

If you believe the **security** of our kids and congregants is important or the **spirituality** of the High Holidays could be enhanced, then ***please take a moment to read this entire letter.***

My annual Rabbi's Challenge is here. Each year Peppy and I like to get us started with a donation. This year we will be increasing our donation by 25% to \$2500 because security is really important and we're all in this together.

Spirituality and Security

First, two questions:

1. If you were able to more fully participate in our High Holiday services would you find it more meaningful, more fulfilling and more enjoyable?
2. Do you feel more secure knowing that there are professional guards protecting your family?

If you answered "yes" to either or, hopefully, both questions, you'll quickly understand why this year's Rabbi's Challenge is so important.

Let's start with #2, just because it is easier. For some time, we have had a guard at our doors for Shabbat services and the High Holidays. Circumstances have changed. I think all of us feel the need for more security, including *guards for the time* **Religious School** is in session and all **major events**. *Your donation is needed to help cover that additional expense. It really is that simple.*

Now about Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Over the 21 years I've been your Rabbi, our services have changed, our attitudes have evolved, our music is different, we have become **more inclusive** and we **encourage participation from every member** of our congregation. However, our High Holiday services have changed very little, largely held back by the **40-year-old prayer books** we use that make it difficult for the majority of our congregation to fully participate.

It's time for new High Holiday prayer books put out by the Reform Movement, that will help with our continued **growth and the inclusion of all our congregants.**

Don't worry, we will not just abandon traditions we have built around the holidays...the reading participation, congregants reading the Torah, the prayers and melodies we have come to know.

Here's what will change:

- You won't need to sit in silence when Hebrew is read...**the transliteration is there for you.**
- New translations that capture the beauty of the Hebrew, so we relate more fully to the readings.
- Study texts that provide background and context – another way for you to explore the meaning and value of the High Holidays.
- Contemporary poetry and alternative readings
- Some new music

Please help us fulfill our need for ***Spirituality and Security.***

For a contribution of \$540 or more you will receive an invitation for a special event. I don't know what that will be yet, but I promise it will be fun.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Goren

Donations can be made by credit card, online at Avodah.org, by calling the office 516 766-6809.

To pay by check, please use the form below.

Leadership Level	Donation
Patriarchs & Matriarchs	\$25,000.00
Moses & Miriam	\$18,000.00
Prophets	\$10,000.00
Aaron & Jochebed	\$5,000.00
Solomon	\$3,600.00
Ruth	\$1,800.00
Joshua	\$1,000.00
Noah	\$540.00
David	\$360.00
Jerusalem	\$180.00
Family of Israel	\$108.00
Child of Israel	\$54.00
Supporter	Other

Rabbi's Challenge Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

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For our Spirituality and Security, please find my check for \$ _____

Make checks payable to Temple Avodah.

Mail to: Temple Avodah, 3050 Oceanside Rd., Oceanside, NY 11572