RAISING OUR VOICES

JUNE 7 2018

A GALA CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF KOLOT CHAYEINU
HONORING RABBI ELLEN LIPPMANN
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RAISING OUR VOICES
TO OUR BELOVED RABBI,
Ellen Lippmann

This is what the Holy One said to Israel:
My children, what do I seek from you?
I seek no more than that you love one another and honor one another.

With gratitude for the love and honor that you have cultivated in us and given us over the years.

ON BEHALF OF THE 70+ OF US WHO CALL BOTH JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE & KOLOT CHAYEINU HOME.
The Ostroff Group is pleased to be a strategic partner of Kolot Chayeinu and to pay tribute to Rabbi Ellen Lippmann for her outstanding, engaging and innovative leadership and to recognize the Kolot community for their commitment to social justice, civil society, the Jewish community and the community-at-large.

www.theostroffgroup.com
Teach us to use all of our days, that we may attain a heart of wisdom.

Psalm 90:12

Wise Women of Kolot
And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.
~ Shakespeare, As You Like It

Dear Ellen ~

In this your new life, exempt from Kolot,
May you too find tongues, books, sermons and good,
Just as you like it, in everything.

All Love ~ Arthur & Lisa
Mazel Tov to Rabbi Ellen Lippmann!

A quarter century of leadership and guidance, love and support for a community founded on questioning, respect, and humanitarian values—and above all on the teachings of the Torah. What a legacy you leave to all of us.

Our family raises our voices in praise and thanks!

Samantha and Scott Anderson, with our children:

Max, Erica, and Sasha Beinhacker

Jasper, Walker, and Elizabeth Anderson
Mazel Tov to Rabbi Lippman!

Thank you for your incredible leadership and dedication to peace and justice for all.
"Who is the honored one?
The person who accords honor to all others."
Pirkei Avot 4:1

For all the ways we have worked and grown together...
For all the ways you have inspired and supported us...
For all the ways you have made us feel honored and valued...

We honor you and will miss you,
Rabbi Ellen Lippmann

Congratulations and mazel tov!

With great affection,
The entire Kolot Chayeinu Staff
Clergy, Administrative, Teachers & Custodians

Jen Abrams • Alyssa Abrahamson • Avi Amon • Rachel Aronson • Niko R. Bialek • Jonah S. Boyarin • Carlos Cacho • Emmanuel Calderon • Ty Citerman • Ethan Cohen • Student Rabbi Miriam Grossman • Sherri Levine • Diya Mchahwar • Amanda Miller • Espiri Ocon • Zachary Wager Scholl • Cantor Lisa B. Segal • Irene Siegel • Franny Silverman • Paul Sperry-Fromm • Toussaint Washington • Maya Webne-Behrman • Rebecca Woldin • Gabriella Zutrau
Thank you Rabbi Ellen and Kolot for giving the four of us a door into this wonderful version of Judaism we didn't know could exist. We've stepped through the door in our various ways and are so grateful!

Thank you for getting us to think and feel and participate in ways we never dreamed of.

With love and as you always say, in hope, The Elton-Scheines Family Liz, Ron, Max & Lea
To my Dearest, for all that has been, and all that is yet to be: love, gratitude and amazement. Kathryn
Jews For Racial & Economic Justice enthusiastically sends our deepest love, admiration, and appreciation to the incomparable Rabbi Ellen Lippmann.

Ellen, your leadership in JFREJ, and in all of your efforts, is principled, humble, dogged, and thoughtful. Your guidance and example has meant so much to us as individuals, and to our work as an organization.

We are honored to be in community and partnership with you.
For being...
Our teacher
Our spiritual compass
Our comfort in times of sadness
Our model of gratitude for every moment

For showing us...
The true nature of collaborative leadership
The meaning of community
Love and caring even in the face of anger
How to fight for what you believe and to welcome others when they believe differently
Friendship and partnership and lifting up all to be there beside you

We honor our rabbi, Rabbi Ellen Lippmann.

