

KOL קול עמי AMI

How do we speak about science and religion?

Evolution Shabbat Ruach!

Rabbi Geoffrey Mitelman will speak at Shabbat Ruach/ Evolution Shabbat on Saturday, February 10. His topic will be "How Do We Speak About Science and Religion?"



Rabbi Mitelman is the founding director of Sinai and Synapses, an organization that bridges the scientific and religious worlds. It offers people a worldview that is both scientifically grounded and spiritually uplifting. It provides tools and language for learning and living to those who see science as their ally as they pursue personal growth and the repair of our world.

Rabbi Mitelman was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, where he received the Cora Kahn Prize for the most outstanding sermon delivery and oratory. An alumnus of Princeton University, he received multiple prizes for outstanding scholarship in Biblical and Judaic studies.

He was selected to be a member of the first cohort of Clal's prestigious Rabbis Without Borders fellowship to be in the first group of the Balfour Brickner Rabbinic Fellowship, a joint program with Clal and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism that aims to integrate Jewish textual tradition with modern social and political issues. From 2007 to 2014, he served as Assistant and then Associate Rabbi of Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester. His appearance at Congregation Kol Ami is sponsored by the Jewish Center & Federation.

Evolution Shabbat, the Shabbat nearest Charles Darwin's birthday, is part of Evolution Weekend, when more than 500 Jewish, Christian, Unitarian-Universalist, and Muslim communities will set aside time to discuss issues in science and religion.

Rabbi Mitelman will speak during the Shabbat Ruach service at 10:00 a.m. and again after lunch.

Jewish Center & Federation
of the Twin Tiers
Congregation Kol Ami
Jewish Community School

February 2018

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HAPPY PURIM

Kol Ami will celebrate Purim on the evening of Wednesday, February 28, and the morning of Thursday, March 1. The celebration on Wednesday evening will include an "abridged and gonzo" reading of *Megillat Esther* in English with the traditional trope. Drinks—both alcoholic and nonalcoholic—and snacks will be provided. Don't forget your costumes and noisemakers! Every child in costume will receive a prize; for adults there will be prizes for the best Jewish costume and the best secular costume. The festivities begin at 7:00 p.m.

On Thursday, there will be a quick *shacharit* service at 9:00 a.m., including a Hebrew reading of the Megillah. It's a weekday, so *tefillin* are encouraged. Costumes are, of course, also encouraged, but no drinks until after the service.

Jewish Center and Federation



from President Marcus Kantz

Eventually, this will become a personal invitation, but first, the weather. As I start this article it is 1 degree below zero out my computer room window. That's pretty cold as far as I'm concerned. It's been that sort of winter so far, and is showing no tangible signs of becoming any other sort of winter. Yesterday, I found the hood to my wife's winter coat and put it where she can find it.. I also have to admit that there have been nights we didn't go out to visit our shut-in friends, just because the cold was simply too much to bear.

For many of you, I know that leaving the house or apartment for any reason at all is too much to bear when you know that getting to where you're going is going to be miserable. And it's even worse when you know it is going to be miserable when you get there as well. Unfortunately, I know that this has been the case when you had to decide whether to come to a winter event to be held in the CKA base-

ment. You knew, rightly, that it was sure to be cold, no matter the promises to the contrary. Since almost all of those events have been JCF events, "my" events since I'm in charge, I've been hurt by that. Not by your completely justified refusal to come, but by our inability to offer you a completely hospitable place to which to come. Of course it was beyond the control of the JCF. But that didn't make it any better, especially since I am also on the Board of CKA, which does own and run the building.

Over the years, CKA has tried hard to fix, or at least improve the situation, but without sufficient success. Finally we have agreed upon a solution that promises to work, have secured funding for it, and contracted for the work to be done—*now*. This weekend the new equipment was installed. But, of course, it didn't go exactly as planned. As you may have heard, there was a natural gas leak almost immediately, leading to

an evacuation and, eventually, a rework of the gas plumbing. I am very confident that by the time you read this, the system will be up and working properly and the downstairs of CKA will be totally hospitable in the dead of winter—probably for the first time ever.

Now, we finally get to my personal invitation. As a member of the Board of CKA, and most importantly, as the President of JCF, I want to personally invite you to our upcoming winter events that you can read about elsewhere in this and future issues of the Kol Ami. Our events are interesting, fun, informative, fun, provocative, fun, and fun. And best of all, we will get to enjoy them as a community of friends in toasty comfort, without blankets, overcoats and chattering teeth.

