President's Message April 2012

A few weeks ago, I sent out an e-mail informing you of a special congregational meeting in which I told you that the <u>Board of Trustees</u> is asking for the congregation's approval for the purchase of a lightweight Torah for our sanctuary.

In the 7 years that I have been president of this congregation, this is only the second special meeting that I have called. The first one was for the approval of the lift in our building, making it handicap-accessible. So you can see that I do not take this lightly. I sincerely ask you to make every effort to attend this meeting on Sunday April 15th at 10:30 AM.

In discussions with the board, one of our board members found that one of the 613 mitzvot in the Torah is that every Jew is commanded to write a Torah during their lifetime. Since I do not think that all members will actually write an entire Torah themselves, contributing to the purchase of a Torah will fulfill this mitzvot.

One of the things that I love about our congregation is that we have never had anything in the sanctuary that shows that different people contribute different amounts, such as gold, silver and bronze level contributors. So in keeping with this tradition, I ask you to be as generous as you can with this fund raising effort. This is the first and maybe the only time in my life that I will be able to perform this mitzvot, so I intend to take this seriously. I would like to see 100% participation in raising the money to purchase this Torah. This is a community effort and I need everyone in the community to participate. Please don't let me down.

I look forward to seeing you on April 15th.

Love, Howie