With love, respect and joyful expectation for what comes next for you
And for us
The Board of Directors of Congregation Kolot Chayeinu
Ellen, you will always be our rabbi.

With enormous gratitude for all you have shared with and taught us; our many years of laughter, hard work, wrestling, struggle for justice and marking milestones together; endless admiration and even more love,

Chazak chazak v’nit chazeik: May you go from strength to strength with pride and joy into this new chapter.

ALL OF KOLOT’S PRESIDENTS
Natalie Levy • Phillip Saperia • Arthur Strimling • Ruth Finkelstein • Lisa Zbar
Andrew Stettner • Adrienne Fisher • Cynthia Greenberg • Andrea Arzt
“You shall leave in joy and be led forth in peace. Before you, mount and hill shall shout aloud, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.”
- Isaiah 55:12

Ellen, thank you for your joyful and inspired leadership of T’ruah, as our past co-chair and long-time board member, and for your ongoing commitment to peace. Mazal tov on all that you have accomplished at Kolot Chayeinu and for the entire Jewish world. We wish you only the best in this new stage of your life.

Rabbi Rachel Gartner and Rabbi Michael Lezak, Co-chairs
Rabbi Michael Latz, Vice Chair
Rabbi Jill Jacobs, Executive Director
along with the entire board and staff of T’ruah

www.truah.org
The members of the Kolot Children’s Learning Program Education Committee are thrilled to honor Rabbi Ellen Lippmann on this auspicious occasion!

Families of current B’nai Mitzvah students are honored to celebrate Rabbi Ellen as she moves on to her next adventure, much like the children themselves will do soon.

What’s Up families thank Rabbi Lippmann for her leadership and the fantastic example she has set for our future social justice seekers.
A toast to Kolot’s 25 years of community nurturing. We treasure the journey.

Fond wishes for 25 more years of growth and sustenance.

Love to Ellen, our Rabbi and friend. We are celebrating your reincarnation.

Phillip Saperia and Jim Golden

To our dear Rabbi Ellen – for your countless acts of loving kindness.

– Gemilut Chasadim
Torah Study

I'm a P'shat person... That's Drash!

I like That!

As Ellen often says...

I disagree...

Who's next??

My God wouldn't do that.

Thank you

Rabbi Lippmann

Rabbi, anybody die?

No, Mendy...

Stacey, do we have a poem?

Tikkun Olam

Together for $15

No more pay cut!
Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. (Micah 6.8)

In honor of my friend and colleague
Rabbi Ellen Lippmann
who exemplifies all three.

Rabbi Dr. Linda Henry Goodman
Union Temple of Brooklyn

Mazal Tov
to our neighbor and friend
Rabbi Ellen Lippmann
on 25 years of bold and
distinguished leadership
in our community and
beyond.
Wishing you all good things in the
years ahead.

Union Temple of Brooklyn
Todah Rabbah!
Thank you, Rabbi Ellen Lippmann, for your dedication and vision, your wisdom, kindness, and leadership. Your presence has been a gift for so many years, and we are grateful to have been your neighbor and your partner in creating a stronger, more vibrant, more open Jewish community in this part of Brooklyn. You will be missed!

With deep respect and appreciation,
Rabbi Carie Carter and the Board of Trustees of the Park Slope Jewish Center

Gethsemane has been blessed to share space with Rabbi Ellen Lippmann as her vision for Voices of Our Lives unfolded. For 25 years Rabbi Lippmann’s love and leadership has inspired Kolot members to do social justice and live with spiritual energy.
For Ellen:
“The Path Beside the Still Waters”
by Gil Podorson

Love, Myra and Gil Podorson

A Bat Mitzvah. Many beautiful Shabbat and High Holy Day services.
Rabbi Lippmann, you gave us the greatest gift:
24 years of your wisdom and guidance.
With deep gratitude,
the Titunik-Birnbaums (Vera, Ken, Maggie and Penelope)
Brooklyn For Peace salutes Kolot Chayeinu on its 25th anniversary, and embraces Rabbi Ellen Lippmann on the occasion of her retirement. May all your future works be as graced and well-directed as your past ones have been, leaving behind a trail of honor, respect, and love.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Brooklyn For Peace, Charlotte Phillips, Chair

Congratulations Kolot Chayeinu on 25 amazing years!

