

June 2019

Dear Friends:



CONGREGATION KEHILLAH

RABBI BONNIE SHARFMAN
RICH GOLDMAN, PRESIDENT
RENEE JOFFE, ADMINISTRATOR

MAILING ADDRESS:
21001 N TATUM BLVD
STE 1630, #439
PHOENIX, AZ 85050

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:
5858 E DYNAMITE BLVD
CAVE CREEK, AZ 85331
602-369-7667
INFO@CONGREGATIONKEHILLAH.ORG
WWW.CONGREGATIONKEHILLAH.ORG

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

GIL BLUMENTHAL,
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
JOE ETTINGER,
MEMBER AT LARGE
HENRY FLEET,
MEMBER AT LARGE
RICH FOX,
MEMBER AT LARGE AND
BROTHERHOOD PRESIDENT
DAVID GOLDFARB,
MEMBER AT LARGE AND
BUILDING CHAIR
LESLIE GOLDMAN,
MEMBER AT LARGE
ARLENE MALETTA,
HOSPITALITY CO-CHAIR
ILENE MALKA,
VP EDUCATION
JANE NEELY,
HOSPITALITY CO-CHAIR
BRUCE SOBEL,
MEMBER AT LARGE
DAN SOMMER,
MEMBER AT LARGE
PAUL STEIN,
MEMBER AT LARGE

As our Congregational year approaches its June 30th annual close, I want to reflect back on what has happened these past 12 months, and I do it with pleasure and a sense of satisfaction.

This past year, Congregation Kehillah celebrated our 10-year anniversary with a memorable weekend of events under the leadership of our event chairs Paul and Margie Stein. We all felt a sense of excitement and gratitude for what Rabbi Bonnie Sharfman's leadership has built, which is a caring and vibrant community of people coming together to pray, learn, and experience our shared Jewishness in all its ways.

The year also saw more growth and success in our fantastic YEP! program. It's an amazing and inspiring experience to come to the synagogue on a Sunday morning when YEP! is in session. It's clear that all parties involved (students, teachers, clergy, and parents) get great pleasure out of their involvement in this Jewish learning experience. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to visit while YEP! is in session. You will walk away energized and secure in the belief that Jewish continuity is being strengthened.

On a sobering note, this past year saw a rise in horrific anti-Semitic violence against synagogues nationwide. This brought our vulnerability into sharp focus and leadership is keenly aware of the needs to enhance both physical security of the building, and procedural security in terms of congregant awareness of best practices in all safety related matters. We will be reporting on this in greater detail as the New Year begins.

I have enjoyed my role in leadership at Congregation Kehillah over the past several years, and now it's time for me to focus on a different priority, which is future leadership development for our congregation. Please join me in thanking past president Gil Blumenthal for assuming the presidency a second time. Rabbi Sharfman and I are committed to work with Gil to ensure that CK continues to be a source of Jewish communal life to all of us.

A quick word from our incoming president:

First and foremost, I want to thank Rich for his unselfish devotion to Congregation Kehillah. When things are going smoothly, there's a reason. Rich's leadership has been instrumental as we've grown, found our permanent home and watched the YEP! program flourish.

We're starting our second decade. My challenge is to get more people involved and offer more opportunities for us to do things together. This may sound simplistic, but we should get to know each other, particularly as we welcome new members. Our name, Kehillah, means community. That was the vision of the founders. We've grown, but the vision remains the same. I'd love to hear from you. What would enhance your experience?

We wish you a peaceful and restful summer. We look forward to seeing you later in August as we begin to prepare for the coming new year.

L'Shalom,

Rich Goldman
President

Gil Blumenthal
Incoming President