

President's Message May 2022

As I finish my 17th year of being the president of this wonderful congregation, I look to the future.

Where will this congregation be in 20 years? Will we still be around to serve Warren County and the surrounding areas with a home for Jewish people? Will our children continue our legacy of our founding members who left us with this precious building in which we could raise Jewish children?

As I watch our Hebrew school have fewer and fewer students and fewer young families join our temple, I do wonder if we are serving our community properly. I have heard that religion is not as important in the lives of many of the younger families. I do not know why this is true, but it is not just a Jewish issue from what I hear.

I wish I knew how to attract the younger Jewish families in the area that I know are out there, but I really am clueless how a small temple like ours can do this. We do not have the capability to run a day care, which is a way for folks with young children to become engaged. If anyone has any ideas, I would love to hear them.

As I enter my 18th and final year (I think) of my presidency, I truly see the need for new leadership, and new ideas, and new energy. I love this temple with all my heart and soul, and will continue to be part of the leadership, but I really think that leaving after my 18th year makes a lot of sense. Plus, I'm not going anywhere.

I hope to see you at the annual meeting in June.
With sincere love and appreciation to all of you,
Howie