You've been right to stay away in the past because of the cold. But now, please, give us a chance to entertain you in comfort.

Adult Education

Open to the entire community

Saturdays at 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast and discussion—topic determined by the participants. Attend the brief Shabbat morning service at 8:00 a.m. and stay for breakfast, or come for breakfast and stay for the full Shabbat service at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 4, at 10:00 a.m.: The World Wide Wrap! A worldwide program discussing the hows, the whys, and the spiritual contexts of wrapping *t'fillin*. Women, men, and children are all welcome.

Mondays, February 5, 12, 19, and 26, at 7:00 p.m.: "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Oren Steinitz.

Sunday, February 11, at 10:30 a.m.: "Relearn the Holidays" with Paul Solyn. Also March 4, 11, and 25.

Anniversaries

Mark & Nadya Gifeisman

Edwin & Rose Berman

Birthdays

Ashley Holtzman
Cheryl Miller
Daniel Sporn
Emily Sporn
Gloria Friedman
Herman Leibson
Jacqueline Peffer
Jerome Steinmetz
Joshua Berman
Julianna Sporn
Kenneth Kadar
Loda Golos

Rachel Peffer
Rebecca Gifeisman
Rebecca Lares
Robin Staver
Scott Moore
Steven Glantz
Zachary Dolkart

For birthday and anniversary dates please call the CKA office, 607-732-7410.

Mazal Tov

To Marsha Stemerman on the birth of the granddaughter, Alina Eve Nahom, on December 1. Marsha's daughter Rebecca and her husband Jeff are thrilled to now have a family of 2 girls and 2 boys!

from Executive Director Paul Solyn



If you read the lifestyle section of almost any newspaper or magazine, you're certain to see articles about simplification, decluttering, or "Swedish death cleaning."

Synagogue buildings tend to attract "stuff" of all kinds, and when something has been in the building for a long time, it acquires an air of sanctity. While this air of sanctity is spurious, it makes it harder to dispose of objects that are no longer needed.

But what about concepts that we could do without? What ideas do we harbor within Judaism that we would do better to jettison?

The first that I would nominate is *classism*. The Jewish community is one of the most affluent in America, but it is a mistake to think that all American Jews are affluent. Too many of our congregations, however welcoming they might actually be, appear inhospitable to Jews of limited means.

This affects even those who are already members. When I was the executive director of a congregation, I witnessed several instances in

which members whose finances had taken a downturn chose to resign from membership rather than request consideration.

The second is *racism*. Jews of color report that they are often treated as interlopers in mainstream Jewish communities. While much of this stems from ignorance or mere thoughtlessness, Jews in America have so successfully "passed" as white—which as recently as one hundred years ago was not taken for granted—that the presence of Jews of color can be seen as threatening.

A third might be *religious intolerance*—and not just of non-Jews. Within our communities, we are quick to turn differences in Jewish ritual observance into value judgments.

If we'd be better off without those ideas, what should we preserve?

Education comes immediately to mind. We are the best-educated minority group in America. (Muslims and Hindus are other well-educated minorities.) The only negative is that educational attainment creates a rift between us and some of the

population.

Family stability is another. As we have become more and more like everyone else, this is not as consistent as it used to be. And, like affluence, we are too likely to assume it of others, sometimes without justification. Our synagogues and other Jewish organizations don't work as well for single parents and others not currently married.

The third is *community*. Americans in general are becoming more and more disconnected from one another and less involved in civic and community organizations. We are not exempt from this trend, but so far we have been able to maintain Jewish identity and sense of community even among the many of us who are not at all religious. For example, the number of Jews who attend a Passover *seder* is much larger than the number who belong to a synagogue or attend High Holy Day services, partly because being with Jewish friends and family remains so important to most of us.

The Women's Balcony

Film explores fundamentalism, gender

When the women's balcony of a mainstream Orthodox synagogue collapses and the beloved, elderly rabbi retires in despair, the congregation is initially delighted to have attracted a charismatic young rabbi to lead the rebuilding. Only one problem: the new rabbi is ultra-Orthodox and his plans don't include rebuilding the balcony. In fact, he wants husbands to force their wives to adopt fully traditional gender roles and practices.

