



Dear Congregants,

Since Rabbi Kedar's announcement, we have been working on the initial steps for our rabbinic search. Given the importance of this search, I am committed to providing regular updates throughout the process.

I am pleased to announce that Steffanie Pinsky and Steven Harfield have agreed to serve as Co-Chairs of the Rabbinic Search Committee. Steffanie serves as Recording Secretary on the Executive Board and is the past Membership Chair on the Board of Trustees. Steven is a lifetime member of BJBE and is the Building and Grounds Chair on the Board of Trustees. Throughout the years, Steffanie and Steven have led and participated in various BJBE committees. They are committed to leading a search where every constituency of the congregation will be represented and heard.

The national process for every rabbinic search in the Reform Movement begins with the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). The CCAR provides resources and training for both rabbis and congregations to ensure smooth placement and transition. The to-be-formed Rabbinic Search Committee will work closely with the CCAR to ensure that our candidates meet all of the appropriate qualifications.

In addition to the Rabbinic Search Committee, three other committees will be formed. The first will be dedicated to creating focus groups. This committee will develop questions and meet with our community to determine the future direction of our congregation. We will also establish a tribute committee that will be responsible for the programming and events that celebrate the legacy of Rabbi Kedar. Lastly, there will be a transition committee that will be tasked with ensuring that our new Senior Rabbi is welcomed and integrated into our BJBE community.

With faith, courage, and wisdom, we are embarking on a rabbinic search that will determine the future of our congregation. We are confident that with the support of the congregation and its leaders, we will find a new Senior Rabbi who embodies all that BJBE represents today and in the future.

Happy Chanukah,

Brian Tenner