

*"My House Shall Be A House  
of Prayer For All People."*

## Congregation Kol Ami E Koleinu

### May 1, 2013

21 Iyar 5773

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#### Worship Services

Please join us for Family Shabbat Services  
Friday, May 3, 2013 at 6:45 pm

Services will be led by Rabbi Denise Eger and Student Rabbi G

Services are free and everyone is welcome

#### Religious School Family Day

Sunday, May 5, 2013

Breakfast 9:00 am

**Families - please stay and learn with your children**

#### Calendar

##### **Wednesday, May 1, 2013**

7:00 pm Intro to Judaism Class

##### **Friday, May 3, 2013**

6:45 pm Shabbat Services with Rabbi Eger and Student Rabbi Weisman

##### **Sunday, May 5, 2013**

9:00 am Religious School Family Day Breakfast

9:30 am Religious School Family Day

##### **Wednesday, May 1, 2013**

7:00 pm Intro to Judaism Class

##### **Friday, May 10, 2013**

8:00 pm Shabbat Services with Student Rabbi Greg Weisman and Songleader Jeremy Gimbe

##### **Saturday, May 11, 2013**

**Refuah Schlemah**

Please keep the following people in your prayers:  
Beth Bachrach, Lowell Selvin, Milton Singer, Bob Weiner, Cathee Weiss

12:15 pm HIV Shabbat Lunch

**Sunday, May 12, 2013**  
8:30 am SOVA

**CONDOLENCES**

*Our heartfelt condolences to Lisa Sylvester, Kol Ami Music Director, on the death of her mother, Elsie Sylvester.*

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED FOR  
GAME NIGHT  
AT TRIANGLE  
SQUARE**



Congregation Kol Ami, MCC, and The Gay Men's Chorus are co-sponsoring a new volunteer opportunity with our LGBT Senior friends at GLEH's Triangle Square! Join us to play games, socialize, and have fun with different generations in our community.

**KOL AMI SHAVUOT CELEBRATION AND YIZKOR :**

Each year, Shavuot falls at the conclusion of the counting of the Omer, commemorating the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai

Please join Rabbi Eger, Cantor Saltzman, and Student Rabbi Gr...

Tuesday, May 14, 2013  
Study Session 7:00 pm  
Service 9:00 pm

You are also invited to Temple Israel of Hollywood for a Yizkor  
May 15, 2013 at 8:00 am  
7300 Hollywood Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90046



**Equality Forum:  
Q&A With Openly Gay Rabbi Denise Eger**

Recently Rabbi Eger was interviewed by the Philadelphia Weekly. Please read her enlightening interview:

[http://www.philadelphiaweekly.com/news-and-opinion/QA-With-Openly-Gay-Rabbi-Denise-Eger-205414991.html?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3APhiladelphiaWeekly.com](http://www.philadelphiaweekly.com/news-and-opinion/QA-With-Openly-Gay-Rabbi-Denise-Eger-205414991.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3APhiladelphiaWeekly.com)

**FORMAL NOTIFICATION**

This is formal notification advising Kol Ami members that the 2013 Elections and the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on:

Friday June 7, 2013 at 6:30 pm  
followed by Shabbat Services at 7:30 pm\*

\*Please note the change in time for Shabbat Services

We will meet the last Thursday of each month 7:00 - 9:00pm. Please arrive at Triangle Square by 6:45 pm

Students in need of community service hours are encouraged to join in! Kol Ami will sign off on this activity as hours served.

Come volunteer, brighten someone's day and have a great time doing so!

**Your next opportunity to participate is THURSDAY, May 30, 2013 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

For more information, please contact Kol Ami member Howard Goldin at [hjg1217@aol.com](mailto:hjg1217@aol.com) or Bill Gallimore, GMCLA Gives Back at: [billgallimore@aol.com](mailto:billgallimore@aol.com).

We hope to see you there!

**Help us celebrate 10 Years of Kol Ami SOVA Support**

**Food Drive SOVA**

**Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism** 

## Reform CA Lobby Day – May 23, 2013

Join together with Reform Jews from across California for a Lobby Day in Sacramento to our legislators and the Governor's office about our commitment as Jews to pass immigration laws in California; as well as the importance of their support in passing a critical piece of immigration legislation.

The day will include lobbying training, meetings with legislators and the Governor, discussion with Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg. The full schedule is still being developed, but we expect to begin at 8 AM with coffee, bagels and training at Congregation B'nai Israel, lobbying and lunch at the Capitol, and end with a photo session on the State Capitol grounds.

Congregation B'nai Israel  
3600 Riverside Boulevard  
Sacramento, CA 95818

All who identify as part of the Reform Movement -- clergy, community members encouraged to be part of the first Reform CA Lobby Day.

Please fill out the secure registration form by May 13 .

You are welcome to invite others to join you, but each individual must complete a registration form.

We look forward to a day of tikkun olam as we join as a Reform Jewish community in support of justice and fairness for so many immigrants who call California home.

Have questions? Please contact Jennifer Kaufman, Chair of the Commission on Reform Judaism in California.

