

June 2025

Dear Members of Kehillah,

I want to begin with a sincere thank you for the privilege of serving as President of this extraordinary community. As we conclude our fiscal year and prepare for 2025–2026, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on some highlights from the past year that we can all celebrate together:

- We continued to offer both in-person and Zoom **Kabbalat Shabbat** services, ensuring accessibility for all our members.
- Four of our **YEP! students** became **B'nai Mitzvah**, marking a major milestone in their Jewish journeys.
- Our **High Holy Day services** were spiritually uplifting and well-attended both in-person and online.
- **FYC (Families with Young Children)** participated in creative and engaging **Sippy Cup Shabbats**.
- **WNO (Women's Night Out)** and the **Kehillah Men's Group** held regular monthly gatherings, fostering deeper connections.
- A group of dedicated volunteers came together to **soundproof the patio**—a truly collaborative and bonding experience.
- We celebrated our **Administrator Renee Joffe-Hrlevich's 10th anniversary** in February—*Yasher Koach*, Renee, for your devoted service!
- Children and adults enjoyed our **2nd Annual Chanukah Carnival** as well as our **4th Annual Purim Carnival**.
- Rabbi continues to lead **trips to Israel** to aid Israelis traumatized by war and to show support for Israel. The most recent trip took place in May.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our Rabbi, Renee, our Cantorial Soloists, and our Board of Directors, who work tirelessly to enrich and sustain every aspect of Kehillah life. Your dedication is deeply appreciated. A special *Yasher Koach* to our Immediate Past President, Jane Neely, for her enduring leadership and commitment.

On a personal note, I am inspired by the resilience and strength of our community. In the face of challenges, we've come together, grown stronger, and created meaningful momentum that will carry us into the coming year with hope and enthusiasm.

Kehillah brings a lot to its members' lives and all that takes time and resources. As part of our financial planning, the Board of Directors has made the difficult but fiscally responsible decision to moderately increase dues for the 2025–2026 fiscal year. These funds are essential, they allow us to compensate our staff, maintain our facilities, provide security, and deliver the robust programming and education that define Kehillah.

If you can do so, we kindly ask that you consider increasing your financial commitment. Our **Kehillah Community Supporters (KCS)** are those who go above and beyond in

their support, helping to ensure our financial stability, retain and expand staff as needed, and safeguard the high level of service and care you've come to expect.

We also remain fully committed to accessibility. If financial resources are a concern, please don't hesitate to reach out to Renee directly. All conversations are confidential, and we are here to ensure that every member remains a valued part of our community, which includes no additional education fees for families with children in YEP!.

As we look ahead, we ask that all returning members please complete and return your **Membership Renewal Form**, along with your **financial commitment form and payment**, so we can plan accordingly and keep our records current.

Thank you for your continued involvement, support, and trust. I am honored to be on this journey with you, and I look forward to growing Kehillah—together.

L'Shalom,

Rich Fox
President