That's the premise of *The Women's Balcony*, a 2016 Israeli film that will be the JCF film for February.

It should come as no surprise that the women rebel, in ways reminiscent of *Lysistrata*. Alissa Simon wrote in *Variety* that screenwriter Shlomit Nechama "establishes an environment where the main characters' religious observation creates



a sense of belonging that is closely tied to the warmth of home and family" and "contrasts their heartfelt practices with the inflexible dictates

of Rabbi David and his followers."

We'll see it on Sunday, February 11, at 3:00 p.m. It's in Hebrew with English subtitles.

JCF Donations

UJA Campaign

Donor

- ☆ Anonymous
- ☆ Lawrence M. Cohen
- ☆ Lisa Goldberg
- ☆ Susan King
- ☆ Anita Mayer
- ☆ April Semel
- ☆ Marsha Stemerman

Friend

- ☆ Edwin & Rose Berman
- ☆ Miriam & Lawrence Greene
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- ☆ Hillary M. Krill
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- ☆ Ann & Jeffrey Sigel

Sponsor

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Benefactor

- ☆ Carol & Edwin Braunstein
- ☆ Clement Granoff

Guardian

- ☆ Ralph Obler
- ☆ Richard & Felicia Poes

Tchotchke Thoughts!!

It's that time again. Every year your donations have helped to make the "Tchotchkes & Treasures" booth a huge success. Guests come back year after year to the Jewish Food Festival for the delicious food and for the treasures they find there. What to donate???

- any small treasure that is new or like new
- any vintage item in good vintage condition
- Jewelry—it's always a best seller
- smaller framed art.

Thank you! Please bring your donations to the JCF office.

Community Kitchen

Generous volunteers from CKA and JCF prepare and serve lunch at the Elmira Community Kitchen on the first Thursday of every month. Our next dates are February 1 and March 1. If you can help, please contact Gil Sweet. Cooks, food-preparers, food-buyers, table-setters, servers... you name it, we need you! Cash donations may be made through the JCF.

SAVE THE DATE
JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL
SUNDAY, APRIL 15

JFF MEETING - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4,
12:15 PM

All information for the **March** issue of the *Kol Ami* must be submitted to one of the organizational offices by **February 12**. Please be sure that all dates are on the JCF calendar.

PRAYER FOR THE ILL OR ILL AT HEART

Adonai, You who blessed our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Rachel, and Leah, send Your blessing to those who are ill of body and ill of spirit. Grant them Refuah Sh'lema, a complete recovery, and may healing come speedily. Amen.

Congregation Kol Ami—כל עמי



from President Mike Lenzner

Happy New Year to All! Oh yeah, this is coming out in February even though I am writing it in January (that bit never gets old!) Speaking of humor not getting old: I have been asked to retire a few of the jokes that I used at this year's Hanukkah Dinner—which if you haven't heard was a tremendous success with more than 120 guests!

It was a great event and the Kol Ami Holiday Singers and Band were spectacular. But I will admit I was a little flat. It's a shame too because just the week before I was emcee at my company's holiday party and was a smash (seriously). I am not sure what happened. After taking a long period of self reflection, I could come up with only one conclusion. By the time I started my routine at the company party I had already consumed 2 or 3 beers. At the Hanukkah dinner I was stone sober. I assure all of you that at the next Congregation event that I emcee, I will ensure I am in a proper frame of mind. :)

My favorite line came from a congregant who said: "I am so sorry I missed the event. I heard from many people that it was great and that the

singing was beautiful". I said, "Did any of them mention the jokes?" She said, "No. No one mentioned them." :(

Just to let you know that I do have good material (I steal from the best), here are a couple of examples of the type I will try next time:

- If you tell a joke in the forest, but nobody laughs, was it a joke?
- I work at a box manufacturer. I used to work at a fire hydrant factory but there was nowhere to park.
- One night I was lying in bed looking at the stars and I wondered "Where the heck is my roof".

Thank you and they'll be more of these if you come to the next event. [Editor's Note: Please contact the Kol Ami office if you think we should look for someone else to emcee.]

An update: The January *Kol Ami* just came out and I have had several e-mails supporting our idea to try and marry the Cocktails and Knosh event with a "Queen of Hearts" fund raising component. Stay tuned for the March issue and I will have

some more information.

