President's Message October 2014

With the New Year at hand and all of the beginning festivities, I stop for a moment and reflect on my observations of our temple in action.

We led into the New Year with our new <u>Family Shabbat Experience</u>, which was suggested by the parents of our youngest members who sought an introductory service that would conclude early enough to match their kids' bedtimes. Rabbi Zamore and Cantor Sugarman commenced the program with a picnic dinner over an entertaining story, progressing to songs and arts and crafts, and concluding with the Kiddush and Motzi. The experience was such a success that the parents requested an encore for next month.

We then proceeded with the dedication of our new kitchen and remodeled Simcha room. Many thanks to the House and Kitchen Committee, whose members volunteered a significant amount of time to ensure a fabulous result with a timely completion. The dedication was attended by a majority of our membership, who were in awe of the transformation. Our first oneg with the use of the kitchen and Simcha room was vibrant and full of energy. Everyone was anxious to take their turn in the kitchen.

We then began the Hebrew School year with the start of our new curriculum and concluded the first day with the Sisterhood organized <u>America's Grow-A-Row Mitzvah activity</u>, where we picked fruits and vegetables at a nearby farm for the local food bank.

On the heels of opening day, we commenced the New Year with our two days of Rosh Hashanah services led by Rabbi Zamore and Student Cantor Sugarman. The erev was attended by many with a festive and sociable oneg and the second day concluded with a well-attended temple-sponsored luncheon.

The upcoming months should remain just as vibrant, as we look forward to Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. For the young adults, we are planning a teen movie night and for our adults, we are planning a non-religious social. Sunday School will continue with our young adults assisting our teachers and students, and our <u>Adult Education program</u> will kick-off in October along with <u>Book Club</u> and <u>Torah Study</u>. An active temple builds connections and continuity, possible only with your support and participation.

If there are activities that you believe would be good for the temple, please don't hesitate to bring them to our attention. It is your temple, and we are hoping to meet both your family's religious and social needs.

Looking forward to the work and play of the upcoming year. Thank you to all helping to make the start of this New Year so successful. A happy, healthy and sweet New Year to all.

Mo Bauer

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