



# The Voice

**Office and Worship:** Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick (UUCF), 4880 Elmer Derr Rd., Frederick, MD 21703

## Three Years

**Rabbi Simon Stratford**



**T**he last three years have been filled with moments of joy and sorrow, and it has been a time of learning and growth, and most importantly it

has been a time of building community. Congregation Kol Ami of Frederick will always be where I began my rabbinate. It is where I began my journey as the leader of a Jewish community and where I started my efforts to help create and sustain sacred Jewish community amongst its members. It has been an invaluable experience for me, personally and professionally. I have learned a tremendous amount from my experience as your rabbi, and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to serve this community over the last three years.

One of the greatest gifts afforded to me as a rabbi is the privilege of accompanying members of the community through all of life's

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## Our Mission

To be an inclusive Reform Jewish congregation that is family-focused, community-oriented, emphasizes spiritual and cultural identity, and is dedicated to the Jewish education of all generations.

## Wait ... What?!?!

**Message from Dan Sieger, President**



**T**hat is the first thought that came into my mind when the world started to go down this crazy path. It was early February, and the news was starting

to cover the virus more and more each day. The virus was moving its way around the world, with more and more countries starting to report infections and deaths. I was like many people, thinking this was just something that would not affect us. I mean, how bad could it be? We have a great healthcare system and world class doctors. How could we be massively affected like these other countries? Then it hit us, and the world will never be the same.

The rumors started at work about working from home, limiting the time in the office, rotating the days you work in the office. Then, an email came from the CEO - take what you need home today and work from home until further notice. That was the first time that it really hit me how bad this pandemic (a word that was just now being thrown around) was and was going to be. The Governor of Maryland has made several executive orders, not influenced by party lines or a certain political viewpoint, but making the decisions for the health and welfare of the residents of Maryland.

Mind you, there will always be an idiot, who even after the executive orders were put in place and amended to be stricter, proceeded to have a bonfire with 60 of his closest friends. This truly showed

that people don't understand. It was first being reported that only senior citizens were at risk, but more and more reports of younger people, even infants, were not only catching the virus but dying from it. The pandemic could not have happened at a more inopportune time. Passover is the time of the year when Jews everywhere come together. We eat our matzoh as part of the Passover tradition. We retell the journey from slavery to freedom with family and friends at our Seders.

Traditions are important to the Jewish people; they have been part of Jewish life from the beginning. They are important to us, not only because we have been doing them our whole lives, or that our parents have been doing them for all of their lives, or our Bubbie and Zadie have been doing them for all of their lives, but they go back to the beginning of the Jewish people. Our ancestors came together as a people during all of the trials they have had to endure throughout history... not only to survive as a people... but to be sure that the Jewish religion continued. I know that this year was different than any other year that has come before it, but we made our way through it. I hope that each of you made this Passover something special in your own way, by adapting your family and Jewish traditions to fit our current world. To give up on traditions, or to push them off because it was difficult or different this year, would go against everything that I know about the Jewish religion and the Jewish people.

I know of several people of the Kol Ami

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## From the President

*Continued from page 1*

family have been touched by this terrible virus. Most have received good news, while others have not. I want to say that as President of Congregation Kol Ami of Frederick, as a Jewish person and just as another human being, my heart goes out to all that have been touched by this virus. We will get through it, and we will be stronger on the other side. Once the world gets back to a sense of normality, the congregants of Congregation Kol Ami will come together and be together and celebrate in person and within six feet.

Congregants will be updated by email each week in the Bulletin if events are online or in person. Please check the Bulletin each week for final location of all events. Thank you.

## Upcoming Congregational Meeting

More information to come. Please stay tuned.

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## From Rabbi Simon Stratford

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moments and milestones, both joyous and somber. I have thoroughly enjoyed standing next to nearly two dozen of our young adults, as they became B'nai Mitzvah. It was a delight to stand under the wedding canopy with those who have gotten married, and it was with a heavy heart that I companioned those of you who lost a loved one over the last three years. It has been an honor to help support you throughout all of these moments.

While becoming a rabbi requires five years of post-undergraduate studies, I can confidently say that the real learning happens once you have assumed the role of rabbi in your first congregation. Not a day has gone by in the last three years that I haven't learned something new. I have learned something from each of you in a number of ways. Most importantly I have learned more about myself. I have learned who I am as a leader, how to effectively work alongside others, and what I hope for and desire most from the next venture of my career.

It is my greatest hope of all that you have learned something from me. We have studied together, prayed together, planned events together, and socialized together. I've had the privilege of teaching many of you; from our 8th – 10th grade Confirmation students, to our lay leadership, Torah study participants, Introduction to Judaism students and

adult learners in various other ways. I hope that I have challenged you to think differently about the way things are or your current worldview. I hope that I have espoused our Jewish tradition and offered you moments of meaningful connection to our age-old religion.

