY to allow them to go to conventions and conferences, to the ECC, to KoREH, our religious school, and to our Shul's Capital Campaign. YOU have played a major part in that by your generous donations and your membership in Sisterhood.

Last Spring we were just seeing what minyanim by way of Zoom would be like. What programs we could have. This past winter we had a wonderful program with Lauren Cohen on

developing resilience. We were "taken" to the St. Louis Art Museum in February by way of Zoom, and had a beautiful program on Love, by Dale Sharon, a SLAM docent. After Pesach this year we had another Challah baking class, with Tammy Arnow, with the addition of learning to make several kinds of Babka, a wonderful treat!

Our yearly Torah Fund campaign to support the Conservative Seminaries is ending the end of May. We are recognizing and honoring the Faye Keyser Memorial Seudah Fund for its contributions over the years to

our Sisterhood and to the Shul. Its support has been invaluable. Thank you to Linda Makler, our Torah Fund chairperson, who has worked tirelessly for Kol Rinah to again support our future rabbis, cantors, and educators for the day schools and synagogues, and professional and lay leaders of Conservative Judaism. Thank you to all of you who have already made your donations.

Wishing you health and safety, and a return to our previous precious lives at the right time,

Susan Brown & Joyce Gang
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Verein Discussion Group

Richard Gavatin and Ralph Graff, Co-Chairs

richardjrgavatin@gmail.com, ralph.graff@health.slu.edu

We are well into Verein's popular Jews In Science series and are looking forward to the fourth Installment. On May 23rd, Dr. Howard Granok, chair of the Science Department of Crossroads School, will speak about Rosalind Franklin and DNA.

Judaism and Neuroscience was essentially the topic of our first session in February. A popular neuroscience book by noted British neuroscientist Rodrigo Quain Quiroga states that, *"arriving at a final answer is no more important than triggering the cascade of questions and experiencing the rush of fascination that propels the exploration of them."*

He is saying this about Scientists, but doesn't it apply equally to the Jewish

People? Who hasn't been told that, if you ask a Rabbi a question, you will get multiple answers and many of them in the form of more questions?

"If reaching the final answer were all that mattered, science would be extremely frustrating, because the truth is that many questions remain unanswered perhaps forever".

His highly recommended book, "The Forgetting Machine", deals primarily with memory, something many people have misconceptions about but is

getting more and more attention by modern neuroscience.

In a future edition of The Voice, I will elaborate on the connection between Judaism and Science in general, and modern Neuroscience in particular.

You can [Register Here](#) for the May session with Dr. Howard Granok. For past presentations, go to kolrinahstl.org/videos.

Richard
co-chair of Verein

Let's ALL take a Walk in the Park!
Join us 1st & 3rd Shabbat, May through July at 1:30 pm
Shaw Park in Clayton starting at Enterprise Holdings Pavilion. Park near Clayton High School.
Contact Joyce Olshan for updates 314-488-8111. Meet at 1:00 IF YOU WANT TO BRING FOOD/DRINKS BEFORE WE WALK

Experiencing Our Learning Anew

"Don't count the days; make the days count," or so the saying goes. We are coming to the end of a huge communal counting in the Jewish calendar, the Omer, which enumerates seven weeks (49 total days) between the second night of Passover and the start of Shavuot. What fascinates me every year is how hard it is to say a couple of lines of blessing and count the day each evening. The words are simple, it takes maybe a minute, and yet often I struggle to remember each day.

That is because counting the Omer is fundamentally about pausing what you are doing, coming to a full stop, looking accurately at where you are ("Is it day 3? Day 11? Day 47?") and humbly acknowledging that fact. Therefore, when you come to Shavuot, also known as Z'man Matan Toratenu, "The Time of the Giving of Our Torah," you will be able to appreciate everything you have learned in the last year and rejoice in gratitude with the community who joins you to recognize that growth.

