

August 31, 2020 | 10 Elul 5780

Dear Friends,

Shana Tova from Kehillat Ma'arav!

In just eighteen days, we will usher in a new year: 5781. It will certainly be one for the books and we are so grateful to be sharing it with you, our synagogue family.

Like so many other milestones, observances, and holidays over the past six months, our High Holiday celebration will look and feel different this year, and although we cannot be physically together, shoulder-to-shoulder with one another, we still have much to be grateful for as we prepare ourselves for The Days of Awe.

All of our services will be live (not pre-recorded) and offered online via Zoom. Rabbi Gotlieb, Cantor Cohen, and Cantor Fine, alongside the Ritual Committee, have been working hard to create an engaging and meaningful experience for each service throughout the *chagim*. Sharone Weizman and Masha Savitz will also be offering their interactive and creative programming for our youngest KMers on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Though we will be connecting mostly virtually this year, many of our sacred and time-honored KM traditions will continue! With that, I invite you **to honor the memory of a loved one in our Book of Remembrance**, contribute to the overall look and feel of our main service by **sponsoring our High Holiday flowers for the bima**, or order a lulav and etrog to shake on Sukkot.

Our leadership is still exploring ways that we might couple our online services and programs with socially-distant, in-person activities when we are able to ensure the health and safety of all, while still remaining compliant with local ordinances. Until then, we are proud to offer two opportunities to connect outside of the virtual world:

Our One-Stop High Holidays Drive-In: Borrow a *machzor* (one per family), pick up challah dough, receive this year's Book of Remembrance, and share a "Shana Tova" with our staff on **Wednesday, September 16 from 4pm – 7pm on 21st Street** in front of KM.

Moments at the Ark: In between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we invite you and your family to have share a few sacred moments before the Ark in the KM Sanctuary. (Please use the Sign Up form online to reserve your time slot.)

It is my honor and privilege to be a part of this extraordinary community as your Executive Director, and I am eager to celebrate this sacred time with all of you in as many ways as I can. May we all be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life for a good year, in good health, and may we all be together, in our beloved synagogue, soon.

All the best,

Kate Flanagan
Executive Director