



# THE VOICE OF KOL EMET

March 2011



## *Why choose me?*

By Rabbi Howard Cove  
[rabbicove@kolemet.org](mailto:rabbicove@kolemet.org)

For Shabbat Shemot, the Torah reading and the Haftarah have the same theme. In both, G-d chooses someone to be his spokesperson, and in both the one who is chosen tries in every way to get out of the assignment. Moses says: "why choose me? I am not fit." And Jeremiah says: "send someone else for I am too young." And G-d bats both of these objections away, and insists that Moses and Jeremiah go, whether they think they are fit or not.

I must say that, if you are objective, both Moses and Jeremiah make a good case for not being chosen. Moses is, by education, an Egyptian. Why would the Israelites accept him as their leader? And Moses is a stutterer. Why would Pharaoh listen to someone who cannot speak clearly? And Jeremiah was too young. Why would the people or their kings pay attention to such a young man?

And yet G-d insists. G-d will not take no for an answer. And against their will, Moses and Jeremiah are drafted for G-d's work, and they end up doing very, very, well. I don't know why G-d chose these 2 men, for I am not privy to the mind of G-d, but if you think about it, you realize that G-d does this many times. He chooses people to be his servants who have serious character deficiencies or physical flaws.

Noah? Noah was a drunk. And besides that, to the best of my knowledge, he had no previous training either in building arks or in sailing them. If you were G-d, would you have chosen Noah? I don't think so.

Abraham? Abraham was much too old when G-d called him. If Jeremiah was too young, at least youth is a fault that can be corrected with time. Why would G-d choose someone who was as old as Abraham to be his servant? Would you?

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Isaac? Isaac was a good enough man, but he was too gentle for the job. I would think you would want someone who can fight when he has to. Isaac has his wells spoiled 3 times in a row, and each time he digs a new well, rather than have a showdown with the people who ruined his wells. And at the end, the man is legally blind. Is that the kind of leader you would have chosen? I don't think so.

Joseph? Joseph was an abused child. He was narcissistic, and though he was precocious, his brothers couldn't stand him. Can you imagine the trauma that he must have experienced, being thrown into a pit and left to die by his own brothers, and then being thrown into prison, through no fault of his own? Can you imagine the psychic damage that such experiences must have done to him? And yet, this is whom G-d chose to be second in command to Pharaoh. I guess G-d knew what he was doing, but it does seem strange to me.

Rahav? No way. The woman was a prostitute! And yet the Midrash makes her the wife of Joshua. And G-d saves her and her entire family when the Israelites invade Jericho. Go figure.

Gideon? Gideon was afraid and it took an immense amount of bucking up by G-d to get him to do his job. Would it not have been easier to choose someone with a reputation for bravery instead?

Samson? He had enormous physical strength. That is true. But he lacked self-control. He was a headstrong person who wanted what he wanted when he wanted it, and heaven help anyone who stood in his way. The man was a loner. Even his own people did not trust him. Would you have chosen him?

And the list goes on. I can't think of a single prophet, I can't think of a single king, who was really completely virtuous. This king was too ambitious, and this one was too arrogant, and this one was too greedy. This prophet was too pessimistic, and this one was too angry, and this one was too impatient. And yet G-d chose each one of them and gave them significant roles to play. And so the question we have to ask G-d is the question that Moses asks in this Sedra: "Why do you choose me G-d? Why can't you choose someone else? Anyone else? For I am not fit."

The answer, I think, is that there is a big shortage of perfect people. If G-d was only willing to work with perfect people, we would still be in Egypt or maybe we would have drowned in the flood. If G-d wants to work with us, he has to work with the material that we are, and therefore G-d chooses all kinds of people, despite their shortcomings, to be his agent. And the lesson that I would have you learn from this, is that when there is an important task to be done, and there is no one else to do it, we should not look for cop-outs, or claim that we are not worthy of the assignment. Pirkei Avot puts it very simply: *bimakom she-eyn ish, hishtadel lihiyot ish*, which I think means "when there is no one else who is qualified to do this task, that qualifies you."

And this is the meaning of one of my favorite Chasidic stories. When Zusya of Hannipol was on his deathbed, he said to his disciples: I am not worried that G-d will say to me: Why were you not as great a leader as Moses was? If he does say that, I will say to him: Because you didn't give me the talents that you gave Moses. And if G-d says to me: Why were you not as great a thinker as Maimonides was? I will say to him: Because you didn't give me the mind that you gave Maimonides. And I am not worried that G-d will say to me: Zusya, why were you not as courageous as Rabbi Akiva was? Because if G-d says that to me, I will say to him:

Because you did not give me the capacity for courage that you gave Akiva.

And then Zusya tells his students that there is one thing that he is afraid of and it gives him no rest. Zusya says: What will I do and what will I say if G-d asks me the question: Zusya, why were you not Zusya? Which means: Why were you not the best Zusya that you could be? Why did you not live up to the potential that you had within you? And to that, if G-d asks me that question, I don't know what I can answer.

