Dear TBI Family,

It gives me great pleasure to announce the addition of Cantor Katie Oringel to the Temple B’nai Israel clergy team. When the Cantorial Search Committee, led by co-chairs Denise Kirschbaum and Jorge Rodnizki, was convened, they set out to find a stellar ordained cantor to partner with Rabbi Lobel and Temple staff with the objective of elevating our religious services, engaging our members in meaningful study, enhancing our adult choir and building a children’s or junior choir. During her interview, it became clear that Cantor Oringel was the best fit. She demonstrated all the attributes we were hoping for in a candidate and more. She was well prepared and answered questions with warm, witty, and thoughtful responses. She also truly impressed us with her beautiful singing.

For me, I knew she was the one as soon as she sang “What a Wonderful World” by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss with some of the lyrics in Hebrew. I looked around the room and saw many of the Cantorial Search Committee members wiping tears from their eyes. It was beautiful! She also sang a beautiful rendition of R’tzei a cappella so well that the committee needed a minute to catch its breath. She concluded with a version of Adon Olam that she sung to the melody of “Jerusalem of Gold,” which was both creative and spiritually evocative.

Cantor Oringel will be joining our congregational family at the end of June. She is just as excited as we are to begin this next chapter of her cantorial journey with our community. If you would like to know more about her experience, we have attached her professional profile.

“We are so proud of the dedication and perseverance of our Cantorial Search Committee. They worked tirelessly and challenged us to find the best Cantor for TBI. In the end, they did! We feel blessed and grateful to have found the wonderful and talented Cantor Katie Oringel for our community,” wrote Denise Kirschbaum and Jorge Rodnizki. These are challenging times filled with uncertainty, but we feel strongly that Cantor Oringel, in partnership with Rabbi Lobel and our dedicated and loyal staff, will guide, strengthen and inspire us to grow and persevere. After all, that is one of Temple B’nai Israel’s most distinctive qualities, perseverance. May this be the beginning of a wonderful new chapter in our congregational family. We know you’ll join us in welcoming our new cantor with TBI’s characteristic warmth and enthusiasm.

Sincerely yours,

Polly Kraus
TBI President