Congratulations to our dear friend and sister Rabbi Ellen Lippmann!
It has been an honor and privilege working with you!

Wishing you the all the best in what lies ahead!

Dr. Debbie & Naji Almontaser
Nourish beginnings, let us nourish beginnings.
Not all things are blest, but the seeds of all things are blest.
Muriel Rukeyser

Let’s cherish the new and embrace the unknown in our new lives!

Thanks for your inspired leadership.
Sarah Lowe, Elisabeth Smith, and Simon Lowe
Dear Ellen,

Thanks to you and your love of Torah, our children have pretended to be Abraham and Sarah on their journeys; danced with stuffed Torahs in hand; sung baby Moses to sleep on Pesach; & greeted Shabbat with music and laughter.

Thanks to you and Kolot for bringing joy to their burgeoning Jewish lives and showing them a vision for the future filled with meaning and a commitment to justice.

From, Kolot’s Early Childhood families

“I have always believed that the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice. Because this is a moment in history that needs us to begin, each of us every day at her or his own pace, slowly and surely rediscovering how to be politically active, how to organize our disparate energies into effective group action. Act. Organize. Assemble. Oppose. Resist. Find a place a case a group a friend and start, today, now now now, continue continue continue. Being politically active is for the citizens of a democracy maybe the best way of speaking to God, and hearing Her answer: You exist. If we are active, if we are activist, She replies to us: You specifically exist. Mazel Tov. Now get busy, She replies. Maintain the world by changing the world.”

(your friend) Tony Kushner

Thank you Ellen for changing the world, and for inspiring so many of us. We wish you all the best in your well deserved retirement!

Jean Hofheimer Bennett

*The Impossible Will Take a Little While: Perseverance and Hope in Troubled Times by Paul Rogat Loeb
To Rabbi Ellen Lippmann, the founder and artistic director of my Jewish home, Kolot Chayeinu, and my rebbe:

Your friendship, teaching and leadership are for me and for all of us a source of inspiration, compassion, patience, fortitude, comfort, spirituality and righteousness. Your voice and all the voices of Kolot helped me find my own and I thank you for my life's work. I'm very happy for you and the wondrous Kathryn Conroy and for all the fun and deep rest in your future that you both so richly deserve, but I will miss you terribly. I am so grateful to have had this time in your light.

Kol HaKavod and much love, Trisha Arlin

Mazal tov, Rabbi Ellen Lippmann!
Moral voice, courageous fighter for truth and justice, inspiring teacher, compassionate leader.
We are in awe of your achievements, especially Kolot, the amazing congregation you have built.
You had the vision and made it real. With admiration, love and gratitude, dear friend, and wishing you and Kathryn a blissful retirement!

Shirley and Alexis
Thanks for bringing blessing into our lives, at every step along the way.
The Barnette/Landers

This half page represents the teachers and educators who have benefited from working with Rabbi Ellen Lippmann over the many years.

Your love, courage, and wisdom has guided us.

You have been a constant source of wisdom, inspiration, love, and ethically engaged Torah.

Your presence, your gentle instruction and wise example has been a blessing to us all.

You have taught us to be authentic leaders, humble, kind and strong all at once.

You inspire us to be authentic, thoughtful and engaged human beings.

B’hatzlachah with your next stage of life!
Andrea, Scott and Grace are thrilled to honor Rabbi Ellen who has brought so much light into our lives. We will miss you!