I tell you that story because all of us are challenged by G-d and by our conscience to do difficult but important things. And all of us are tempted to excuse ourselves from doing them by claiming that we are not good enough, not smart enough, or not strong enough. The lesson of this Torah portion is that all we have to do is our very best, and we are not permitted to do any less than that. Moses tried to beg off from his assignment, but once he took it, he did very well. And so did Jeremiah and all of the other prophets. And so did Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Rabbi Akiva, as well as Zusya of Hannipol. And so should we.

Let us learn from all of these people that we don't need to be perfect in order to do G-d's work. If perfection were the prerequisite then G-d would have few workers on this earth. Instead, let us understand that our task is to do our very best, no less than that, for if we do, then G-d will help us as he helped all of the leaders who went before us.

Amen.



*From Carrie*

By Carrie Shames Walinsky  
Kol Emet Educational Director  
[cwalinsky@kolemet.org](mailto:cwalinsky@kolemet.org)

Some of the best practices in religious schools, and public schools for that matter, originate and have roots in early childhood education. Take, for example, Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences. In 1983, Howard Gardner shared his theory on how people learn. Some people learn best and have strengths that are in spatial relationships. They are good with puzzles and might grow up to be architects or artists. Others learn best kinesthetic or bodily. They have a good sense of timing, balance, and reflex, so they might grow up to be dancers, actors, surgeons, builders, or police officers. All together, there are 9 areas: spatial, linguistic, logical-mathematical, bodily kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalistic, and existential.

Why do I share this with you? Now imagine an early childhood classroom. On any given day, all of these areas of multiple intelligence are addressed. Music, art, literature, sensory table, patterns, sharing, outdoor time, gym, and movement . . . need I go on? The tragedy occurs as children get older and their style of learning and strengths are not met in a school arena. Frontal learning and sitting while a teacher speaks is the norm.

Thanks to Howard Gardner, experiential learning becomes the new, insightful method to successfully teach children. Experiential learning creates learning environments similar to an early childhood classroom. Experiential learning uses songs, movement, art, food, and hands-on experiences to teach children. This year our staff studied experiential learning and applied it to our class environments.

Here is a sample of what I see when I visit classrooms:

- The Kadima class is creating a Shabbat box to use at home.
- The Mechina class writes Hebrew letters on the white board.
- The Aleph class is constantly playing Hebrew games like “zuzzuz”. The Wednesday Aleph class created magnificent biography posters of modern Jewish heroes (check out the bulletin board on the way to the bathrooms).
- The Bet classes were busy this month creating giant posters for our Purim program on March 20<sup>th</sup> (BE SURE TO BE THERE!).
- The Gimel classes are learning modern Hebrew vocabulary by eating food, playing with toys, and games, while they build their Hebrew vocabulary.
- The Daled classes act out the weekly Torah portion before discussing its relevance.
- The Hey classes have guest speakers like Habitat for Humanity and Rabbi Eric Bernstein, who is a Mohel.

What our staff packs into 2 short hours is the equivalent, at times, to a 6-hour lesson. I salute their high standards, creativity, and dedication to your children. They have all created experiential learning environments with diversity to accommodate all of the multiple intelligences.

## Announcements

### **Toby Frey Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Attention high school seniors! If you are majoring in education, please consider applying for the Toby Frey Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Religious School PTO started this fund last year in memory of Toby Frey, a passionate teacher and supporter of education. If you are interested, please submit an essay as to why you are pursuing a degree in education. Feel free to contact either Religious School PTO Co-President for more information.

### **Purim: Be There or Be Square**

Kol Emet’s adult Purim Shpiels are legendary. Do not miss this year’s Megillah reading and Shpiel on ***Sunday evening March 20 at 6pm***. For the uninitiated the adult Purim Shpiel is the congregation’s turn to poke fun at itself, lovingly roast our leadership, play silly games and of course....eat!! Lisa and Eric Gressen have once again succumbed to the begging of a few of us (no names will be mentioned) and graciously agreed to help us bring you the funniest evening you will have at Kol Emet!

If you don’t know Lisa and Eric, they are very talented and VERY funny! Eric does the best Presidential impersonations (not Obama, think Moses) and Lisa may be quiet, but she can write great material! You also haven’t lived until you have seen David and Melody as Rabbis Cove and Schein. You have to come to see which one is which.

This year’s show is a once in a lifetime performance as we sadly say goodbye to Rabbi Schein as we can only do at a Purim Shpiel. This is Rabbi Schein’s favorite holiday so please come and make it our best Purim EVER!

The very hard working Shpiel committee needs help with material and “actors” for our games and skits. Please contact Melody Katz (mhekatz@verizon.net) if you want to join our cast of crazy characters. RSVP by **March 10** to [office@kolemet.org](mailto:office@kolemet.org) to attend. See page 6 for the flyer and registration form. Eat dinner before you come and bring an appetizer, snack, or dessert to share. BYOB and COSTUMES ENCOURAGED! AWARD FOR BEST COSTUME!

