

# Presidential Message

June 2018

## Beginnings, Endings and Beginnings

18 years ago, Anne and I presented Kaitlyn to the congregation for her naming. That event marked the beginning of my renewed commitment to a Jewish life, as Anne and I made the commitment to raise her as a Jew.

When she started Hebrew school, we quickly grew to know and love her classmates; Amanda, Ryan, Hunter, and Annalise. I've written before about how their families and ours formed the Table Nine Club, bouncing from on party to the next as the kids reached their 13th birthdays. Now we're watching as this latest group of Temple Emanu-El Hebrew School kids' graduate high school and go on to college.

However, our high school seniors aren't the only members who will be moving on to bigger and better things... many members of our Temple Emanu-El Religious School faculty, including Barbara Kallan, Terri and Marc Goldsmith, Barbara Senges, and Sam Winograd, are going to be stepping down from their positions.

With endings come new beginnings. I was surprised to find out that all of our kids are staying in New England. Looking back the past few years, many of our Temple Emanu-El Religious School kids like Matthew, David, and Nathaniel have also chosen to go to school in Connecticut and Massachusetts. It gives me a sense of hope that we've formed a strong enough community that our children aren't straying too far from the nest. I'm thrilled that the kids are beginning their adult experiences close to home.

At Temple Emanu-El Religious School, I'm also thrilled and grateful to report that Armi Rowe and Jenn Zettler will be taking over as the school directors. Armi and Jenn along with Rabbi Ekstrand, Sherry Barnes, and Caryn Novick will be working hard this summer to coordinate this new beginning for our beloved Hebrew School.

Please be on the lookout for a more detailed letter regarding the upcoming changes at Temple Emanu-El Religious School, and please join me in congratulating another class of fine young people that our community helped to raise.