## RABBI EGER ON THE TOWN

*During the month of April Rabbi Eger:*

*Served on the Reform Leadership Council*

*Participated in the Central Conference of American Rabbis meetings*

*Chaired the Membership Ad Hoc Committee of the CCAR*

*Served as Chair of the Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors*

*Attended the PARR Day of Learning at Hebrew Union College PARR Board Mtg*

*Taught at the American Jewish Committee's Six Sunday's program*

*"Honesty and Integrity: When is it Kosher to Lie?"*

## HELP US REFILL OUR BARRELS



## SOVA is out of CANNED PASTA

We are always in need of personal toiletries, especially razors, toothbrushes, and toothpaste, but right now our priority is canned pasta. Please pick up some toiletries and canned pasta on your next shopping trip to donate to SOVA.

**Kol Ami will be meeting at SOVA the 2nd Sunday of each month.**

**Please join us.**

**NEXT DATE:**  
**Sunday, May 12, 2013**  
**8:30 AM - NOON**

**LOCATION:**  
1140 N. La Brea  
West Hollywood, 90038  
(1 block south of the synagogue)

## We give thanks to the following people who made donations the month of April:

### Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

-Ina Jaffe & Lynne Tjomsland

### Elaine Newman Scholarship Fund:

-Chuck Pace in memory of his wife Elaine Ann Newman

### General Fund:

-Roberta Bennett

-Ina Frank

-Rose Greene in honor of Karen Siteman's 60th birthday

-Stephen Hochstein in memory of Jerry Belinkoff

-Randall Moses

-Michael, Shelley, Sami, and Jenna Siteman in honor of Karen Siteman's 60th birthday

-Eva Weinberger in honor of Kevin Gibson-Weinberger's Bar Mitzvah and Rabbi Eger's work

### Oneg:

-Michael Silverman in honor of his birthday

### Tzedakah

-Michael and Sally Beck

-Arthur Bernstein

-Paul Fredrix

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

-John Altschul in memory of Estelle Eger

-Michael & Salley Beck in memory of Dorothy Beck and Amelia Pasillas

-Rabbi Karen Bender

-Joanna Blotner

-Nancy A. Cohen

-Avi de Turenne in memory of his stepmother, Judie de Turenne

-Avi de Turenne in memory of his sister, Joanne Knudsen

-Cary Fetman

-Rabbi Morley Feinstein

-Bernie Goldberg in memory of his mother Esther Goldberg and his uncle Morris Peltzman

-Rabbi Steve Jacobs

-Steve Karbelnig in honor of Rabbi Eger's LGBT equality work

-Jack Levin in memory of Dennis Bogorad

-Glenn Melnick in memory of his father Henry Melnick

-Suzanna Peters in honor of Rabbi Eger's birthday

-Tobi Rosen in honor of her son Andrew Rosen

-Ted Seifman in memory of his mother, Zelda Seifman

-Marc Siegel in memory of his mother Dorothy Siegel

### Yahrzeit:

-Esther Baum in memory of her great niece Laura Levin Schneider

-Mark Freeman & Glenn Rosenblum in memory of Mark's uncle Norman Everett Kern

-Wendy Goldman in memory of her mother Jeannie Goldman

-Steve Lachs & Michael Ruvo in memory of Steve's father Irving Lachs

-Loren Ostrow & Brian Newkirk in memory of Loren's father, Leo Swartz

Join the Social Action Committee at SOVA, the Jewish Family Services food pantry to help pack groceries for clients. We are there every 2nd and 4th Sunday from 8:30 to noon, followed by lunch. Please notify Social Action co-chair Sam Fibish at:

[samguy@att.net](mailto:samguy@att.net)

if you are interested in joining us or for other volunteer opportunities at SOVA.

When you visit the synagogue, please remember to bring donations for the SOVA barrels.

Thank you and remember, SOVA is here to serve you if you are in need. They have two other locations in Van Nuys and in the Pico-Robertson district.

For more information, please visit their website at:

[jfsla.org/sova](http://jfsla.org/sova)

***Its Time to  
Bring in Your  
Tzedakah  
Cans!***



Please bring in

-Loren Ostrow & Brian Newkirk in memory of Loren's sister Margorie Ostrow Dresser  
-Bennett Yellin in memory of his father Alec Yellin

Behar-Behukotai

Leviticus 25:1 - 27:34

Rabbi Denise L. Eger

This week we come to the conclusion of the book of Leviticus with portion, Behar-Behukotai.

This double portion comes as we are counting the seven weeks from Shavuot. The omer period is 7 days times 7 weeks plus one day. Fifty days are between Passover and Shavuot; between liberation different kind of liberation grounded in the Torah. This is similar discussion in this week's Torah portion of the Sabbatical Year a Cycle. The sabbatical cycle is once in every seven years and the larger cycle of the Jubilee which is 7 times the Shmitta, or years. Each of these cycles of 7 times 7 plus one is connected

Our omer period was initially about a daily offering of an omer to the Temple. An omer is a dry measure of grain. It marked the celebrated Shavuot which not only is tied to the Revelation at Sinai the first early harvest when we used to bring our bikkurim, the first offering in the ancient Temple specifically the offering of loaves. So the daily grain offering turns into the offering of loaves.