## Adult Education

- **March 25-** Spirituality and Prayer: Can You Have One Without the Other; dinner and discussion prior to regular Friday night services with Rabbi Cove. Fee of \$12 for vegetarian pasta dinner beginning at 6:30 pm.
- **“By Fire, By Water”:** **One Book, One Jewish Community-** Join Art Finkle and members of Kol Emet for a discussion of the book “By Fire By Water”. Books are \$10 and can be picked up at the office. We will explore Jewish history during the time of the Spanish Inquisition. There will be a showing of the movie “The Longing” which is about the hidden Jews of South America. We already have five people participating in the class. Personally, I am about half way through the book and am really enjoying learning about this period of history through an engaging story!! Dates are: Sunday mornings 10am **March 13, 20, 27** and for those who want a more in depth look at history the class will continue **April 3 10 and 17.**
- **April 29-** Final Friday evening dinner and discussion of the year. Topic TBA
- **May/June-** Just in time for Israeli Independence Day Rabbi Cove is working on an adult education program about Israel. More details to come.

Other educational opportunities include a **Wednesday morning class with Rabbi Cove** including Torah discussion, beginner Hebrew reading, and other topical issues. **Friday morning classes with Rabbi Cove** exploring a variety of Jewish text, novel and Torah study. **Rabbi Schein** facilitates two **Thursday evening classes**. At **6:30pm** is an **intermediate Hebrew class** and at **7:30 pm** is a **class exploring Judaism**.

To RSVP or for information regarding any of these programs contact Melody Katz @ [mhekatz@verizon.net](mailto:mhekatz@verizon.net)

## Purim: Rocky Horror Style

Kol Emet’s adult Purim Shpiels are legendary. Do not miss this year’s Megillah reading and Shpiel on **Sunday evening March 20 at 5pm**. For the uninitiated the adult Purim Shpiel is the congregation’s turn to poke fun at itself, lovingly roast our leadership, play silly games and of course....eat!! Lisa and Eric Gressen have once again succumbed to the begging of a few of us (no names will be mentioned) and graciously agreed to help us bring you the funniest evening you will have at Kol Emet!! If you don’t know Lisa and Eric, they are very talented and VERY funny!! Eric does the best Presidential impersonations (not Obama, think Moses) and Lisa may be quiet, but she can write great material!! You also haven’t lived until you have seen David and Melody as Rabbis Cove and Schein. You have to come to see which one is which. This year’s show is a once in a lifetime performance as we sadly say goodbye to Rabbi Schein as we can only do at a Purim Shpiel. This is Rabbi Schein’s favorite holiday so please come and make it our best Purim EVER!! BYOB and COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!!! AWARD FOR BEST COSTUME!!!!

## Membership Committee Update

Do you know people looking for a warm, vibrant Jewish Community? Maybe you have met young families looking for a pre-school. Do you know older couples who would like to become affiliated again in a religious community? Or maybe you know interfaith couples looking for a place that warmly welcomes non-Jewish family members.

The Membership Committee is putting together a membership drive for this coming spring and summer. We are focusing on three areas: Marketing, Over 55 Communities, and Interfaith Couples/Families. Our members are our best eyes and ears in the community. We welcome your involvement in any or all of the above areas.

Here are some of our goals:

- **Marketing:** Development of new membership packet, update KE pamphlet, update website, re-evaluate membership categories, create membership incentives
- **Over 55 Communities:** Schedule Rabbi Cove for services and/or discussion groups, advertise our fantastic programs, and other incentives
- **Interfaith:** Advertise in newspapers with ads and articles, develop in-house social group, and reach out to pre-school families

Of course, word of mouth is always our best advertisement! If you have unaffiliated friends, please invite them to a family Shabbat, or to Casino Night (**April 16th**), or to an Adult Ed class. Once in the door, they’ll be hooked!

If you would like to become involved in this committee or have some ideas to share, please contact us! We would love to hear from you.

Jacki Folkman ([jackifolkman@aol.com](mailto:jackifolkman@aol.com))

Lisa Shiller ([elizshiller@yahoo.com](mailto:elizshiller@yahoo.com))

Chuck Weiner ([charles@charlesweinerlaw.com](mailto:charles@charlesweinerlaw.com))

## Religious School PTO

Before you know it, Purim will be here. Our Purim Shabbat and carnival are scheduled for **March 18th**. Once again, we will have your favorite games such as cakewalk, beanbag toss and the JARS! Please start collecting jars of all sizes, (clean them!) and then fill them with fun items such as stickers, hair bands, crayons, toys, stuffed animals, etc. You can even decorate the outside of the jar. Young teens interested in helping that evening by running a game should contact Meryl Shoneman at [shonemanfamily@comcast.net](mailto:shonemanfamily@comcast.net)

Our school wide Passover Seder is also right around the corner. Continue checking your e-mail for items to bring in. If you can assist that afternoon, we'd appreciate it. More information will be available soon.