One thing of a serious nature that I would like to close with. In these articles we talk a lot about the things we are doing that are not necessarily religiously inspired. As a Board, we view our role as to being able to support the Congregation as best as we can and ensure our strategy and direction lead to long term success.

At the same time, I would never recommend anything that violated my spirituality and belief in what it means to be part of a religious organization—even if I thought it would help with our membership/financial objectives. In point of fact, it isn't the Board President's spirituality that matters—as everyone has their own definition of spirituality. The person whose spirituality definition matters for Kol Ami is the Rabbi's. As it is our Rabbi that concerns himself with the spirituality of the entire Congregation.

My commitment to you is that everything we do will be in lock step with the Rabbi's spiritual vision.

Thanks for your support.

Have any questions/thoughts? E-mail me at Mike@lenznerhr.com.

Jewish Community School

Friday, February 2

TOT SHABBAT AT 6:00 PM

Tot Shabbat is for students in grades Pre-K and lower, and is filled with songs and stories.

KOSHER FAMILY DINNER AT 6:30 PM

Tossed Salad, Macaroni & Cheese, fish sticks & fruit tray

SHABBAT SERVICE AT 7:00 PM WITH GRADES 5 AND 6 PARTICIPATING

Everyone is invited to join us.

Dinner reservations are required by January 30 to the JCF office at 607-734-8122 or email your reservations to office@jewishmira.org.

ADULTS \$5, \$3 FOR CHILDREN 6-12, AND FREE FOR CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER

from Rabbi Oren Steinitz



Almost seventeen years ago, while attending a week-long preparatory seminar in anticipation of becoming a summer camp counselor at URJ (then UAHC) Camp Harlam, I participated in my first Friday Night service since my Bar Mitzvah. The service, led by Greene Family Camp director Loui Dobin, was the first one I attended that featured guitar accompaniment. I was mesmerized. Within seconds of hearing the first chords of Debbie Friedman's famous "Ahavat Olam," the walls of cynicism towards any display of religiosity that I carefully built during my teenage years, came tumbling down. For the first time in my life, I understood the term "spirituality."

This January marked the sixth anniversary of the passing of Deborah (Debbie) Lynn Friedman, a woman who changed the face of Judaism, in America and beyond. While the children of our religious school find guitar-accompanied services to be "traditional," not knowing any other reality, when Friedman began writing her folk settings of the Union Prayer book in the ear-

ly 1970's, they were no short of revolutionary. Reform services at the time were often very formal, led by operatic cantors and accompanied by an organ and choir. When Jewish teens, who attended Jewish summer camps where Debbie Friedman's music became an instant hit, requested that their temples incorporate this new style of worship, they were often faced with scorn and ridicule. "This music may be fine for youth group conventions," the cantors would say, "but at Temple we have no use for 'Peter, Paul and Debbie.'"

Moreover, post-holocaust American liberal rabbis focused primarily on Tikkun Olam – social justice and political action – and eschewed any reference to a personal relationship with the Divine. Friedman's songs, on the other hand, were unapologetically full of intimate "God Talk." Making many rabbis uncomfortable, she demonstrated that yes, you can be both liberal and deeply spiritual. She showed that religiosity that is not limited to the ceremonial does not make someone a "bad liberal."

On the contrary, at a time when the both the rabbinate and the cantorate were almost exclusively male, Friedman quickly became a feminist icon.

Regardless of the Jewish establishment's objections, the people persisted. Within a decade, Friedman's music took mainstream Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist synagogues by storm, and became so commonplace that it would be difficult to imagine current Jewish worship without her "Mi Chamocha," "Oseh Shalom," and – of course – "Mi Shebeirach." Her influence was not limited to the liberal Jewish world, and some of her melodies – particularly her famous Havdallah blessings – can be heard even in Orthodox synagogues and Yeshivas. In these circles, however, many do not even realize that these melodies were written by a woman – let alone a lesbian – and are often left unattributed. In the words of Orthodox feminist Blu Greenberg, "she was a religious bard and angel for the entire [Jewish] community."

May her memory continue to be a blessing for all of us.

