



A Message from Rabbi Julie Kozlow

26 Tevet 5780/ January 23, 2020



Dear Friends,

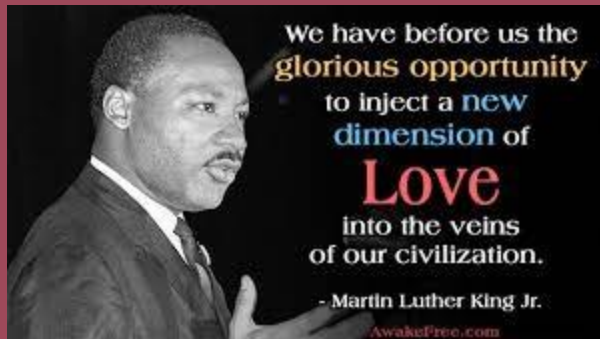
This past week, we, as a country, honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, and I can't help but notice in my own heart how this important day has taken on an even deeper meaning for me since Dr. King was killed. Somehow, I can't help but believe that we were so much more innocent during the tumultuous days that he lived. I think I actually believed that his murder would somehow result in his dreams coming true sooner. As if the tragedy of his death would inspire the world to elevate itself to become more just, more compassionate, in the face of the loss of such a relentless warrior of justice.

We cannot know if the world is a better place today than it was then, too many variables to take into consideration that only God can calculate, but I do know that my respect for Dr. King comes from his relentless commitment to Torah values that inspired his life. Oh yes, it may have been the Old testament to him, but his life was lived out loud and drenched in Torah values. It was simple really, serve, give, care, and help make the world a place where Justice guides human relations, where everyone counts the same, because in the eyes of God, we do. Without equal opportunity we cannot measure true potential and we must all be committed to insuring, in every way possible, that the life of humanity be fair and just. That's Torah.

Now it is true that there is slavery to be found in the Torah which would mean to some that inequality is acceptable to God, but its not that we find slavery in the ancient world of the Torah, its that the Rabbis refused to call that Torah. No they said, it may have been the way it was but it is not the way God wants it to be. **In fact the Rabbis, crafted Judaism in complete rejection of all things war, violent and unjust, and believe me, all of which can be found in the Torah. The pursuit of justice is the loudest voice to echo from Torah and it has crafted our sacred heritage into the spiritual discipline of righteousness that it is.**

I pray that I will be able to live every moment of life that God gives me, in the service of goodness. Dr. Martin Luther King was thoroughly dedicated to the call that relentlessly pursued him and that kind of commitment IS the message for me this year. Am I living in the service of others? Am I uplifting the world with my actions? Am I allowing my compassion to subdue my judgment? I am driven to answer yes to those three questions every single day of my life and I know that so many of you join me.

Its so wonderful to have a community as we have that cares so much. In the contentious and harsh world in which we live, having such a loving community is priceless indeed.



When we look at modern humanity, we have to face the fact that humans of our time suffer from a kind of poverty of the spirit, which stands in glaring contrast with the scientific and technological abundance of our times. We have learned to fly the air like birds, we have learned to swim the seas as fish, yet we haven't learned to walk the earth as brothers and sisters.

Dr Martin Luther King Jr.



I would like to welcome to our Temple family our newest congregants, Gloria and Bruce Hershman. The Hershmans were, once upon a time members of TBS and I for one, am so happy that they have come back home. Something was missing without them!

So welcome back Gloria and Bruce, we can't wait to see your faces back home again.



Welcome Bruce and Gloria Hershman!

Well our first Meet and Greet is almost upon us, this Sunday at 3PM at the TIS Gallery downtown. We have around ten prospective members who have committed to attend and many wonderful congregants who will drop by and show our visitors what a genuinely wonderful congregation we have to offer. Shirley and Wayne Grossman will be playing their beautiful flutes as background music. Our own TBS fabulous artists, Barbara Sussman and Joanne Brody have each donated a piece of art for the raffle. Please be sure to drop by Sunday afternoon and join the fun.