I am proud of the growth that I have witnessed over the three years, both from individual members and families and collectively, as a community. Since 2017, we have welcomed a number of new families into our congregation. We have grown in size and in the depth of opportunities that we offer. Thank you to everyone for being a part of this community and thank you to those who have taken it upon yourselves to help create meaningful Jewish experiences for us all. All of our efforts have helped create a more robust Jewish community in Frederick.

The way I see it, my job as a rabbi is to help build and sustain sacred Jewish community. I have learned how difficult such a task can be and how important the value of sacred Jewish community is to help sustain us. In the year 2020, all of us are "Jews by choice." We have chosen to be a part of the community, and each person should feel empowered to help make this community as strong as possible. We are a system of individuals and families joined together by our common interest in and appreciation for Jewish life and tradition.

I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve as your rabbi for the last three years, but I realize the community at-large is greater than any single rabbi. My prayer for Kol Ami is that it continues to grow and remain a pillar of Reform Jewish life in Frederick.

I will always remember my time as your rabbi. I am forever grateful to those of you who have demonstrated kindness and compassion toward me as I learned how to be a rabbi and in particular, in the moments when I fell short of my ideals. It hasn't always been easy, and I am the first to admit that everything in life is an opportunity for growth and learning. The last three years have proven this to be true.

At the time of writing, given the current state of our world, I am not sure that I will have the opportunity to say goodbye in person. This is an end to my time at Kol Ami that I never expected. Nevertheless, I will continue to serve as your rabbi with my whole heart until June 30. Do not hesitate to reach out via phone or email if you need something or simply want to talk. I hope that you will tune in to services via Facebook Live or any of the other learning opportunities we have scheduled via Zoom. Thank you for the opportunity to be your rabbi.

With all good wishes for now and the future,  
Rabbi Simon Stratford

### Confirmation Service

Congregation Kol Ami congratulates Aaron Bilow, Mikayla Cary, Mitch Lasko, Hayden Lazorchak, and Megan Yancer on completing their studies for Confirmation.

Please attend the Shabbat service on Friday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m. to honor these students.

### Welcome New Member Melissa Sirokman

### Voice Layout Editor Needed

Interested in becoming the layout editor for this publication, *The Voice*? *The Voice* is published 6 times a year (every other month). Please email Betsy Maymon at [bmaydesign@comcast.net](mailto:bmaydesign@comcast.net) for more information.



## Adjusting our religious education during the pandemic

**Joanna Sieger, Director of Education**

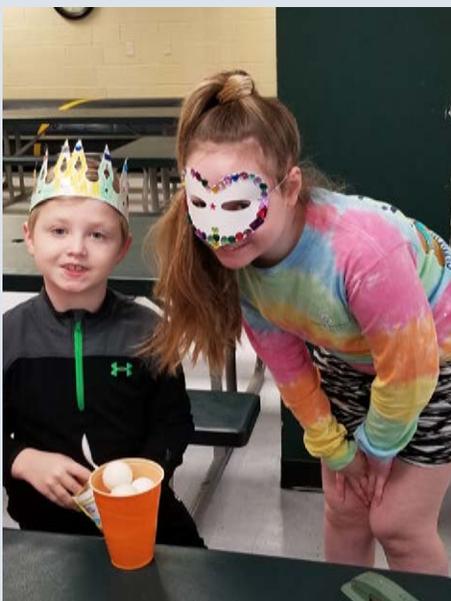
**S**ocial distancing, distance learning, quarantine... all terms that at this point we wish we didn't know, much less must live by. At the time of this writing, religious school sessions as we knew them, do not exist. School is closed, and we cannot be together. We had to get creative. As you already know, distance learning and teaching is difficult – in the best of circumstances. For our younger students, logging onto Facebook Live or Zoom on Sunday mornings and participating in the assembly helps with continuity – and it's really nice to see a familiar face that you don't live with! Additionally, our teachers set up class times for classes to meet separately online. This was meant to engage

students, give them a point of contact, and continuity with their Jewish community. We hope that families are also using the online resources on the Congregation Kol Ami website to continue their Hebrew learning.

Before we learned those terms, we did have a wonderful day celebrating Purim in March. Students rotated through various activities and even made "hamentashen pizzas" for snack.

In preparation for the fall semester, you can download a religious school registration form at [kolamifrederick.org/education/religious-school-registration/](http://kolamifrederick.org/education/religious-school-registration/). We look forward to "seeing" everyone then!

### *Purim Celebration in early March*



# Upcoming Events

## Bar Mitzvah



### Liam Berkowitz June 6, 2020 (rescheduled)

Liam is the son of Beth and Jared Berkowitz and brother to Maya. He is in 7th grade at Urbana Middle School. Liam enjoys playing golf, basketball, and skiing. He loves reading, math, and watching movies in his free time. He's learned a lot this year from Rabbi Simon and his Sunday School teacher, Miss Sam!