Aleph Consecration planning is off to a great start. Thank you to those women who have already stepped up. Our first meeting was terrific.

We are still looking for two people who are interested in becoming PTO co-presidents. We will have you "shadow" us next year, so you won't be left high and dry!

Lastly, if you know a high school senior (congregant) intending to pursue a degree in education, tell them to apply for the Toby Frey Scholarship.

Meryl Shoneman and Randi Davis

## Social Action

Spring is finally here & the Social Action Committee has been busy planning some wonderful events.

Our annual Passover Food Drive will start on March 30 and end on April 12. Passover food will be donated to Tifereth Israel's Mitzvah Food Pantry in Bensalem. In these difficult times, many Jewish families need our help, so they too can celebrate Passover. All Passover food is welcome and needed.

It is very IMPORTANT that the food is **Kosher for Passover**. You can check symbols on the flyers that will be coming out. Shop Rite and/or Acme gift cards will also be accepted (no more than \$10 per card – Congregants can do multiples of \$10 cards if they want to donate more). Gift Cards can be brought or mailed to the office in an envelope marked Social Action Committee. Collection containers will be in the lobby of the school and upstairs near the Sanctuary. Flyers will be going out to religious school students and preschool students as to what days they can bring in their donation. Any questions e-mail Sherry Friedman at [MFried5188@aol.com](mailto:MFried5188@aol.com).

We also will be packaging dairy meals for Aid for Friends on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10am in the Social Room. Please bring dairy/vegetarian entree such as pasta or fish, frozen or fresh cooked vegetables and a dessert item such as cookies. Please bring enough to feed at least 6 people.

By generously donating an hour of your time, you'll be performing a Mitzvah and experiencing the fun, fast, and, furious meal-packing assembly line! Volunteer(s) will be needed to deliver the Meals to Aid For Friends anytime from Wed. April 6th to Fri. April 9th. RSVP to Marc Berger [mberger12@verizon.net](mailto:mberger12@verizon.net) (215) 321-7875

The KE Garden needs your help! We would like to till & weed the garden on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> @10am. The scheduled planting date is Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers to help out also with weekly harvesting, weeding, & delivering the vegetables throughout the summer as well. We also need someone to build raised beds/boxes. If you or **Anyone** you know would like to help with the garden please contact Wendy Jacobson-Simon at [wellwatched@verizon.net](mailto:wellwatched@verizon.net) **ALL of the vegetables go to the needy in our community**. This is also a wonderful Bar/Bat Mitzvah project, Scouting Project & School community service credit.

## Upcoming Dates

### Spiritual Calendar

**Thursdays** 7:15a: Morning Minyan

**March 18, Friday**

5:30p: Purim Family Shabbat

8:00p: Shabbat Service Led by R. Cove

**March 19, Saturday**

9:30a: Shabbat Service w/Bar Mitzvah Max Berger, led by R. Cove

4:00p: Havdalah Service w/Bar Mitzvah Evan O'Rourke, led by R. Cove

Cove

**March 25, Friday**

8:00p: Hadassah Shabbat Service Led by R. Cove

**March 26, Saturday**

9:30a: Shabbat Service w/Bat Mitzvah Neena Rosenwald, led by R. Cove

Cove

4:00p: Havdalah Service w/Bar Mitzvah Zach Lichter, led by R. Cove

### Kol Emet Events

**One Book, One Jewish Community: By Fire, By Water**  
written by Mitchell James Kaplan

Join fellow congregants in an exploration of Jewish history in 15th century Spain

**Part A- Mar 13, 20 27 (Sun) 10:00a**

**Part B- April 3, 10, 17 (Sun) 10:00a**

Join fellow congregants in an exploration of Jewish history in 15th century Spain.

Part A will consist of a short overview of history, a review of the book and a showing of the movie "The Longing".

Part B will delve further into the history of the time period. Come have some nosh and learning. You can pick up your book at the office (\$10) and join in our discussion with Art Finkle. Within the dramatic story lies a subtle, insightful examination of the crisis of faith at the heart of the Spanish Inquisition. Irresolvable conflict rages within the conversos in By Fire, By Water, torn between the religion they left behind and the conversion meant to ensure their safety. In this story of love, God, faith, and torture, fifteenth-century Spain comes to dazzling, engrossing life.

Cost: Part A- \$35; Part B- \$35; Part A and B- \$60

RSVP **ASAP** to: Kol Emet Office ([office@kolemet.org](mailto:office@kolemet.org) or 215-493-8522)

### Purim Family Shabbat

**Mar 18 (Fri) 5:30p - 8:00p**

#### **KE Social Hall, Sanctuary, and Carnival downstairs**

Come join us in your costumes as we celebrate Purim together. We will enjoy a pasta and pizza dinner followed by Shabbat services with Megillah reading and then top the evening off with a carnival including jars and cakewalk. Please help us by sending in baked goods or making a donation to purchase cakes and don't forget to send in those creative jars that the kids just love...Ideas include hair bands, army men, art supplies, candy, and anything else that you think will be great!

