



TEMPLE BNAI ISRAEL

Jeremy Schwartz, Rabbi
Anne Willenborg, President

April 4, 2019

Dear Friends,

We at Temple Bnai Israel have spent the past few years discussing visions for the future of our congregation in Northeastern Connecticut. This year is our 110th anniversary. However, we know that demographics and interest in organized religion are changing. In this regard, the path forward to maintaining the vitality of our congregation is a challenge. As we take stock of our resources and strengths, we realize that it is very important to us as a congregation to form and maintain community relationships including interfaith relationships.

We are reaching out to you to begin a conversation regarding possibilities for sharing resources that we all need to sustain our congregations. This could allow for the sharing of facilities and perhaps secular staff, as well as coming together to build a world of love and solidarity between different ethnic and religious communities.

If this concept is of interest to you, we would like to engage in a discussion of how this might work here in Northeastern Connecticut. We are sure some of you have begun to face the demographic realities that diverse spiritual communities share in these challenging times. We are seeking to enhance human connections so that we can work more collaboratively and interdependently to strengthen the world, our families, and our lives. Our experience together through the years with other faith groups at WAIM, and in interfaith collaboration on issues of concern to our broader community, may be a foundation on which we can build for closer cooperation.

We respectfully ask your congregation to consider if there is some level of interest in exploring how we might help one another sustain and enrich our own faith communities together. We will follow up with you in a few weeks to determine your interest. You may also leave your name and contact information with our office administrator, Marlene at 860-423-3743 or via email at office@templebnaisrael.org and someone will contact you to discuss this further:

Thank you for the good work that you do in our community and we look forward to a fruitful discussion with you or your representatives.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz and Temple Bnai Israel Board of Directors

383 Jackson Street
Willimantic, CT 06226

SEND ALL
CORRESPONDENCE
TO:
PO Box 61
Willimantic, CT 06226

Phone: 860-423-3743
Fax: 860-423-7594
office@templebnaisrael.org
www.templebnaisrael.org