## Join us for Services

May 1 and 15 and June 5, 6, 19 and 20

## Join us for Torah Study

Fascinating topics, interesting discussions.  
Mondays at 12:30 p.m.  
May 4, 11, 18, 25  
June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

## Last Chance to NOT Attend Not-A-Party

A pandemic is the time for social distancing and to not attend the Not-A-Party. There is still time to send in your donation. Remember all donations of \$72 or more will automatically be entered in a drawing for gift cards at the Annual Meeting in June. We will have 5 winners, receiving gift cards for Madrones, Modern Asia, and Wegmans.

Donate online at [kolamifrederick.org](http://kolamifrederick.org) or mail a check.  
Please note **Not-A-Party** in the memo or note section.

## Women's Coffee

Wednesdays, May 6 and June 3

Women of Kol Ami meet on the first Wednesday of every month, unless otherwise noted. Come meet your friends and let us know what is happening in your life. Go to this Zoom link for our May coffee.

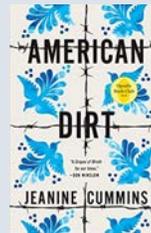
<https://zoom.us/j/92495529673?pwd=eTA0RWNKcVN3eHdFZDdBCtDl0YXJEZz09&status=success>

## The Sisterhood Book Club

Wednesday, May 13 at 12:30 p.m.

Location:

<https://zoom.us/j/92169059279?pwd=aiszZnVUejVtMDdxT0tNTktUZzRBdz09&status=success>



### *American Dirt*

by Jeanine Cummins

Go the following link to RSVP and read a synopsis of the book:

[signupgenius.com/go/4090a45a9a92d6-kolami2](https://signupgenius.com/go/4090a45a9a92d6-kolami2)

## Stay tuned for future dates of Brotherhood Dinners

## Kol Ami Virtual Assembly



On Friday February 21, Congregation Kol Ami of Frederick held Scout Shabbat honoring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who are members of the synagogue. Each Scout received a special Scout Shabbat patch. Pictured above: Rabbi Simon Stratford, Scouts Caelyn Lasko, JD Polak, Eliza Fogelson, Eliana Lasko, Maggie Polak, and David Silberman, former Assistant Scoutmaster.

## Update on Keys Fundraiser

Valarie Lazerowich

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic the Frederick Keys season has been postponed. This is the major fund raiser for us, so we hope that once the season opens, we can resume our work selling food at the stadium. Please watch for more information once we receive it from the Keys.



## Keeping busy during the quarantine – challenging Kol Ami members with daily trivia

David Silberman

These questions may have been in your inbox recently.

1. This author won the 1961 Pulitzer Prize for her novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*.
2. Taking place during the Civil War, *The Red Badge of Courage* tells the story of a Union Army soldier who flees from the field of battle. Who is the author?
3. Considered by many to be one of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century. It is the story of 17-year-old Holden Caulfield's week in New York during Christmas break and his trials and tribulations after that. Who is the author, and bonus, what is the name of the novel?

After a few weeks of the pandemic, I started a daily trivia email to approximately twenty Congregation Kol Ami members. Each email has 5 trivia questions, some with topics such as cooking, geography, history, movies, etc., and some just random questions. I send the questions out in the morning along with the answers to yesterday's question.

My e-mail list has now grown to almost 40 participants, including 10 who are not Congregation Kol Ami members. I have gotten very positive responses from many, who now look forward to my daily trivia e-mail. It is not a contest, just fun-no score keeping or prizes. If you are interested in playing, email me at [dssilberman@aol.com](mailto:dssilberman@aol.com).

(Answers: 1. Harper Lee, 2. Stephen Crane, and 3. JD Salinger and *Catcher in the Rye*)

# Social Action Committee Plans Activities for the Quarantine and Later

Cathy Reifman

The Kol Ami "Socially Distanced" Social Action Committee is abiding by the quarantine in our respective homes. We had several interesting projects we were working on earlier this year that have to wait until it is safe to go out to implement them. Hopefully soon, we can be socially proximate.

One of our ideas was to participate in Bring-a-Broom in Frederick. This is a yearly event in which people gather downtown and help with a spring cleaning of the city. The streets are swept, weeds are picked, flowers are planted, and mulch is spread. Unfortunately, this event was canceled due to the pandemic. But, for those of you who enjoy such activities, being home-bound will allow you to do a spring clean-up of your own property.

We were also planning on participating in a Blood Drive along with Beth Sholom Congregation. Although this had to be postponed, the Red Cross has a severe need for blood currently with so many people extremely ill due to coronavirus. Individuals who would like to donate on their own can set up an appointment online by going to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or calling 800-733-2767.