Cost: \$20/family for members, \$30/family for non-members, (\$5.00 extended family members)

RSVP by **ASAP** to: Kol Emet Office ([office@kolemet.org](mailto:office@kolemet.org) or 215-493-8522)

Contact: Dina ([Dina@Bortnichak.com](mailto:Dina@Bortnichak.com) or 215-295-1646) or Meryl ([shoemanfamily@comcast.net](mailto:shoemanfamily@comcast.net) or 215-321-2381)

### Adult Purim Shpiel

**Help give Kol Emet a good laugh**

**Mar 20 (Sun) 7:00p**

The Adult Purim Shpiel is where we get to laugh at ourselves, have a great time, and let loose. Past Purim Shpiels have been a highlight of the year's events. We can only make this happen with YOUR help. Please volunteer to be part of this creative group and have a blast in the process. I promise you lots of laughter!

RSVP by **Jan 31** to: Melody Katz ([mhekatz@verizon.net](mailto:mhekatz@verizon.net))

See the Poster and registration form on the next page...

**ROCKY HORROR PARTICIPATION STYLE**  
**PURIM SHOW**



A sweet collaboration between the  
 Ritual Committee & Religious School



**Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**



**5:00pm – 8:00pm**



**Come Dressed in Costume** (Optional, of course!)  
**Ready to PARTY!**

**Something for Everyone in the Family!**

5:00pm  
 Megillah Reading  
 (with Audience Participation)  
 A Frightfully Fun  
 G-Rated Event!

5:45pm Dinner  
 Make Your Own Hoagies,  
 Chips, & Hamantaschen  
**YUM!**  
 A Meal Not To Be Missed!

6:30pm Adult Only  
 Purim Shpiel Upstairs  
 (No One Under 17, Please!) and  
 Kids Only Talent Challenge  
 Downstairs with Carrie!  
 G-Rated for a Great Time!

**\$8 per person (\$15 at the door)**

**BYOB – soda, wine, or whatever you would like to celebrate the evening!**

**RSVP by March 15<sup>th</sup> is a Must!!!**

Names of participants:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ROCKY HORROR PARTICIPATION STYLE**  
**PURIM SHOW**

# of guests x \$8.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ total

- Check Enclosed
  - Bill Me
  - I can help! Please call \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Interview Intrigue



### **Fran Fried**

Teacher, Traveler, Friend

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#### **KE: Tell us about your Favorites...**

<b>FF:</b>	<b>Food</b>	Anything chocolate!
	<b>Color</b>	Rose or purple
	<b>Book</b>	Too many to pick just one. I love to read history, Jewish history, political and travel books, English mysteries, and, Dave Barry.
	<b>Movie</b>	Pick one? Impossible! Au Revoir Les Enfants. Man for All Seasons, Sound of Music, My Fair Lady. Bread and Tulips, Chariots of Fire, The Pink Panther series with Peter Sellers, The Queen (Helen Mirren), Anything Mel Brooks, The King's Speech, and on, and on...
	<b>Season</b>	Summer
	<b>Holiday</b>	Jewish - Sukkot, Second is Purim. Secular: Fourth of July and Labor Day (I come from a union family)
	<b>Object found in KE building</b>	The beautiful Mezuzot, the stained glass Jewish star that my Dad of blessed memory made for Rabbi Cove, the Rabbi has it hanging in his office, and, of course, the Torahs!
	<b>Animal</b>	Have to admit I am not an animal lover, so no answer here. Do goldfish count?

#### **KE: Tell us about your career in teaching.**

**FF:** My background is eclectic - I have a B.S.W. from Temple University and a J.D. from Temple University. I am a member of the Pennsylvania Bar. I became a Jewish educator nineteen years ago. I have taught every grade level in a variety of synagogue settings and also taught a course for teachers and family life educators while living in Florida. Each year I teach at multiple schools/programs. I have a certificate in Jewish Family Life Education from ACAJE and a certificate in Holocaust Studies from the International School at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. Currently I am teaching at Kol Emet, Har Sinai and the Jewish Community High School of Philadelphia based at Shir Ami. Cut back this year from five schools to three. My students range in age from ten to seventeen.

#### **KE: What do you like best about teaching?**

**FF:** I am passionate about teaching and my students. I love the interaction, the discussions, and the feeling that perhaps I have some positive influence on the Jewish future. I enjoy sharing my love of Judaism with my students. They are the future! I have always told them that they are so important to the Jewish people, to our continuity, to have pride in their identity, that they matter immensely and can teach others no matter what age they are.