As a rabbi and educator, the past year at KoREH has been one of the most challenging and incredible years I could imagine. Teachers, in a matter of weeks, learned new ways of engaging students, using technology, educational advancement, health and safety guidance, and a mountain of creative thinking to produce some truly breathtaking moments of learning. Students adapted to new ways of not only learning in the classroom, but engaging in the work of asking

questions, probing the possibilities of their Jewish identities, and coming to understand the world around them through new lenses. And while the pandemic and all of its consequences have left real and lasting wounds in our bodies, hearts, minds, and communal lives, I want to thank all of our KoREH families, staff, faculty, and supporters for helping us shape this incredible year of learning that is about to conclude. The gift of the Torah we have received together this year, how our Jewish communal lives still flourish even amid unprecedented times, is a treasure that will enrich our lives together.

Just as on Shavuot we appreciate all that we have learned by diving in together for deeper learning, so too is this only the beginning for our KoREH community. We are already registering families for next year. We know that many of you have pulled back from, or delayed, starting your children's formal Jewish education because of the realities of life in the past year, but I want to assure you that we have a place for all of you. **Registration is open and can be done online on the Kol Rinah website** ([Click Here](#)).

We will be adding new staff and expanding options so that everyone can safely and comfortably join in our

learning. As of this writing, we are planning to continue shortened Sunday sessions paired with mid-week 1-1 sessions with teachers using Zoom and other technologies for the fall semester. We will have virtual options for students who need them regularly or for a particular week, and we are looking to expand and refine the technologies at our disposal in the classroom. We will be restarting our Parent Learning Cohort with topics selected by you, our KoREH community lifelong learners. Please be in touch with me (rabbishafrin@kolrinahstl.org) or Melissa Bellows (melissa@kolrinahstl.org) if you have questions or topics of interest for our learning this year.

Our Reopening Taskforce and medical advisors, as well as ever changing data and advice from local, state, and national authorities, will continue to adapt to the changing conditions that may allow us to expand our opportunities for in-person learning as the year progresses. Just as we celebrate each year the growth and accomplishments of our students, we look forward to celebrating the monumental ways our school community continues to grow and change as we look ahead to the end of this year of hard-fought learning, as well as a bright and hopeful future in the 2021-2022 school year.

ZOOM & LEARN

Choosing Israel: Midrash and the Choice to be a Jew

How do Jews by birth describe Jews by choice? Jeff Spitzer shares a selection of midrashic texts that challenge us to confront the ways in which Jewish culture appreciates and honors the convert to Judaism while recognizing some of the ways in which Jews by birth might feel ambivalent about newcomers to the "family."

**Sunday
May 2
11:30 am**

Brotherhood

Bob Olshan - Brotherhood President

olshanr@gmail.com

Chag Sameach, as I'm writing this on Israel's Independence Day. We hope you all received your Leo Wolf Yellow Candles and were able to join our worldwide remembrance of the Holocaust. We thank all of you who made a donation (or still plan to). I also hope you were able to attend the Kol Rinah Lag B'Omer bonfire – we're finally starting to be able to see each other in person, getting back to normal one day at a time!

We are looking forward to hosting programs post High Holidays in the new building!

☆ Steak and Scotch in the Sukkah on September 26th

☆ Man and Youth of the Year- honoring Maurice Guller and Jane Kalina at a Zzoom event for the FJMC Midwest this spring (watch for announcement) and an in person lunch reception at our new Kol Rinah building in October!

☆ We are also hoping to have a live Trivia game in our building before the end of the year!

Kol Rinah is pleased to sponsor our co-ed softball team once again. Questions? Contact Benjamin at Benjamin.d.singer@gmail.com or call 314.239.1308. Good Luck this season!!!

Federation of Jewish Men's Club's National Convention - June 6th-13th (weekday evening programming)

This year's convention will be virtual and the price is only \$36. The Midwest FJMC will contribute \$18 (code is Midwest\$18) and Kol Rinah will contribute \$10 so it will only cost you \$8! Sign up for convention: <https://www.fjmc.org/convention-2021>

This is an excellent opportunity to develop relationships with other men across the country. The spirit of FJMC will move you – please consider joining us. If you have any questions contact Bob olshanr@gmail.com or Max!

Brotherhood is working on new programs to enhance our ability to participate and lead services as well as converse in Hebrew. Please let Bob or Max know if you are interested!