Heartly House is an organization in Frederick that provides support for victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and child abuse. We had plans to collect and donate items that they need for their shelter. Currently, they are not accepting donations of food or supplies. However, the prevalence of domestic violence increases during stressful times such as now. Congregants who

desire to make a monetary donation can do so on their website: <https://www.heartlyhouse.org/donate/in-kind-donations/>

Another event we were trying to "cook up" was preparing and serving a dinner at the Frederick Soup Kitchen. Hopefully, we can do this in the future. In the meantime, the Frederick Community Action Agency is still accepting donations for its food bank- information is on their website: [cityoffrederickmd.gov/183/Frederick-Community-Action-Agency](http://cityoffrederickmd.gov/183/Frederick-Community-Action-Agency)

Additionally, some members of Kol Ami have made and donated over 200 masks to Frederick Health Hospital (formerly Frederick Memorial Hospital) during the pandemic. They will continue to make masks for the staff until the shortage of PPE (personal protective equipment) is resolved. This is social action at its best! Anyone who would like to help with this effort should contact Val Lazerowich at [valarie\\_lazerowich@yahoo.com](mailto:valarie_lazerowich@yahoo.com)

As always, we encourage support of the Student Homelessness Initiative (SHIP) of Frederick. This fantastic organization supports homeless students by providing needed clothing, shoes, supplies and emergency shelter. Those wishing to get involved should "like" their Facebook page or go to their website [shipfrederick.com/about-us/volunteer/](http://shipfrederick.com/about-us/volunteer/) to become a SHIPmate.

The Social Action Committee wishes our Kol Ami friends and congregants a safe and healthy quarantine. Please, don't be socially anxious or socially awkward, just stay socially distant while remaining socially conscious!

## Rabbi Search Committee Update

By Joanna Sieger

The search for our next rabbi is in the final stages. One of the last steps is for the Congregation to be called together for a Special Meeting to vote on our next rabbi. Details will be sent to all congregants. Check your email and the weekly bulletin for any last-minute adjustments due to the changing rules on social distancing.

The candidate, Rabbi Marc A. Gruber, has served Central Synagogue of Nassau County and its successor congregation Central Synagogue-Beth Emeth since July 2002. Previously, he served congregations in Dayton OH, Rochester and Westbury, NY, Kenosha, WI and St. Louis, MO. He is married to Renee and they have three adult sons and one grandson.

A long-time social activist, recently Rabbi Gruber helped found the Anti-Racism Project ([antiracismproject.org](http://antiracismproject.org)). He is active in SONIC (South Nassau Interfaith Clergy) and currently serves on the Human Rights Commission of the Village of Rockville

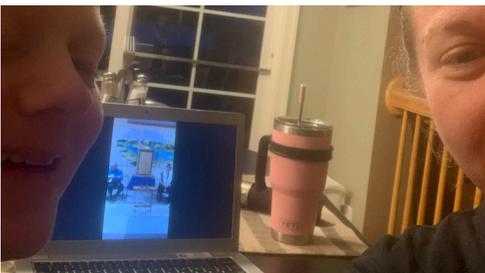
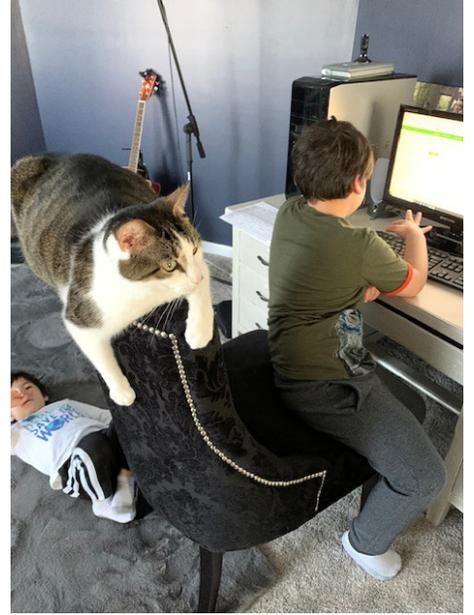
Centre. He has written and spoken on the issues of economic justice, social equality, non-violence, the Middle East, and the concerns of persons with disabilities.

During the Covid-19 pandemic Rabbi Gruber initiated, organized and coordinates a rabbinic group to back up hospital chaplains in Nassau and Suffolk Counties on Long Island. The rabbis provide pastoral support remotely for families and health care workers based on referrals from hospital chaplains.

Rabbi Gruber graduated from Brandeis University, Magna Cum Laude, Highest Honors in Sociology. Following graduation, he continued his studies at Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem and New York. Later, he earned a master's degree in philosophy from Washington University. Rabbi Gruber concentrated his studies in Jewish ethics. In 2006, Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion awarded him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

# Congregants Staying Active while Social Distancing!

Homeschooling, puzzling, celebrating Shabbat, drawing, Girls Night In and having safe outside time!