RSV... please

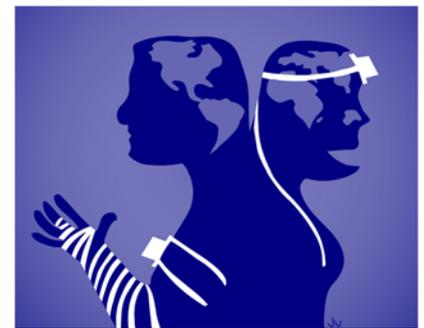
Dear Friends,

It is so nice that our dinners throughout the year have been well attended! The food committee enjoys cooking for you, but we need your help. As you know, what we prepare is kosher in accordance with the direction provided by Rabbi Steinitz. That means we must order kosher items at least three weeks in advance of our event. Since we can't get kosher food after the reservations come in, we desperately need you to make your reservations in a timely fashion!

When you don't make your reservations on time, we are forced to make portions smaller and turn people away, which isn't fair to any of us. Furthermore, another consequence of late reservations is increasing stress on our set up crew, our kitchen staff, our office staff, and us (your volunteer cooks).

We keep records of how many people have attended each event in the past few years, as well as how much food we purchased. This staggering increase in your attendance is exciting for our congregation, but we need to have a better idea of how many people expect to attend earlier in the planning process so we can order and prepare enough for everyone. Therefore, we must ask all of you to notice and respect the RSVP dates given in the service announcements, the weekly office e-mails, the Kol Ami, and mailed notices. We thank you for your help with this.

Your hard-working, volunteer cooks,
Charlotte, Cynthia, and Susie



Sunday, February 4, 10:00 AM –
Ever wondered what Jewish prayer had to do with Chinese medicine? Now you do, right? Join CKA and the JCS for World Wide Wrap! A worldwide program discussing the hows, the whys, and the spiritual contexts of wrapping t'fillin. Women, men, and children are all welcome.

Weekly Torah/Haftarah Portions & Candle Lighting

February 2–3 5:05 PM <i>Yitro</i> Torah Exodus 18:1–20:23 Pr. Isaiah 6:1–7:6, 9:5–6	February 9–10 5:14 PM <i>Mishpatim</i> Torah Exodus 21:1–24:18, 30:11–16 Pr. II Kings 12:1–17	February 16–17 5:23 PM <i>Terumah</i> Torah Exodus 25:1–27:19 Pr. I Kings 5:26–6:13	February 23–24 5:32 PM <i>Tetzaveh</i> Torah Exodus 27:20–30:10; Deuteronomy 25:17–19 Pr. I Samuel 15:2–34
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Shabbat Services

except as noted below

Shabbat Evening Service	7:30 PM	
Shabbat Morning Service	8:00 AM	
Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM	<i>with Torah reading</i>

Noteworthy Upcoming Religious Observances

Friday, February 2 Tot Shabbat 6:00 PM JCS Dinner 6:30 PM Family Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Saturday, February 3 Shabbat Morning Service 8:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 AM Friday, February 10 Shabbat Evening Service 7:30 PM Saturday, February 10 Torah Yoga 9:00 AM Shabbat Ruach 10:00 AM	Friday, February 16 Musical Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Saturday, February 17 Shabbat Morning Service 8:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 AM Wednesday, February 28 English Megillah Reading 7:00 PM Thursday, March 1 Purim Service and Hebrew Megillah Reading 9:00 AM
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CKA Book Club 2017–2018

All meetings are in the Jerome & Etkind Library on
the second Wednesday of each month at noon.

February 14, 2018
We Were the Lucky Ones
 Georgia Hunter

April 11, 2018
What to Do About the Solomons
 Bethany Ball

March 14, 2018
All the Rivers
 Dorit Rabinyan

May 9, 2018
The Weight of Ink
 Rachel Kadish

The books are available in the CKA library, the public library, or for
purchase. Come join us each month and don't forget to bring your lunch!

*Come check out Sisterhood's new Card & Judaica Shop
located adjacent to CKA's business office
Open during regular office hours
Absolutely wonderful greeting cards for all occasions only \$1 per card
Great gifts & CKA Cookbooks*