With profound admiration and gratitude for Rabbi Ellen Lippmann’s extraordinary leadership and activism.

Rabbis J. Rolando Matalon and Felicia Sol

cimişhowr

The Israel/Palestine Working Group may not agree on much, but we sure do agree that we will miss Rabbi Lippmann! Thank you, Ellen, for your fierce commitment to building a community where we could all find a place.
Dear Ellen:
Thank you so much for all you have done.
We wish you and Katherine abundant joy and satisfaction in the years ahead, and we look forward to a lasting friendship.
Susan Ritz and Lawson Shadburn

Kolot Chayeinu, led by our beloved rabbi, is the first Jewish congregation in the United States to publicly divest from fossil fuels and other projects that are harmful to the earth and her inhabitants.
Love, Planet A
Thank you, Rabbi Lippmann!
Joanne, Aaron, Arlo and Saul

Blessing the Boats
may the tide
that is moving even now
the tides of our understanding
carry you out
beyond the face of fear
may you kiss
the wind that turns from it
certain that it will
love your back
may you open your eyes to water
water waiting forever
and may you in your innocence
swim through this in that
—Esther Cifon

Rabbi,
Visionary,
Rabble
Rouser,
Colleague,
Comrade,
Hero,
Inspiration,
Friend.

Ellen, you are all these and so much more.
There are not words enough to express the gratitude and joy
of these many years of being in community, working and
sharing with you.
With love, mazelots upon mazelots, and the promise of
much more swimming through together.
Cynthia Greenberg

Our deepest gratitude to Ellen
for making spaces where we can love what is holy,
and be loved for our full selves.

With boundless affection from the
Queer and Trans Working Group
and all the LGBTQI+ community of Kolot

The Kolot Chayeinu Race Working Group honors and thanks
Rabbi Ellen Lippmann.
With courage and boldness, she began our journey
to becoming an anti-racist congregation.
From 2011–Present, the Kolot Taskforces/Working Group:
Amina Rachman z’l
Ana Bermudez
Molly Rae Bock
Noah Chasek-Mayer
Barbara Gross
Shawn Harris
Avigail Hurvitz-Prinz
Adam Jacobs
Autumn Leonard
Ernst Mohamed
Sierra Mohamed

Rabbi Ellen Lippmann
Andre Neipris-Gross
Russ Pearce
Kendell Pinkney
Pam Potschman
Imani Romney-Rosa
Roberta Samat
Franny Silverman
Tabitha St. Bernard-Jacobs
Bernardo Velez
Lisa Zbar Mohamed
Mazal tov, Rabbi Ellen Lippmann—my cousin and my teacher.

We feel the ripples of your courage and dedication all the way across the country. Blessed to call you both family and friend.

Rabbi Sharon Brous

Thank you Rabbi Ellen Lippmann for always being a strong rooted tree through the storms, and a north star directing a path to the future we need. Your counsel, love and leadership have supported us and our community in countless ways. We are forever grateful.

Love, Dove Kent & Theo Luebke

Ellen Lippmann: darshan, Aliyot Blesser Extraordinaire, rythmic Motown davener, fierce (yet compassionate) gadfly about social justice and community responsibility. Love and God speed from your Shabbat Regulars

Ellen, thank you for being part of our lives for over 20 years. We will miss you at Kolot but looking forward to having you back for Jonathan’s Bar Mitzvah!

All our love and best wishes,
Marie, Jonas, Martin, Charlie & Jonathan Nachsin
Kolot's Children's Learning Program educators are profoundly grateful to have learned from and worked alongside Rabbi Ellen Lippmann. Rabbi, thank you for role modeling the value of welcoming doubt, listening to youth, and opening oneself to others' knowledge.

Mazel Tov on the 25th Anniversary of Kolot Chayeinu! A shul with music and spirituality — what could be better!

Our family from Brooklyn and Montreal wish Rabbi Ellen Lippmann Yasher Koach!