## Learning to Love Leviticus

Franna Ruddell

The smell of chicken soup is gently wafting through my home. It is a small batch for a two-person Seder meal. We will all have tales to tell of this Seder that was different from any other Seder, the eight days of Pandemic Pesach unlike any Prior Pesachs. But I am getting a little help from my “friends” in dealing with uncertain times, and maybe they can help you too!

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian who was hanged for his part in the plot against Hitler, once said that every morning he read the newspaper and something from Scripture, then sat and waited. Representative James Clyburn grew up having to recite news from the paper and a new Bible verse to his minister father each day. My father-in-law recommended “a little schtickel of Torah” every day. I am taking their friendly advice, and it helps!

I joined the lively and dedicated Kol Ami Torah Study Group during Deuteronomy -- a rough retelling by Moses (on his deathbed) of Exodus forward. This was my first commitment at engaging with the weekly *parsha*. Turns out it wasn't so hard agonizing through the dysfunctional family lives of our ancestors in Genesis, or even suffering through an Exodus of bitter enslavement, plagues, liberation and quite a bit of ancestral kvetching while wandering. Most weeks I was able to read a variety of sources/commentaries for each *parsha*. I also shared with our group my favorite, *The Bible with Sources Revealed* by R. E. Friedman -- a translation with each section printed in a distinctive color/font depending on who Biblical scholars mostly agree wrote those particular words. I harbored some reluctance with Leviticus at losing gripping narratives to long lists of sacrifices, holy rules, and holy regulations. Leviticus is known by we Jews as the “The Priestly Torah” or, more commonly, as “Vayikra” (and He/God called) after the first word of the first chapter. But, despite barely mentioning Levites, it was named “the Levitical Book” by Greek translators. It is also printed entirely in blue Calibri in the Friedman translation, indicating priestly authorship.

Much to my surprise, I am getting rather fond of the priests! I choose to believe they wrote their code in Leviticus for themselves, attributing it all to God through Moses for legitimacy, but with holy intention and inspiration, believing sincerely in their role as protectors of the people of Israel. I consider them not only spiritual ancestors, but valuable teachers for this time in general, and especially in the age of COVID-19. That is why I want to share what I discovered in investigating the *parsha* “Tzav” (“command” with same root as our familiar word “mitzvah”) just two weeks into Leviticus. The first few chapters outline exact instructions for Aaron and his sons, who will later be ordained as priests in a dramatic ceremony, on how to conduct all God's required sacrifices from the most holy burnt offering to the least. The elaborate sacrificial system is very confusing even if one studies every sacrifice with name, portion burnt, portion eaten and by whom, which animals/grain, occasion or reason and Levitical references.

At some point I realized it's OK to maintain a little mystery. Not only will I be able to tackle Tzav, indeed all of Leviticus, again next year,

but my present task is discovering morsels of meaning for myself in this year of uncertainty and anxiety, surrounded by great suffering. For one thing, there is a great deal of washing of sacrifices and ritual objects, and the priests excelled at washing their own hands. (I recently learned that a primary characteristic of the Pharisees, who lived at the time of the destruction of the Second Temple and did not really like the weakening priestly sect very much, adopted for themselves the priests' ritual of frequent washing of hands. Within a few centuries the Pharisees had evolved into rabbis and democratized hand washing to all of us. We do it ritually every Shabbat meal and twice during a Seder. And in the Spring of 2020 the whole world is washing hands in the holy endeavor of saving each other's lives.)

A detail in Deuteronomy 6:3-4 and 6, hidden amongst myriad step-by-step Seder-esque instructions and rituals struck me. God speaks to the priests-in-waiting through Moses: “The priest shall dress in linen raiment, with linen breeches next to his body; and he shall take up the ashes to which the fire has reduced the burnt offering on the altar and place them beside the altar. He shall then take off his vestments and put on other vestments and carry the ashes outside the camp to a clean place.” I envisioned first responders of many faiths, doctors, nurses, and all who work with virus-infected patients dressing carefully and in the proper order with PPE (personal protective equipment) and, later, even more carefully, taking off their own contaminated holy vestments for disposal. After showering and donning street clothes to go home, many shed those clothes in a garage or basement, taking another shower and putting on yet another change of home clothes before greeting their families.

Just as our ancient priestly ancestors felt themselves in charge of protecting all of Israel, surely right now, these exhausted holy men and women of many faiths are at work, needing holy garments to protect themselves, their patients and all of us. Just as the priests of biblical times were a group set apart to perform important spiritual tasks that the larger population cannot do, these dedicated heroes are doing a job for us that we do not have the skills or training to do. And, as in verses 5- 6 God instructs the priest on duty to tend a “perpetual fire” on the altar all night long, “not to go out”, our medical workers must work extra-long shifts as corona virus infected patients also require perpetual tending with many specialized protocols. The rest of us can help them in their sacrifice by staying put, urgently hounding our government to procure their PPE, and praying mightily: May they all know our gratitude and be granted the courage and stamina they need to do this work. And may their vestments, and the changing of their vestments, keep them safe.