Talmud for Non- Talmudists

with

**Rabbi Oren
Steinitz**

returns

**Mondays
at 7:00 PM**

February 5-12-19-26

no Hebrew required

Yahrzeits

February 2018		Shevat				
1 Lenora H. Nast	16	11 Esther Sandler	26	22 Bernard Kahn	7	
1 Edith Treinin	16	11 Harry Sigel	26	22 Charles Rosenblatt	7	
1 Julius Fenster	16	11 Tessie Stemerman	26	23 Edward J. Hoffman	8	
1 J. Ralph Paltrowitz	16	12 Pauline Pollak	27	23 Rebecca Kantrowitz	8	
1 Edward Rubinstein	16	12 James P. Clifton	27	23 Ruth Stemerman	8	
1 Hyman Rubin	16	12 Rochelle Gordon	27	23 Hyman Josephson	8	
1 Evelyn Phillips	16	12 George B. Sherman	27	24 Mary Heyman	9	
2 Sadie S. Schindler	17	12 Harry Stemerman	27	24 Lena Parker	9	
2 Shirley Sherman Silver	17	12 William H. Rosenthal	27	24 Monroe Isaac Pinhas	9	
2 Art Wolfson	17	12 Martha Spiegel	27	25 Flora Seamon	10	
3 Betty C. Goldsmith	18	13 Pauline Cooper	28	25 Louis Levy	10	
3 Anna Johnson	18	13 Barbara Blazer	28	25 Philoman Harris	10	
3 Albert Kaplan	18	13 Sally Sorin	28	25 Adria Sandler	10	
3 Samuel Allenstein	18	14 Bertha Winkelstein	29	25 Jonathan Shear	10	
3 Barbara Bacon	18	14 Joseph Rockman	29	25 Emma Webber	10	
3 Saul Cadel	18	14 Barbara Gordon Bacon	29	25 Sanford L. Zalburg	10	
3 Allan B. Golde	18	14 David Finkelstein	29	25 Morris Bitensky	10	
3 Irving Sandler	18	15 Jay Featherman	30	25 Tallie K. Marcus	10	
3 Ella Spiegler	18	15 Annabel Cohen	30	25 Charles Robinson	10	
4 Gertrude Baim	19	15 Rhea Shadruff	30	25 Lena Semelsky	10	
4 Max Berman	19	15 Samuel Karl	30	25 Aaron Ugelow	10	
4 George Buchsbaum	19	15 Rita Leveen	30	26 Dora Baker	11	
4 Ann Hoffman	19	15 Dorthy Webber	30	26 Harriet Johnson	11	
4 Ernest Rosenwald	19	15 Moonie Lovitch	30	26 Montefiore Poll	11	
4 Irving Karl	19	15 Mark Pyursky	30	26 Harold Paltrowitz	11	
4 David Parker	19	15 Natalie Siskin Lippman	30	26 Rose Rubinstein	11	
4 Edith Tobias	19			26 Marc D. Rubino	11	
5 Morris Berger	20	February	Adar	27 Rose Obler	12	
5 Harry Hofrichter	20	16 George Plitt	1	27 Marian Siskin	12	
5 Anne Kohn	20	16 Bernard Louis Porter	1	27 Helen Siskin	12	
5 Samuel Zatcoff	20	16 Sanford L. Zalburg	1	28 Ada Pollak Locks	13	
5 Esther B. Farrell	20	16 Frances Brownstein	1	28 Marcus Kantz	13	
5 Esther Featherman	20	16 David Kaufman	1	28 Frank Levine	13	
5 George Wladis	20	17 Etta Berman	2	28 Jacqueline N. Naron	13	
6 Edward Rubinstein	21	17 Irving Glass	2	28 Betty Ann Schooler	13	
6 Philip Snowiss	21	17 Everett Gray	2	28 Lawrence Schooler	13	
6 Irving Kaplow	21	17 Benjamin Malinowitz	2	28 Manuel Steinberg	13	
6 Irving Steinberg	21	17 Shaul Yarkoni	2	28 Mildred Winston	13	
7 Armond Loeb	22	17 Louis Nagler	2	28 Robert M. Kahn	13	
8 Sarah Friendly	23	18 Rhea Shulman	3	28 Jerry Birman	13	
8 Samuel Rabinowitz	23	18 Lena Hyman	3			
8 Harry Seltzer	23	18 Mildred Nagler	3			
9 Marjorie Schooler	23	18 Abraham Stern	3			
9 Beatrice Perling	24	19 Judith Stern	4			
9 Rev. Elmer Appel	24	19 Simon Glaser	4			
9 Lionel Sacks	24	19 Jacob Adelson	4			
9 Samuel Karl	24	20 Martin F. Brownfield	5			
10 Eva Cohen	25	20 Bessie Rubin	5			
10 Robert B. Perling	25	20 Sonia Etkind	5			
10 Miriam Hoffman Jacobs	25	21 Armin Loeb	6			
10 Sarah Rosenzweig	25	21 Philip Platt	6			
10 Harry Winston	25	21 Seymour Rosencrans	6			
11 Max Bloch	26	22 Florence R. Berger	7			
11 Abe Rubin	26	22 Harriet M. Levy	7			
		22 Rose Hoffman	7			

Names of Confederate soldiers buried in Woodlawn National Cemetery are included above.

