

President's Message May 2021

Normalcy?

My last few messages have been about how do we return to “normal”. I also wonder what the new normal will look like.

For those of you who have read my messages over the past few years, you know that one of my passions is travel. I began a quest a little over 5 years ago, to have my picture taken at all fifty state capitol buildings. I have put this quest on hold during the pandemic, and as of May 2021, I am starting off on the last legs of this quest. I currently have had my picture taken at 46 state capitol buildings and I am going to go to 2 of the remaining 4 this month. With only two to go, not only am I coming close to completing this quest, but it also gives me time to think about what is next.

First, let me talk about the new normal. What will it be like to go on planes, stay in hotels, rent cars, and visit some of the amazing sites of this country and this world? Will it be anxiety ridden to get on a plane? Will the fear of moving about cripple people into inaction and staying close to home?

My philosophy has always been something like the ship in a harbor analogy. A ship is relatively safe in a harbor, but no one built a ship to keep it in a harbor and not have adventures or a profession. A ship is meant to travel and be used. I feel the same way about myself. If I am not challenging myself to do what feels right to me, then I am not doing all that I can to be the person that Adonai has made. I do this by spending time with my family, gardening, woodworking and running the Jewish Center.

We are hoping to be able to have an event in June to celebrate Edythe Herson's 100th birthday. I am not sure what we will be allowed or able to do, but to mark the milestone, we need to do something.

I urge everyone of you to get vaccinated. That may be the best way for us to be able to return to normal.

I love you all.
Howie