So I have become quite attached to this particular group of (probably idealized) ancestors who wrote their work code down in Leviticus for themselves and posterity. They are my teacher/friends, ancestral role models of conscientious dedicated leaders facilitating our spiritual health and bonding as the developing people of Israel, and they have managed to transmit wisdom to me about this time and place. I recommend opening up your Torah when you have a minute. Something in there might help!

*Torah... "It is a tree of life to all who grasp it, and whoever holds on to it is happy; its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace. (Proverbs 3:17-18)*

## The Parshyot for May and June are as follows:

### **May 2 – Acharei Mot – Kedoshim, Leviticus 16:1-20:27**

Yom Kippur laws for fasting and atonement. Moses condemns the sexual practices of some neighboring peoples. Certain forms of sexual relations are prohibited. God provides a Holiness Code by issuing a series of commandments on how to be a holy people.

### **May 9 – Emor, Leviticus 21:1-24:23**

The set times of the Jewish calendar are named and described. Instructions for lighting the sanctuary menorah and displaying sanctuary bread.

### **May 16 – B'har – B'chukotai, Leviticus 25:1-27:34**

God instructs Moses regarding treatment for the seventh years and the jubilee year (49th year). God requires Israelites not to make idols, to keep the Sabbath and to venerate God's sanctuary. God promises blessings to the Israelites if they follow the law. Gifts made to the Sanctuary are discussed.

### **May 23 – B'midbar, Numbers 1:1-4:20**

God commands a census of all Israelite males. Duties of Levites are detailed. Tribes are assigned specific locations in the camp around the Tabernacle. Moses' and Aaron's family are assigned their responsibilities. A census of firstborn males is taken.

### **May 30 – Naso I, Numbers 4:21-5:31**

Certain Levites have a census and their duties in the Tabernacle are detailed.

### **June 6 – Naso II, Numbers 6:1-7:89**

Obligations of a Nazarite vow are explained. God tells Moses how to teach Aaron and his sons the Priestly Blessing.

### **June 13 – B'haalot'cha, Numbers 8:1-12:16**

God describes the menorah for the Tent of Meeting. Once the cloud lifts from the Tabernacle, the people leave Sinai. When the Israelites complain about the lack of meat, God provides meat and then makes them regret their kvetching.

### **June 20 – Sh'lach L'cha, Numbers 13:1-15:41**

Moses sends 12 spies to scout the Land of Israel. Despite the positive report of Joshua and Caleb, the people are too frightened to enter. God becomes angry at their lack of faith and says they will wander in the Wilderness instead.

### **June 27 – Korach, Numbers 16:1-18:32**

Korach and his followers revolt against the leadership of Moses/Aaron and are destroyed by God. Kohanim and Levites are assigned to manage all donations to the Sanctuary.

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## Update from the Communications and Public Relations Committee

### **Diane Rifkin and Steve Lazerowich**

We are happy to announce that Steve Lazerowich has graciously volunteered to co-chair the Communications and Public Relations Committee with Diane Rifkin. For any general questions about congregational communications, please contact BOTH [communications@kolamifrederick.org](mailto:communications@kolamifrederick.org) AND [stevenlazerowich@gmail.com](mailto:stevenlazerowich@gmail.com).

A new section of the Kol Ami website called Recent Events has been added. By clicking on each event, a gallery of photos is displayed. Steve has volunteered to be the recipient for any submitted Kol Ami event photos so that he can size and edit the photographs to send to our webmaster. Once we are able to meet again for events, designated volunteer Kol Ami photographers can send photos in jpeg format with a short description of the event and date of the event to Steve at [stevenlazerowich@gmail.com](mailto:stevenlazerowich@gmail.com).

For promoting events in the free advertising sections of the Frederick New-Post, please contact Franna Rudell at [frannar@verizon.net](mailto:frannar@verizon.net). She will take care of your submissions.

During this time of social distancing, relax and enjoy some of Eric Dubbin's music by clicking on the different songs in the Sounds of Kol Ami section of the website ([kolamifrederick.org/worship/sounds-of-kol-ami](http://kolamifrederick.org/worship/sounds-of-kol-ami)). The Advertising and Communications Fund is used to help fund updates to our website, the annual fee for the music license so we can all enjoy Eric's music on the website, and paid congregational ads. Please consider donating to the Advertising and Communications Fund under the 'Support Us' tab at [kolamifrederick.org](http://kolamifrederick.org).