Kol Rinah Sisterhood Torah Fund Campaign

Sisterhood is rolling out their 2021 Torah Fund Campaign! The theme of the campaign is B'Yachad, which means "together." A donation of any amount is greatly welcome, donations at the \$180 level will receive a Torah Fund pin as a gift. Linda Makler, Torah Fund Chair, 636-391-9965 or golchamp@aol.com

**Now
thru
May 28**

Jewish Senior Connection Programs

On the second Tuesday of each month we will present a series of programs for older adults on a variety of subjects. "The Jewish Senior Connection" is funded by a generous grant from the JCA Charitable Foundation which was awarded to Kol Rinah, Traditional, and B'nai Amoona congregations. We will meet via Zoom, click for registration and more details.

**Second
Tuesday
1:00 pm**

Jewish Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club

Meets on the first Monday of each month by Zoom from 7:30-9pm. Click to find out what we are reading and discussing next!

Contact Leora Spitzer if you have any questions: leora.spitzer@gmail.com

**1st Monday
of the Month
7:30pm**

Kol Rinah/B'nai Amoona Book Club

The Book Club meets on Zoom – 4th Thursday of the month. Please click below for the schedule and selection of books we are reading. For questions/information/zoom link:

Contact Carol Glick greatabcr@aol.com

**4th
Thursday
of the month
10-11:30 am**

Jewish Food Pantry May List

You can help the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry during the Coronavirus Pandemic by donating money or food.

1. Peanut Butter & Jelly
2. Canned Vegetables (corn, beans, peas, carrots)
3. Kosher Non-Perishable Foods
4. Canned Tuna Fish or Chicken
5. Macaroni & Cheese
6. Dry Potatoes, Beans and Rice
7. Canned Chili, Beef Stew and Protein-Rich Foods
8. Personal care items such as:
Kleenex, Deodorant, Toothpaste and Dental Floss

Currently, the need is great so please help in any way you can.

For more info, contact Louise Levine 314.368.5902. **Thank you.**

Engagement

Joel Portman - VP of Engagement

joelaportman@gmail.com

Earlier this year, Gary shared the vision for reframing Kol Rinah's Membership Committee into the Engagement Committee. That work is well underway:

Our idea is that we need to build the right structures to ensure we're producing the programming that Kol Rinah needs to provide for our members and for the community. We need to ensure that the programming we offer as a congregation is in line with our Mission and Vision, that we're identifying ways to work collaboratively across committees, auxiliaries, and other groups – and planning ahead, so that we can reach as many members of the Kol Rinah community as we can.

With the Engagement Committee, under the leadership of Tony Granillo, we've now drafted a proposal for the Coordinating Committee to review. If you're interested as well, feel free to reach out to me or Tony.

Concurrently, we're also working on how we better connect with and build relationships with our members-current or future. We know some of you want to talk on the phone to one of the Rabbis, some of you want to have a socially distanced coffee with a board member, and some of you just want to join a Minyan. We're digging into each of these models across prospective members and current members, engaged members and members who haven't connected with Kol Rinah in some time, those who live in our new home of Clayton and those who live farther away – and will seek opportunities to engage with you in the way you want Kol Rinah to show up.

Please reach out anytime with ideas, or to let us know you'd like to join a committee.

Joel Portman

Vice President, Engagement

USY & Kadima

Alec Russo - USY Coordinator

alecoraziorusso@gmail.com

USY has continued to host a combo of virtual Zoom meetings and in person social distance events. Over the past few weeks, we have been fortunate to meet in person with masks more often which has been awesome. Also, with the weather starting to improve, we are excited to be able to meet outside for many nights going forward. We've continued our weekly discussions about current events here and in Israel. The group is excited for the return of our ShinShin, Evyatar Shachar, who travelled back to Israel to spend Passover with his family. Over the next few weeks, the group will be looking to plan more in person events and is looking forward to being able to utilize our new youth lounge. Lastly, we want to give a big shout out and THANK YOU to the Kol Rinah Sisterhood for their donation to USY. We greatly appreciate the help!