Sheila and Syd Greenberg, Gail, Keith, and Ava Hanadel

Mazel tov, Kolot Chayeinu, on your 25th anniversary! Here’s to 25 more years of doubt, faith, and needing all hands to build your community.

And to Rabbi Lippmann — chazak chazak v'nitchazek. We have all been strengthened by your leadership.

Rabbi Daniel and Leah Reiser

Thrilled to celebrate Rabbi Ellen Lippmann’s brilliant tenure at Kolot Chayeinu and to Samantha Anderson and Liz Scheines, and the amazing Gala Team, for organizing this special celebration.

Mazel Tov! - Lee Langbaum
Mazel Tov to the congregation of Kolot Chayeinu on your wonderful clergy!

- Temple Israel Minneapolis

Lab/Shul is proud to Raise Our Voice in honoring Rabbi Ellen Lippmann, a Big Apple Storahtelling Maven!

Mazal tov Ellen.
You are a true inspiration.
With love from all your friends at
Repair the World NYC.

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Look what we started. Much love and endless respect.
Judith Kane

— Every end is a new beginning
Sandra Abramson

To Ellen, With great admiration, gratitude and love,
Jo Hirschmann and Elizabeth Wilson

A rabbi of valor — we sure found. Her pricelessness benefited many Rubies, Hannahs, etc.
Love, Janet Price

Your tree in Brooklyn has inspired new bold seedlings to grow — such a blessing!
- Rabbi Rachel Goldenberg, Malkhut Queens

You’ve done so much, for so many, for so long. In this new phase, wishing you much joy,
some rest, continued inspiration and fulfilling more dreams! - Linda Eber

Dear Ellen, Congratulations! THANK YOU!!!
Love, Roger, Maria, Joy, Eddie, Seth

Thank you Our Beloved Rabbi Ellen for your guidance and wisdom.
All our love, the Rabeck Family — Evie, Evan, Sidney & Eli
You first had me teach tefillin. Thanks for helping me grow as a teacher. Enjoy your journey!
Sue Harris

As Ellen does... “Make for yourself a mentor, acquire for yourself a friend and judge every person as meritorious.” (Pirkei Avot 1:6) – Nicole Fix and Rabbi Bronwen Mullin

Thank you for making Kolot a home for all three of us! With love and lifelong gratitude,
Gayle, Ira, and Aaron

With much love and blessings for this next chapter in your life.
Ronda

Todah Rabah, Rabbi, for the many years.....
the Markowitz-Haviland family

Ellen, with you by our sides, we created a rich Jewish home — we will be grateful forever.
Lisa Zbar, Ernst Mohamed, Eric Mohamed, Sierra Mohamed

Ellen, I am forever grateful for your enticing invitation, “For those of you who do not yet know Hebrew....’
Eileen Blank
We’ll continue to follow closely in your footsteps, dear mentor, colleague & friend, love, Rabbi Lisa Edwards & Tracy Moore

Ellen, thank you for your loving wisdom: often surprising and inevitable all at once.
The David-Sax/Conner-Sax family

Kolot’s Jewish history group salutes the greatest rabbi in Kolot’s history — she belongs in the next volume of Schama!

Congratulations to Kolot Chayeinu on twenty-five years and best wishes for Rabbi Lippmann!
Pizza Plus

You are present. You show up. You personify all I want in a Rabbi. A feminist mensch through and through. Thank you. — Margie Fine

Ellen (and Kathryn) — thanks for being my teacher, mentor, consoler, friend, and sage.
Jeany Heller

Your congregation nourished our imaginations, engaged the best of ourselves.
Helen Engelhardt
Rabbi Ellen Lippmann and Kathryn Conroy say thank you to all the Kolot Chayeinu members and friends who have embraced us, supported us in times of need, celebrated with us in times of joy, and made a communal home for us that we never expected when we began Kolot at our dining room table in 1993.

You will be in our minds and hearts wherever we go.