Finally, the Communications and Public Relations Committee would like to thank Betsy Maymon for her 12+ years of dedicated volunteer work as Kol Ami's *Voice* newsletter layout editor. Please contact Betsy at [bmaydesign@comcast.net](mailto:bmaydesign@comcast.net) if you are interested in taking on this position. She would be happy to get you up and running for the July/August issue. The *Voice* is printed and mailed, as well as posted on our website every other month (6 issues per year).

## Wish your friends a happy birthday and give to Kol Ami!

Everyone likes to be remembered, and it's time to celebrate our June and July birthday congregants.

All you have to do is cut out the list, place a checkmark next to the name(s) of those you want to send a greeting, (at \$1.00 per greeting), and sign the list the way you want your name written on the card. Please make your check out to Congregation Kol Ami of Frederick, and mail it to Judi Feldman, 5005 Small Gains Way, Frederick, MD 21703.

Judi will send out a festive card, to each recipient, with the names of those sending birthday wishes. Please respond ASAP and before **May 25** for both months.

**Very Important:** Please check the list and make sure we did not omit your name or the name(s) of your family members. If you have any questions, please call Judi at (216) 402-5543.

Thank you very much!

Birthday greetings from: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please indicate how the cards should be signed, i.e. Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Jane Smith, or The Smith Family)

### June Birthdays

- Noah Bilow
- Sarah Bilow
- Colt Black
- Harriet Buxbaum
- Milo Cary
- Cody Duckhorn
- Matthew Goldstein
- Dianne Heins
- Adam Hoffrichter
- Hayden Lazorchak
- Faith Miller
- Earl Morrissey

- Charlie Nail
- Jessica Price
- Cathy Reifman
- Andie Sante
- Ryan Schwab
- Ariana Seidman
- Lara Seidman
- Dan Sieger
- Sarah Sieger
- Ethan Yospin

### July Birthdays

- Bernard Bordenick

- Sasha Boxer
- Nicholas Bruno
- Julie Constantino
- William Fawley
- Julienne Feiertag
- Merritt Gordon
- Liam Griesacker
- David Guralnik
- Angela Kearney
- Frannie Kessler
- James Lavo
- Liliane Loube
- Michael Loube

- Timothy Manetz
- Patrick McMullen
- Aaron Nail
- Noah Nail
- Zachary Nelson
- Elizabeth Powell
- Jordan Schneider
- Reece Shavell
- Samantha Sheam
- Keith Stickley
- David Twenhafel
- Melissa Vivari
- Megan Whitaker

## Member Finances

As a volunteer-run organization, Kol Ami relies heavily on its members to do everything from setting up onegs on Shabbat to coordinating social programming. While everything we ask of members is important, honoring financial commitments to the congregation is consistently among the most important thing we ask of our congregants. Without your financial support, there could be no Kol Ami.

Remember that financial assistance agreements are valid for one fiscal year (July through June). While we are aware that some members may need help from year to year, we require that you resubmit a new application each year, as we do not

make assumptions regarding who requires assistance. No one will receive financial assistance without having submitted an application. Applications, which are found on our website, must be submitted annually by August 15.

Some of our members find it easy to budget regular monthly dues/tuition payments. All you need to do is notify your bank online, and they will mail a check to Kol Ami. No charge to you, no postage, no fuss.

Please direct any questions or concerns about your specific account and charges to Ralene Damanti, Financial Secretary, at [financialsecretary@kolamifrederick.org](mailto:financialsecretary@kolamifrederick.org).



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## Donations

### Advertising and Communications Fund

Allan and Judi Feldman, in honor of Jill Cody's complete recovery  
Allan and Judi Feldman, in memory of Paul Simmons, Val and Steve Lazerowich family member

### General Fund

Howard and Harriet Buxbaum  
Michael and Anne Cohen  
Frank and Ralene Damanti  
Steven and Valarie Lazerowich  
Cliff and Faith Miller  
Newt and Carolyn Plaisance  
Daniel and Joanna Sieger  
Michael and Anne Cohen, wishing Jill Cody a speedy recovery and good health  
Michael and Liliane Loube, in memory of Helen Loube, mother of Michael Loube, grandmother of Sabrina Nail and great-grandmother of Joshua, Aaron, and Noah Nail  
Michael and Liliane Loube, in memory of Victoria Nahoum, mother of Liliane Loube, grandmother of Sabrina Nail, and great-grandmother of Joshua, Aaron, and Noah Nail  
David and Brenda Silberman, in honor of Betty Loeb's special birthday

### General Fund - Birthday Greetings

Michael and Anne Cohen  
Frank and Ralene Damanti  
Ruth de La Viez  
Edward and Jodi Duckhorn  
Tom Evans and Charolette Mayberry  
Berta Farbman  
Allan and Judi Feldman  
Mark and Barri Hoffrichter  
Richard and Frannie Kessler  
Jeffrey and Mary Cat Lasko  
Steven and Valarie Lazerowich  
Bernard and Betty Loeb  
Cliff and Faith Miller  
Joseph and Anne Miller  
Jaques and Cathy Reifman  
Michael and Diane Rifkin  
Daniel and Joanna Sieger  
David and Brenda Silberman  
Keith and Lisa Stickley  
Jeremy Yospin and Elizabeth Powell