The Sabbatical and Jubilee cycles were also tied to the land. In the year-the year following seven years, we are not allowed to plant but must only exist on what the land produces naturally. And in the seventh year the land goes back to its original tribal owners and slaves indentured servants are liberated and free.

These ancient rules were applicable only when the Israelites were in the Promised Land not outside it.

And of course there is the regular weekly cycle of six days of work and a seventh day of rest. These cycles of seven are important in Judaism.

Why is this so? We can look to our Haftarah reading from Jeremiah

Jeremiah says this week:

Cursed is the one who trusts in humanity,  
Who makes mere flesh his strength,  
And turns his thoughts away from Adonai.  
This person shall be like a bush in the desert,  
Which does not sense the coming of good:  
It is set in the scorched places of the wilderness,  
In a barren land without inhabitant.  
Blessed is the one who trusts in Adonai,

your cans for donation, and don't forget to pick up a new one while you're here.

***If you are unable to make it to Services and would still like to join us for worship, NOW YOU CAN!***


***Kol Ami is proud to offer you the opportunity to view Friday evening Services live on the web.***

***Please connect here for Friday night Services, and enjoy the spiritual experience of Kol Ami at home.***

### **Rabbi Eger Online!**

Did you know Rabbi Eger not only keeps up her Torah blog on the Kol Ami website, but also has her own personal blog?

 There are new posts every day, so be sure to visit often. Click this link to start reading [Click Here](#)

 You can also follow Rabbi Eger

Whose trust is Adonai alone.  
That one shall be like a tree planted by waters,  
Sending forth its roots by a stream:  
It does not sense the coming of heat,  
Its leaves are ever fresh;  
It has no care in a year of drought,  
It does not cease to yield fruit. " (Jeremiah17:5-8)

The Haftarah reading urges us to place our trust in God rather than beings. Earthly riches and titles are fleeting at best subject winds of change. One day the market is up and the next day the down. But when one creates a place to trust in God, trust in the strength gathered from that holy connection our souls are watered strong. We are nurtured and renewed when we place our lives in context and the Torah is trying to teach us that this kind of so will help us withstand the vicissitudes of life.

Each of the cycles of seven teaches us the same message. The land our workers don't belong to us and even every day doesn't belong as we please. One day a week and one year of every seventh and Year, all belong to God. The Promised Land belongs to God and as well is just lent to us. These ancient practices are a way of nurtured by placing our own ego and power in a spiritual context

So as we count the omer each day toward Shavuot (Join us Tuesday pm) take some time for reflection about how you can place your life in a spiritual context and strengthen your inner reserve to withstand rapid change that we call daily life!



Congregation Kol Ami invites you to a  
**SILVER CELEBRATION**  
Rabbi Denise Eger's  
25 Years as a Rabbi

**SAVE THE DATE**  
6.15.13

*Invitation to Follow*

 For more information, or to get involved, contact Steve Tyler, Event Producer (323) 467-1600 • [LuckyAct@aol.com](mailto:LuckyAct@aol.com)

**OH, MOTHER!**

on Twitter!  
@deniseeger or  
follow Kol Ami  
@KolAmiLA

 And friend her on  
Facebook!  
[Click Here](#)

 Also don't  
forget to  
check  
into Kol Ami on  
Foursquare the next  
time you're at  
Temple! Check out  
our loyalty special!  
[Click Here](#)

## Jewish women are setting the record straight about Jewish mothers. nothing cliché about it!



*Don't miss our final salon of the season!*

**JEWISH WOMEN'S THEATRE**  
presents  
**OH, MOTHER!**

**MAY 19 - 26 ■ 7:30 PM**

*Jewish women are setting the record straight about Jewish mothers. And there is nothing cliché about it!*

**\$25/\$30/\$35**

*Doors open at 7 pm for a dessert reception. Q & A post-show with talent.*

**TICKETS:**  
**JEWISHWOMENSTHEATRE.ORG**

  
A PROJECT OF  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

*"An inspiring, hilarious and heart-warming evening of theater!"*  
- Jewish News, about a recent JWT salon show

For information and tickets click here:  
<http://www.jewishwomenstheatre.org/>

## HARVEY MILK DAY INTERVIEW CLOTHING DRIVE MAY 22 - JUNE 30

Once again we are teaming with Metropolitan Community Church Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles on a clothing drive for the Youth Center on Highland (formerly Jeff Griffith, located on Santa Monica). We are kicking off the drive in late May for Harvey Milk Day (May 22) and continuing through the month of June. Donate your slightly worn clothing that can be used by their clients for job interviews. Watch for information in future Social Action Blasts and eKoleinus.

You can learn more about the Youth Center itself by clicking:  
[http://laglc.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=YW\\_YS\\_Homeless\\_ServicesPr](http://laglc.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=YW_YS_Homeless_ServicesPr)

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