**KE: Tell us about your favorite day ever as a teacher.**

**FF:** Any day where I observe my students having an ah-ha moment, no matter what the subject being taught. The smiles or pride that accompanies that moment is wonderful to behold!

**KE: If you couldn't be a teacher, what job would you do and why?**

**FF:** I would like to make a difference in people's lives, our society. So, perhaps back to working at a Legal Clinic or back into working with families in a social work setting. Or, doing more political work - I have been a committee person for my area for several years.

**KE: What aspect of KE is dearest to you?**

**FF:** The school! I have taught at Kol Emet (with the exception of the two years we lived in Florida) since the Fall of 1991. Seeing the school grow and seeing so many of my students years later has been fantastic! The kindness and presence of the Caring Committee also is an important part of Kol Emet. Not all synagogues have the latter and should. I will so miss Rabbi Schein!

**KE: What is your secret fear?**

**FF:** I am currently in cancer treatment - third time round this "block." So, my goal is to continue to live life to its fullest, and lead a life with meaning and purpose.

**KE: Tell us about your favorite trip you have taken.**

**FF:** My trips to Israel have been extraordinary. I worked on kibbutz for several months when I was twenty and that began my love affair with Israel. Since then I have visited four other times, three of those on study programs. One at Yad Vashem - an honor to be selected for the International School in 2005 - and two other study trips with Melton Israel. The latter seminars were intensive as you study on site. I love to travel and being with friends in England/Scotland, or wandering around Paris or Rouen (sometimes I travel on my own or with my oldest daughter too) or places in Italy - Roma, Venice, Firenze, Stressa or being in Switzerland - Lugano, Lucerne, Locarno - amazing. Traveling in the Netherlands was also interesting!

**KE: Where have you lived so far, and which one is the most interesting place of all of them?**

**FF:** I was born and raised until almost the age of thirteen in Brooklyn - a fabulous place to grow up. Did not need parents to drive me anywhere and I learned street smarts and how to be independent at an early age. Then my family moved to Pennsylvania - Elkins Park, after marrying to Olney, Northeast Philadelphia, Cheltenham, and Bucks County. Love Bucks County! I also lived in Florida for two years, Palm Beach Gardens. Great place to be a snowbird, but all year round? No, happier being in Bucks!

**KE: Tell us about your family.**

**FF:** Married to Harvey since 1975. He is a patent attorney for a French company. His office is in the Princeton area. I have four wonderful "kids" - Meira, age 32, Ari, age 29, Faith, age 24, Ethan, age 20. Meira is a supervisory budget analyst in the office of the CFO of the GSA in D.C. Lots of initials! Ari is in his second year at Temple Law School. Faith is a Federal Practice consultant for Deloitte in Washington and currently working on a project for the Dept. of Justice. Ethan is a junior at Penn State main campus, majoring in Secondary Education Social Studies as well as History. What fills me with the most pride is that my "kids" are mensches!

## MARCH B'NAI MITZVOT

**Alex Horowitz**

**Son of Sherry and Steven**

Alex packaged and delivered food for JRA. He also collected baseball equipment for "Pitch in for Baseball" which distributes it to needy kids around the world.

**March 5, 2011 AM**

***Parshat Pekude***



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**Max Berger**

**Son of Allison and Marc**

Max assisted in packing meals and delivering those meals to Aid For Friends for delivery to the homebound. The specific project was important to Max as he feels that since food is a necessity for life, eliminating the fear of hunger from these elderly, homebound individuals is a great mitzvot.

**March 19, 2011 AM**

***Parshat Tzav***



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**Evan O'Rourke**

**Son of Lisa and Sean**

Evan packaged and delivered food for JRA.

**March 19, 2011 PM**

***Parshat Sh'mini***



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**Neena Rosenwald**

**Daughter of Michele and Seth**

**March 26, 2011 AM**

***Parshat Sh'mini***

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**Zach Lichter**

**Son of Rhonda and Jeff**

**March 26, 2011 PM**

***Parshat Sh'mini***

# DONATION LIST

<b>In Memory of</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Donor</b>
Sylvia Kleinman	Building	Dina Bortnichak
Reba Porter Ellis	Caring Committee	Bonnie Ellis Jacobs
Ruth Chamlin	Preschool	Eric and Elyce Rosen
Sarajane Harris	Preschool	Eric and Elyce Rosen

<b>In Honor of</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Donor</b>
Stan and Melody Katz	Building	Robert Benjamin

**Condolences To:**

David Ostrow on the passing of his beloved father, Jacob Ostrow  
 Stephen Thomas on the passing of his beloved father, Dr. A. William Thomas

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**KOL EMET DONATION COUPON**

**Donor Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Recipient** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my gift of:**

\$18

\$50 (for Prayerbook)

\$36

\$180

\$360

Other – Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use my gift for:**

Building Fund

Charles A. Fisher Memorial Sanctuary Fund

Library Fund

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Mitzvah Fund

Bruce Levitt (Playground) Memorial Fund

Associate Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Oneg (specify date) \_\_\_\_\_