### Not-A-Party Fundraiser

Howard and Harriet Buxbaum  
Nick and Brett Dabruzzo  
Edward and Jodi Duckhorn  
Berta Farbman  
Kenneth Feldman  
Allan and Judi Feldman  
Newton and Carolyn Plaisance  
Jonathan Rottenberg and Patricia Kennedy  
Jeremy Yospin and Elizabeth Powell

### Yahrzeit Donations

Dennis and Rachel Whitaker, in memory of Beatrice Brodsky, mother of Rachel Whitaker  
Dennis and Rachel Whitaker, in memory of Raymond Brodsky, brother of Rachel Whitaker  
Michael and Diane Rifkin, in memory of Carleen Rifkin, mother of Michael Rifkin  
Newton and Carolyn Plaisance, in memory of Corinne Forman, mother of Carolyn Plaisance  
Bernard and Betty Loeb, in memory of Edith Segal, mother of Betty Loeb  
Michael and Anne Cohen, in memory of Evelyn Kahn, mother of Anne Cohen  
Ruth Stuart, in memory of Florence Sikowitz, mother-in-law of Ruth Stuart  
Mark Farbman, in memory of Harry Farbman, father of Mark Farbman  
Newton and Carolyn Plaisance, in memory of Jess Forman, father of Carolyn Plaisance  
Daniel and Joanna Sieger, in memory of Jim Sharpe, uncle of Rob Lazorchak  
Bernard and Betty Loeb, in memory of Joseph Loeb, father of Bernie Loeb  
Berta Farbman, in memory of Martin Tulkoff, brother-in-law of Bertie Farbman  
Berta Farbman, in memory of Morris Grossman, father of Bertie Farbman  
Steven and Valarie Lazerowich, in memory of Samuel Lazerowich, father of Steve Lazerowich

## 2019-2020 Board of Trustees

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Jordan Schneider

## Sponsoring an Oneg

Are you celebrating a special anniversary, birthday, graduation, or promotion? Or would you like to honor someone? Sponsoring an oneg is a great way to do that! For \$80 we will provide a cake with a message of your choice, with other snacks after services. You can also do the preparations yourself, if you prefer.

We will publicize it in the weekly bulletin, so your friends and family will be sure to come to services to be part of the celebration. Your name and the occasion will be announced during services.

To sponsor an oneg, please contact Joanna Sieger, at education@kolamifrederick.org. Joanna make sure the date is available, order the food, and get the information in the weekly bulletin.



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Frederick, MD 21703

## Return Service Requested

## May/June 2020 Upcoming Events

### May 2020

Fri, May 1	6:30 pm	Family Shabbat Service
Fri, May 1	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Sun, May 3	9:30 am	Religious School Assembly
Sun, May 3	2:00 pm	Adult Education/Intro to Judaism
Mon, May 4	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Tues, May 5	12:30 pm	Fundraising Meeting
Wed, May 6	10:00 am	Sisterhood Coffee
Thurs, May 7	12:30 pm	Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Stratford
Sat, May 9	7:30 pm	Havdalah via Facebook Live
Mon, May 11	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Wed, May 13	12:30 pm	Sisterhood Book Club
Fri, May 15	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service honoring the 2020 Confirmation Class
Sat, May 16	10:00 am	No service - Bat Mitzvah rescheduled
Sun, May 17	2:00 pm	Introduction to Judaism Class
Mon, May 18	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Mon, May 18	7:00 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
Mon, May 25	12:30 pm	Memorial Day - No Torah Study
Thurs, May 28	6:30 pm	Girls' Night In
Sun, May 31	2:00 pm	Adult Education/Intro to Judaism

### June 2020

Mon, June 1	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Mon, June 1	7:00 pm	Annual Meeting
Tues, June 2	12:30 pm	Fundraising Meeting
Wed, June 3	10:00 am	Sisterhood Coffee
Fri, June 5	6:30 pm	Family Shabbat Service
Fri, June 5	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Sat, June 6	10:00 am	Shabbat morning Service and Bar Mitzvah of Liam Berkowitz
Mon, June 8	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Mon, June 15	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Fri, June 19	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Sat, June 20	10:00 am	No service - Bat Mitzvah rescheduled
Mon, June 22	12:30 pm	Torah Study
Thurs, June 25	6:30 pm	Girls' Night In
Mon, June 29	12:30 pm	Torah Study

**Look out for more event information from  
Rabbi Stratford via the weekly bulletin.**