CKA Donations

Flowers for the Bimah

- ✧ February 9: In memory of Sally and Sam Staver by Robin Staver
- ✧ February 16: In celebration of the Sabbath by John & Joanne Travers

CKA Educational Fund

- ✧ In memory of parents Abraham & Edith Rubin by Estelle R. & Herbert Morris
- ✧ In memory of Chet Fox by Linda Fox
- ✧ In memory of Fay Levine by Linda Fox

General Fund

- ✧ In memory of parents Betty & Barney Stemerman by David & Susan Stemerman
- ✧ In memory of Mary Helen Hunter by Rosalyn & Richard DuBois
- ✧ In memory of Rabbi Abe Golos by Rosalyn & Richard DuBois

- ✧ In memory of cousin Murray Werner by Rosalyn & Richard DuBois
- ✧ In memory of Dr. Edward Grandt by Rosalyn & Richard DuBois.
- ✧ In honor of John & Cynthia Massey's new grandson, Jay Veer
- ✧ In honor of Rabbi Oren Steinitz and Maggid Paul Solyn by Rosalyn & Richard DuBois.
- ✧ In memory of David A. Snowiss by Myra & Jerry Stemerman

Kate Stein Music Fund

- ✧ In memory of Dr. Edward Grandt by Linda Markson Kruger

Marvin & Shirley Rubin Scholarship Fund

- ✧ In memory of Dr. Edward Grandt
- ✧ In memory of Marvin & Shirley Rubin by Greg Rubin

Memorial Archives Fund

- ✧ In memory of Meyer Sactor by Alan Sactor

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In memory of Margaret Schreiber by Leonard Schreiber
- ✧ In memory of Gertrude Rosenwald & Mildred Schreiber by Leonard Schreiber
- ✧ In memory of Lillian Walters by Hon. & Mrs. Sidney Graubard
- ✧ In memory of Syd Muskar by Michael & Michelle Halperin

Seltzer Family Endowment Fund

- ✧ In memory of Andrew Rosenblum by Alan & Susan Seltzer
- ✧ In memory of Steven Novack by Alan & Susan Seltzer
- ✧ In honor of Rabbi Oren Steinitz by Alan & Susan Seltzer

FLOWERS FOR THE BIMAH

It is our congregation's long-standing tradition to adorn the bimah with flowers for the

Sabbath:

in memory of

in honor of

in celebration of.

Please call Sue King,
evenings 607-734-8468,

for cost, information, and to
reserve a date.

Thank you.

Hospital Visits & Mi-shebeirach List

Due to HIPPA, no hospital can divulge names of patients unless a release is signed. Upon hospitalization, please complete necessary paperwork so that the CKA office and Rabbi Oren Steinitz will be notified, or call the CKA office.

The CKA office would appreciate being notified when one of your loved ones no longer needs our special prayers for them. This enables us to keep the Mi-shebeirach list up to date.

Twenty-Second Annual

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA

On Friday night, March 9, hundreds of synagogues across the continent will take part in an historic national Jewish event to celebrate what unifies all Jews – Shabbat! Everyone is invited... singles, couples, families – all ages.

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

will join with these synagogues to celebrate with our family and friends.

Kosher Dinner at 6:30 PM

Blintz Soufflé, Garden Salad, Dessert

Shabbat Service at 7:30 PM

\$10.00 per adult \$6.00 per child 5-12 under 5 no charge.

R S V P by February 23 with name and number attending to (607) 732-7410, email office@KolAmiElmira.org, or mail with check to 1008 W. Water Street Elmira, NY 14905.

Jewish Community School



from Director Jeff Rosenheck

Half of the 5778 school year is behind us. The semester ended January 28, and parents will see report cards mailed home sometime during the month. Report cards simply outline what the children have been studying in class, and how their overall participation and behavior is. The school does not give grades for work. Once parents receive these reports, questions, comments and concerns should be directed to myself or the classroom teacher. Parent conferences are available upon request.