Outdoor Sanctuary Fund

This gift is in **honor** of: \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is in **memory** of: \_\_\_\_\_

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Send to: Congregation Kol Emet •1360 Oxford Valley Road•Yardley, PA 19067

## Staying Informed at Kol Emet

There are many ways we try to keep you informed:

- The Voice: This Newsletter ([http://www.kolemet.org/documents/jun\\_10\\_Voice.pdf](http://www.kolemet.org/documents/jun_10_Voice.pdf)) and past issues (<http://www.kolemet.org/monthly.asp>).
- <http://www.kolemet.org/>: Our place on the web. Includes the calendar (<http://www.kolemet.org/calendar.asp>).
- The Whisper: Weekly Email of upcoming events at Kol Emet and in the Jewish community. (<http://www.kolemet.org/weekly.asp>)
- Religious school: Materials sent home with your children every week.
- Shouts: Emails sent to alert you to imminent events and meetings.
- Congregational Meetings: Meet at Kol Emet to both listen to and be heard by your Board

Make sure all the adults in your family get The Weekly Whisper e-mail. If your family has more than one e-mail address, please feel free to sign-up your multiple addresses. To get The Whisper, send an e-mail to [office@kolemet.org](mailto:office@kolemet.org).

*Mazel Tov to All of Kol Emet's April  
Wedding Anniversaries and Birthdays*

**Anniversaries**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Couple</u>
1	Jordan & Genevieve Shultz
1	Bradley & Lyra Stein
5	Jeff & Sharon Duncan
5	Bob & Michelle Smilk
5	Norm & Janet Weistuch
14	Steven & Allison Krefetz
15	Jeff & Ronda Schwartz
16	Lee & Stacy Kirsh
18	John & Marla Gaynor
25	Mark & Nancy Edelman
25	Darryl & Linda Gaeman
29	David & Susan Steiner

**Birthdays**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Name</u>
1	Gregory Frank
1	Lauren Katz
1	Mirria Kitei
2	Eli Kirsh
2	Sam Share-Raab
2	Nathan Siegel
3	David Teitelman
4	Geoffrey Gilmore
4	Eric Shipon
5	Troy Brown
5	Chloe Epstein
7	Russell Freid
7	Jeremy Lee
7	Jake Singer
8	Tyler Thomas
9	Sean O'Rourke
10	Danielle Geller
11	John Deodati
11	Kadie Fishman
11	Rachel Katz
12	Amy Boguslavsky
12	Scott Frantz
12	Arden Shiller
12	Jill Weiss
13	Michael Epstein
13	Carlie Horvitz
13	Josh Pedrow
14	Joan Amatriek
14	Barbara Cohen
15	Robert Frey
15	Brooke Goldberg
16	Howard Goldhammer
16	Eric Rosen
16	Josh Wortzel
17	Julia Finkle
17	Steven Ritzau
17	Cole Spiro
17	Michele Sternberg
18	Joshua Kaner
18	Chase Mako
19	Robert Brackup
19	Noah Epstein
19	Nicole Shander
19	Janet Weistuch
20	Trevor Ackerman
20	Neil Baumgarten
21	Heather Fink
21	Jay Nusblatt
22	Alan Brackup
22	Hilary Levy
22	Abby Weber
23	Harvey Fried
24	Mindy Martin
24	Susan Melamed
24	Leah Sirkis
25	Debra Fogel
25	Cassidy Hanck
25	Sue Ann Marburg
26	Lee Barsky
26	Matthew McCormick
26	Lily Thomas
27	Zachary Schram
27	Mary Waldman
27	Carly Weiss
28	Howard Greenberg
28	Casey Simon
28	Scott Stoogenke
29	Lisa Horvitz
29	Marci Rose
29	Ian Steiner
29	Bradley Sutker
29	Stephen Thomas
30	Cheryl Blankman

## *Kol Emet Business Directory*

### *Advertisements from members of the Kol Emet community*

**Senior Care Planning Services, a Geriatric Care Management service, operated by Bill Blacker**

Provides assistance including a comprehensive assessment and care plan for senior adults and their families who are seeking help with long term care planning. The Service can be reached at:  
215-901-6244/215-321-3312

email: [wblacker@seniorcareplanningservices.net](mailto:wblacker@seniorcareplanningservices.net)

Bill Blacker

#### **Attention Kol Emet Business Owners**

##### **Advertise in this Newsletter**

In the spirit of building community, *The Voice* includes text advertisements from Kol Emet congregants who have businesses offering products and services. Text ads only, no business cards or graphics. In addition to your text, we will list your name (if not included in your copy) so the reader knows which Kol Emet congregant is involved in the business.

Your listing will include:

**Name of Company**

**Address** (if business has a storefront location)

**Contact** (Phone, Email, and/or Web Address)

**50 word description**

Cost is \$10/issue.

