

Ritual Committee Report – June 4, 2017

It's hard to believe, but we've been in our new building just over a year. We've had a very busy year. We started off with beautiful and spiritual High Holiday services with Cantor Saralee Shrell-Fox and I'm happy to announce that we have contracted with her to return for the upcoming high holidays. Our varied Friday night services, Shabbat morning services, and holiday services were well attended throughout the year, but as I always say, there is always room for more. We continued to learn at the Breakfast Torah Study Shabbat services where we use the transliterated siddur so that everyone can participate. The Sisterhood hosted a lovely Sisterhood Shabbat service where we honored Janet Petkun for all her work for the Sisterhood and Temple. The students of our Religious School participated in the Shabbat services several times during the year showing us how much they've learned. We kvelled over two students becoming Bar Mitzvah and one becoming a Bat Mitzvah and have one more to look forward to this coming Shabbat. The students always make us proud and each year add more to their repertoire.

We decided to change the name of our committee to the Ritual and Spiritual Life Committee this year because of all the different types of matters in which we are involved.

Now for some well deserved thank you's: First, thank you to Ruth Gershman, Janet Quint, Janet Petkun and Gladys Petkun and all the other women who helped to prepare the Kiddush luncheons every week. I would also like to thank Harriet Pollard and Arlene Klotz for all the shopping and prep work making these communal times possible.

Next, a huge thank you to Bryan Liberty and his team of volunteers for setting up for our services and all special events. They are like Eveready batteries. They never stop working and are always ready to go.

And as always, I would like to thank the members of the Ritual Committee for their commitment to our traditions and to our Congregation. The committee grew

a bit this year so I thank all our members: Lil Konowitz, Sidney Quint, Lila Rosenbaum, David Dauer, Shelley Charnoff, Jay Balaban, Harriet Goldstein, George Goldstein, Francine Weistrop and David Ehrmann and to Rabbi Benjamin, thank you for your continuing guidance and advice.

I also would like to wish much success to the new committee chair and Vice President of Ritual and Spiritual Life, David Ehrmann.

Thank you.