

First, I'd like to thank all of you for the opportunity to speak to you tonight. It is an honor and a privilege to be here on the holiest of holidays. For those of you who don't know, Marc and I have been members of Temple Tikvah since 2009 and have raised our two daughters here. My family's history dates back to the founding of Temple Emanuel and Marc's family has a long history at their temple in New Jersey. Judaism has held and always will hold a significant place in our lives and hopefully our children's as they become adults and have families of their own.

None of us is certain what our future will bring...How will we make it through the winter with COVID looming, what will the face of businesses look like, how will our children make it through a semester of school? There are so many unanswered questions.

Theodore Hertzl said *"Im tirtzu ein zo agadah. - If you will it, it is no dream."*

Temple Tikvah has many strengths. They include providing a home of stability, a place of consistency and a place of connection to our community. We need and value all of these strengths, especially during the current pandemic and climate. If you will it, it is no dream.

Through this pandemic Temple has found new ways to connect and care for each other while at the same time remaining true to our identity and our values. We have worked hard to continue the programming you have come to love and look forward to, as well as to be available to you as a place of spiritual connection.

In order to continue to be a source of support and comfort, to continue building for our future, we need YOU. With this altered reality we have faced a shortfall of thousands of dollars due to lack of rentals and the financial impact that the pandemic has brought on so many of you.

This foundation that is part of my family history and part of each of your history and future, depends on us. We need to come together in this unique moment to contribute something so we can secure a future for our children and our children's children.

If you will it, it is no dream. These have been difficult times for all of us and we have been faced with extraordinary challenges to meet the needs of our community. But as a community we can overcome them. It is for this reason that I am asking you to participate in tzedakah and help support our Temple Tikvah community. For those of you visiting us we welcome your support and tzedakah too. Together we can continue to be a vibrant community demonstrating our commitment to Judaism and its future.

L'Shana Tova. Happy, healthy and sweet New Year to all of you and your families.