

Cantorial Message

May 2020

Gam zeh ya'avor...this too shall pass.

I have been working from home for about a month now. Thank goodness for my schedule that is taped to the wall, or I might forget what day it is. I've stopped watching the constant updates on the Coronavirus, because it was overwhelming. Instead, I've tried to stay focused on my classes, students, work, taking care of my dad, and using common sense, instead of fear, regarding Covid-19. Having to keep social distance in order to stay healthy, I've been grateful to have platforms like Zoom and Facetime to stay connected with you for Shabbat Services, Havdalah, classes, seeing students, being present for funerals, and Shiva services. It's not ideal, but they allow me to see the faces of those I may otherwise not see, or be able to grieve with those I love. I don't know about you, but I've noticed time slowing down. I don't feel rushed and other than taking my son to work, or the occasional grocery store visit, I'm rarely in my car. I do miss going to the gym, hearing your voices singing with me at Shabbat services, popping into Rabbi Marc's office to discuss new projects or services. Saying good morning to Roberta when I came in and catching up on what's new with her. I miss hugging people. I'm a huggy kind of person and social distancing has been hard. I've missed hugging those who have lost loved ones. I've missed hugging people that I see coming into services. So, my mantra has become, Gam zeh ya'avor....this too shall pass. Life will eventually make its way back to some kind of normalcy. Life will go on despite Covid-19. I've watched the birds and nature thriving from my new office window and I realized this quarantine won't be forever, even though at the moment it feels like it. My hope for all of us is that when it is over, really over, we never take for granted the freedom of being in the company of family and friends, hugging someone you truly are happy to see, going to concerts, movies, restaurants, walking on a crowded beach, and my goodness, getting a haircut! Maybe for some of you, it's finally having the time to read to your kids, play games together, or have dinner together. It isn't until something is taken from you, that you realize how blessed you were. Gam zeh ya'avor....this too shall pass and I when it does, I want to be ready to enjoy life's simplest pleasures.

With much love,
Sherry