Please Join Rabbi Kozlow, the Board of Directors and Congregation
Temple B'rith Shalom
Sunday, January 26th, 2020, 3-5pm

Meet & Greet

*Cheese, Wine, Dessert and Art at 'Tis Art Center and Gallery at 105 S.
Cortez St. in Prescott.*

Come and meet our congregation and let us greet you as we welcome you
to join our family.

Please kindly RSVP to Jessica in the office or
email at office@brithshalom-az.org

I want to share with you the utter joy of last Friday night when we had 65 people for the family service at shul. Wow what a beautiful sight. I wanted to thank Susanne Ehrlich and Bonnie Manco who organize the delicious dinner, it is such a wonderful evening that they make sure unfolds every third Shabbat of the month. We so appreciate their hard work and beautiful dedication THANK YOU!!!!



HOLY HIKING

Please join us on Wednesday the 29th of January at Lynx Lake for a bit of meditation, Torah, silent walking and friendship. A congregation who hikes together, prays together, has fun together, holds each other up in times of need, together, this is a

congregation that stays together. I hope to see you there. I hope that you will join us for some HOLY HIKING around Lynx Lake on January 29th at 10AM. Please let Jessica know if you plan to join us, we wouldn't want to leave anyone behind.



Friends, I had a very productive meeting today with Todd Mason of the Chamber of Commerce in Prescott and he showed me all that they do for the Prescott community. I was so impressed by their genuine concern for all of Prescott's business community and the programming they offer in

order that we have the chance to become acquainted with each other in order to build great community. I plan to attend as many of their gatherings as possible so that I can meet as many people as I possibly can. It is such a joy living and working in a small town, it really does give us the chance to live a better and more connected life. If you check out the Community calendar on the Chamber website now, you will see our Sunday Meet and Greet advertised for all to see!!!!

I stopped into the meeting today held by the wonderful Gerta Samuels and FROM HOME WITH LOVE. What a great organization and one that is flied with good souls doing very noble work. What could be more meaningful than putting together packages of goodies for our youngsters in the service. Remember being at camp and receiving a package from home? It is a superb organization and you can stop by Shul once a month and help to put these care packages together. Nothing could feel better. Here's the picture I snapped of the hard working group.





Friends, I was so blessed this week to meet the wonderful Gayle Pokorny who has for years, been the writer of the lovely handwritten thank you cards sent from the Temple office. She is such a delight and I am so grateful to her for lending her beautiful handwriting to many of my personal correspondences. Please thank her when you see her for her years of service to Temple B'rith Shalom. How lucky are we?



David Hess, Director of Jewish Community Fountain, Rabbi Julie Kozlow, spiritual leader of Temple B'rith Shalom, Cristine Resnick, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Foundation and Jim Rubin, President of Temple B'rith Shalom, enjoying each other's company following a very productive morning meeting. We are so proud to be forging strong and unified bonds between Temple B'rith Shalom and the Foundation.



Thank you all for your patience with the roll out of SHUL CLOUD. With the passing of Emily's beloved daughter, Amy, things have come to a stand

still, as well they should. When Emily is ready we will start up again but for now, she needs time to grieve and mourn this terrible loss. So thank you all for your understanding. Shul Cloud will wait for us. Emily and John have more important soul work to do now. Our love is with them.

I end this letter today with another wonderful quote from Dr Martin Luther King Jr. It speaks to me so profoundly and I hope it does to you as well,

Make a career of humanity, commit yourself to the noble struggle for justice. You will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country and a finer world to live in.

May you each be thoroughly inspired to live your best life. May generosity and kindness spice up everything you do, everyone you meet, every moment at hand. We most certainly are uplifting the world together, from our beautiful little High desert home of Prescott.

Many blessings of love and peace,

Rabbi Julie