Follow Our Instagram: [@krstl_krocs](https://www.instagram.com/krstl_krocs)

Early Childhood Education

Liz Collins - ECC Director

collinse@kolrinahstl.org

Even though the Jewish holidays have looked slightly different due to COVID protocols, we made the most of our Purim and Passover festivities. For Purim, the kids were so excited to dress up in costumes and parade around their classrooms. The classes also loved singing songs with Ms. Karen during music. For Passover, the classes loved searching their

classrooms for the hidden afikomen, searching and getting rid of chometz from the classroom, and eating lots and lots of matzah.

In the upcoming weeks, we are looking forward to celebrating our Starfish kiddos who will be leaving us at the end of Summer for Kindergarten.

Planning a Kol Rinah Event, Class or Program?

We have several forms to help ensure you get on our calendar.

☆ **A Live Event Request form**

☆ **A Zoom Event Request form**

☆ **A Save the Date form** (when you need to reserve that date and time but you don't have all the details yet)

Each form asks which Board officer you have contacted for initial approval/support so we can ensure wider reach for your project.

You can find the forms near the bottom of the sidebar on our website.

Tzedek Team

Benjamin Singer - Chair

benjamin.d.singer@gmail.com

Join a Tzedek Initiative at Kol Rinah!

Seeking Leaders, Gardeners,
Compassionate Communicators,
and Advocates

*"Justice, justice shall you pursue,
that you may thrive and occupy the
land that the LORD your God is
giving you."*

Parashat Shoftim, Deuteronomy 16:20

With these words as our inspiration, Kol Rinah's Tzedek team endeavors both to build relationships that strengthen our community and improve the world (Tikkun Olam.)

We work on initiatives in a variety of different areas of justice. We are

seeking volunteers to help with our endeavors. For example:

☆ **Establish a Tzedek Ambassador in each Kol Rinah committee,** department, and auxiliary. Interested in being a Tzedek Ambassador? Contact Skylar Swim, chalcedony.swim@gmail.com

☆ **Create a Mitzvah Garden outside the new building** to grow vegetables for food pantries. Got a green thumb or ideas? Contact Food Security Chair Katherine Tynan, ndchick07@gmail.com

☆ **Communicate with residents at the Crown Center.** We will supply care

cards and deliver them, too. Interested? Contact Direct Service Chair Dr. Sherri Besmer, sherribesmer@gmail.com

☆ **Advocate** to improve people's lives in our region. Contact Dr. Scott Kaar, scottkaarphone@gmail.com or Jessica Igielnik, jessica.igielnik@gmail.com

Many more events and initiatives are being planned. You can learn more about the Tzedek Team through our [webpage](#).

If you'd like to get added to our email list and calendar invitations, please contact Jaron Asher, jaron.asher@gmail.com or Cindy Kalachek, ckalachek@gmail.com

Kol Rinah Families and Youth

Melissa Bellows - Youth and Family Coordinator

Melissa@kolrinahstl.org

Young families have had some really fun and creative events this year, and they just keep getting better! Over Pesach, families had a chance to "Escape From Egypt". More than 15 families came to our outdoor obstacle course where they learned about the journey from slavery to Mt. Sinai. All activities were hands-on, interactive, and safe. Families were so happy to have an engaging and educational outdoor adventure.

Parents and friends also enjoyed getting crafty with a Parent's Night "OUT" making beautiful wooden trays with A&R Workshop Olivette. Wine and treats made the Zoom event extra fun!

We are so grateful to have some new Shabbat programming geared toward our younger members. Rabbi Arnov, Rabbi Shafrin, and Karen Kern put together a fun Shabbat morning Livestream, called "Kol Katan" (Little Voice). This is a short musical service that gets kids up and dancing, and celebrating Shabbat! The first Kol Katan was streamed on Saturday, April 24th.

On May 14th, we are so excited to have our first in-person Kabbalat Shabbat, with a Young Family service at 5:45 PM, and an adult service at 7 PM. With pre-registration, masks, and distancing, we feel this will be a safe beginning of in-person services for our families.

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy, and fun Spring!

