



Dear Congregants,

BJBE is embarking on a fourteen-month journey to find our next Senior Rabbi. Given that this process involves four essential committees, we want to have a name that truly reflects the totality of our journey together. We have chosen ***Gesher L'Atid: Bridge to the Future***.

The first *Gesher L'Atid* committee, Visioning, will be dedicated to focus groups (Tent Talks). This committee will develop questions and meet with members to better understand the future vision of our congregation. The second is the Rabbinic Search Committee which will take what is learned during the Tent Talks, identify leadership traits best suited for that vision, and lead the search process. Third, we will have a Tribute Committee that will be responsible for creating opportunities and moments for us to 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.

We are very excited to announce that we have engaged Rabbi Steve Kaye of Or Chadash Consulting to support us in *Gesher L'Atid*. After two decades of working with rabbinic and cantorial colleagues, executive directors, educators, their professional staffs and congregational boards, Rabbi Kaye has become the leading consultant on rabbinical searches. He has relationships with many clergy members nationwide and has a deep understanding of the Rabbinic search process. Rabbi Kaye will be our guide as we search for a Senior Rabbi who will lead us to fulfill our vision for BJBE today and in the future.

Over the next two months, we will continue to work to finalize committees and engage in an in-depth orientation/review of the CCAR placement process. In addition, the Visioning Committee will begin the design and implementation of the Tent Talks and confidential surveys.

We are also in the process of creating a new section on the BJBE website that will be solely dedicated to *Gesher L'Atid*. It will include a letter from the Board President and Frequently Asked Questions and Answers. Most importantly, it will include updates so you will always know where we are in the process. This search impacts our entire BJBE community and we are committed to keeping you regularly informed throughout the process. Please feel free to reach out to us anytime at rabbinicalsearch@bjbe.org.

We are so honored to be leading these committees and look forward to working closely with our BJBE community.

Steffanie Pinsky and Steve Harfield
Gesher L'Atid Co-Chairs