The school got off to a late start in January with a snow day on January 7 due to the extreme cold. Although school could have been held, we felt that the community should try to remain indoors during the cold snap, and that holding classes in the garden level may prove to be too cold for comfort and not create the

best learning environment. At this point, the snow day will not be made up, however, if the school is forced to close another Sunday for weather, we will need to extend the school year in June.

January 28 featured our annual Tu Bishvat Seder, when the school honored our trees and the fruits and nuts they produce. Students had an opportunity to sample an array of fruits. At the conclusion of school, staff members had an opportunity to learn First Aid and CPR. Four years ago the JCS agreed to certify each staff member in these lifesaving skills. The tradition continued and all teaching staff remained certified and able to act in an emergency.

February will be another busy month for the school. On February 2, we will feature a Tot Shabbat at 6:00 p.m., followed by a family dinner at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are

required for the dinner and must be made to the JCF office by January 30. The dinner will cost \$5/adult, \$3/children ages 6-12, and free for students under age 6. The menu will consist of macaroni and cheese, tossed salad, fish sticks and a fruit tray.

There will be no school on Sunday, February 18, and on Thursday, February 22, for the mid-winter recess.

The community is invited to join the school on February 25 at 10:30 am for a Megillah reading, followed by the Purim Carnival, full of games and activities, and a delicious hot dog lunch. Reservations are not required.

I wish to continue to thank the community for the support of the school. I encourage any questions and concerns.

Class News

Kitot Bet & Gimel (2-3): In January we returned to focusing on the curriculum in our *Explorer's Bible* book, picking up where we left off in the fall. This book uses several "characters" who help us better understand the content.

The Wisdom Weavers, Professors Memstein, and Nunberg introduce the topic of each chapter. The superhero, Time Traveler, takes us back and forth from the present day to the past to let us meet the heroes of the Bible. The Word Wizard helps us with Hebrew words and phrases. And finally, we have the Midrash Maker who helps us to understand the Bible using stories with lessons.

We appreciate the help from these characters and are learning a lot!

Kathy Rosenheck

Kitot Vav & Zayin (6-7): It's hard to believe that we have come to the end of the first semester. January was a difficult month for progress with holidays and severe weather. We did, however, keep plugging away at our texts and ended the month with a Tu Bishvat seder.

I look forward to continuing our learning.

Eileen Pollack

Tichon (High School): We continue to learn history in hopes of seeing the choices we have in our own lives in a new way. What opportunities in our families and community do we have which will we turn away from for lack of time or desire. What opportunities will we explore and be open to. How do we let the wisdom of Torah and our sages guide us in looking at these opportunities with a Jewish lens.

Amanda Sharp, M.D.

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A project of the Jewish Center & Federation of the Twin Tiers and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation



Jewish Community Calendar

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	2 CKA 6:00 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm JCS Dinner 7:00 pm Family Services, Grades 5-6 participation	3 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
4 JCS 9 am -12:15 pm CKA 10:00 am World Wide Wrap JFF 12:15 pm Meeting CKA 6:00 pm Super Bowl Party	5 CKA 7:00 pm Talmud for Non-Talmudists with Rabbi Steinitz	6 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day	7	8 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	9 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	10 CKA 9:00 am Torah Yoga 10.00 am Shabbat Ruach/Evolution Shabbat
11 JCS 9 am -12:15 pm JCF 10:30 am Adult Ed. JCF 3:00 pm Film Series <i>The Women's Balcony</i>	12 CKA 7:00 pm Talmud for Non-Talmudists with Rabbi Steinitz	13 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day	14 CKA 12:00 pm Book Club CKA 6:30 pm Exec. Board 7:30 pm Board Meeting	15 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	16 CKA 7:30 pm Musical Shabbat Service	17 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
18 No JCS	19 CKA 7:00 pm Talmud for Non-Talmudists with Rabbi Steinitz Washington's Birthday	20 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day JCF 7:00 pm Exec. Board 7:30pm Board Meeting	21	22 No JCS Virtual Class	23 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	24 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
25 JCS 9 am -12:15 pm 10:30 am Megillah Reading 11:00 am Purim Carnival	26 CKA 7:00 pm Talmud for Non-Talmudists with Rabbi Steinitz	27 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day	28 CKA 7:00 pm English Megillah Reading & Party <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Purim</div>			

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