Send information to the Kol Emet Office

([office@kolemet.org](mailto:office@kolemet.org)) by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month for a listing in the next issue.

## *CONGREGATION KOL EMET*

### *CONTACT INFORMATION*

Rabbi	Rabbi Howard Cove ( <a href="mailto:rabbicove@kolemet.org">rabbicove@kolemet.org</a> )	215-493-8522 ext. 101
Associate Rabbi	Rabbi Susan Schein ( <a href="mailto:rabbischein@kolemet.org">rabbischein@kolemet.org</a> )	215-493-8522 ext. 112
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Educational Director	Carrie Walinsky ( <a href="mailto:cwalinsky@kolemet.org">cwalinsky@kolemet.org</a> )	215-493-8522 ext. 103
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President	Robert Moses ( <a href="mailto:natanbenmoshe@verizon.net">natanbenmoshe@verizon.net</a> )	215-321-9927
Vice President	Lisa Shiller ( <a href="mailto:elizshiller@yahoo.com">elizshiller@yahoo.com</a> )	215-493-6822
Vice President	Chuck Weiner ( <a href="mailto:charles@charlesweinerlaw.com">charles@charlesweinerlaw.com</a> )	215-932-0424
Secretary	Brad Pedrow ( <a href="mailto:bpedrow@gmail.com">bpedrow@gmail.com</a> )	609-775-7536
Treasurer	Dan Goldman ( <a href="mailto:dgoldman@decisiondist.com">dgoldman@decisiondist.com</a> )	215-493-8203
Past President	Lisa O'Rourke ( <a href="mailto:lisagorourke@verizon.net">lisagorourke@verizon.net</a> )	215-295-9212
Religious Education	Jill Gordon ( <a href="mailto:yardley4@comcast.net">yardley4@comcast.net</a> )	215-295-8838
Adult Education	Melody Katz ( <a href="mailto:mhekatz@verizon.net">mhekatz@verizon.net</a> )	215-752-7705
Early Education	Dina Bortnichak ( <a href="mailto:dina@bortnichak.com">dina@bortnichak.com</a> )	215-295-1646
Finance	Eric Schwartz ( <a href="mailto:eschwartz@comcast.net">eschwartz@comcast.net</a> )	215-497-1057
Community Relations	Andrea Seidman ( <a href="mailto:talzee@comcast.net">talzee@comcast.net</a> )	215-736-8494
House	Rich Nedelman ( <a href="mailto:rlnalla@yahoo.com">rlnalla@yahoo.com</a> )	215-493-5587
Long Range Planning	Burt Sutker ( <a href="mailto:bjstutker@aol.com">bjstutker@aol.com</a> )	609-730-0837
Membership	Jacki Folkman ( <a href="mailto:jackifolkman@aol.com">jackifolkman@aol.com</a> )	215-860-3678
Preschool PTO Co-President	Risha Neil ( <a href="mailto:rishaneil@aol.com">rishaneil@aol.com</a> )	215-428-1884
Preschool PTO Co-President	Allyson Reed ( <a href="mailto:allysonreed.jaden@verizon.net">allysonreed.jaden@verizon.net</a> )	215-493-5290
Religious School PTO Co-President	Randi Davis ( <a href="mailto:davis193@comcast.net">davis193@comcast.net</a> )	267-392-5265
Religious School PTO Co-President	Meryl Shoneman ( <a href="mailto:shonemanfamily@comcast.net">shonemanfamily@comcast.net</a> )	215-321-2381
Ritual	Robert Moses ( <a href="mailto:natanbenmoshe@verizon.net">natanbenmoshe@verizon.net</a> )	215-321-9927
Social Action	Wendy Jacobson-Simon ( <a href="mailto:wellwatched@verizon.net">wellwatched@verizon.net</a> )	215-321-1465
Sisterhood	Shelley Miller ( <a href="mailto:shelleyjm@aol.com">shelleyjm@aol.com</a> )	215-493-6856
Men's Club	Mark Henry ( <a href="mailto:squirehenry@aol.com">squirehenry@aol.com</a> )	215-493-0627
Youth Programming	Heidi Bush ( <a href="mailto:heitobush@verizon.net">heitobush@verizon.net</a> )	215-493-4080
Hilltoppers	Judy Kaufman ( <a href="mailto:hjkman@comcast.net">hjkman@comcast.net</a> )	215-579-5950
Caring Committee Chair	Michael Seltzer ( <a href="mailto:mgs48@aol.com">mgs48@aol.com</a> )	215-598-8233

#### **General Contact Info**

E-mail: [office@kolemet.org](mailto:office@kolemet.org)  
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 Fax: 215-493-3444

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 1360 Oxford Valley Road  
 Yardley, PA 19067

Find us online:  
[www.kolemet.org](http://www.kolemet.org) and on  
 Facebook, LinkedIn, WetPaint