Melissa

Please help us with our Memorial Plaques

We are preparing to select and sort all of our Memorial Plaque so that we can begin mounting them on our new walls. We will need many volunteers over the next several months to complete this monumental task. We will organize teams, safe and socially distanced in the lower level at Maryland Ave. PLEASE SIGN-UP!

let us know
dates/times
that you
can help us

1 Saturday 34th Day Omer

Parshat Emor

9:30am Kol Chadash

8:38pm Havdalah

2 Sunday 35th Day Omer

9am Communication Mtng

11:30am Choosing Israel: Midrash and the Choice to be a Jew

8pm 9:30pm Brotherhood Mtng

3 Monday 36th Day Omer

7:30pm Capital Campaign Mtng

7:30pm Kol Rinah Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club

4 Tuesday 37th Day Omer

7pm Engagement Committee

5 Wednesday 38th Day Omer

7pm Education Mtng

6 Thursday 39th Day Omer

7 Friday 40th Day Omer

11:30am ECC Shabbat

12pm Torah Talk

6pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv

7:41pm Candle Lighting

8 Saturday 41st Day Omer

Parshat Behar-Bechukotai

Shabbat Mevarchim

8:45pm Havdalah

9 Sunday 42nd Day Omer

Mother's Day

9am Communication Mtng

10 Monday 43rd Day Omer

YOM YERUSHALAYIM

7:30pm Capital Campaign Mtng

11 Tuesday 44th Day Omer

1pm Jewish Senior Connection

12 Wednesday 45th Day Omer

ROSH CHODESH SIVAN

13 Thursday 46th Day Omer

7pm Coordinating Committee Mtng

14 Friday 47th Day Omer

ECC Starfish Graduation

11:30am ECC Shabbat

12pm Torah Talk

5:45pm Kol Bachootz- Families

7pm Kol Bachootz- Adults

7pm Candle Lighting

15 Saturday 48th Day Omer

Parshat Bamidbar

7:40pm In-person Mincha/Ma'ariv & study

8:51pm Havdalah

16 Sunday 49th Day Omer

EREV SHAVUOT

9am Communication Mtng

7:49pm Candle Lighting

9:15pm Tikkun Shavuot at Bais Abe

17 Monday

SHAVUOT – 1st Day

ECC and Kol Rinah Office Closed

8:50pm Candle Lighting

18 Tuesday

SHAVUOT – 2nd Day, Yizkor

ECC and Kol Rinah office Closed

8:54pm Havdalah

19 Wednesday

20 Thursday

7pm Kol Rinah Board Mtng

21 Friday

11:30am ECC Shabbat

12pm Torah Talk

6pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv

7:53pm Candle Lighting

22 Saturday

Parshat Nasso

7:45pm In-person Mincha/Ma'ariv & study

8:57pm Havdalah

23 Sunday

9am Communication Mtng

4pm Jews in Science Series #4

24 Monday

7:30pm Capital Campaign Mtng

25 Tuesday

26 Wednesday

7pm Community Learning Committee Mtng

27 Thursday

10am KR & BA Book Club

7pm Personnel Committee Mtng

8:30pm Tzedek Team Mtng

28 Friday

11:30am ECC Shabbat

12pm Torah Talk

1pm ECC Park day - Close 1 pm

6pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv

7:59pm Candle Lighting

29 Shabbat

Parshat Beha'alotcha

8pm In-person Mincha/Ma'ariv & study

9:03pm Havdalah

30 Sunday

9am Communication Mtng

31 Monday

Memorial Day - ECC Closed

7:30pm Capital Campaign Mtng

☆JOIN A ZOOM MINYAN!☆

We say kaddish with a Zoom Minyan.

**Services Unless
Otherwise Listed**

**Weekday 7am and 6pm
Sunday 8am and 6pm**

Kabbalat Shabbat

6pm, unless otherwise listed

Shabbat Mornings

Services begin streaming at 9:30am

**Shavuot services will also begin
streaming at 9:30am.**

Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah

**New in person services and study
starts May 15th, 7:40pm**

[Click Here for PDFs of
Siddur Sim Shalom services.](#)

Like us on Facebook

