

## Presidential Matters

by Steve Aronowitz



The High Holidays are a time for reflection, and so it presents me with the opportunity to share some thoughts as I *look back at* 10 years of service as president in a place I proudly call my synagogue.

We consider Congregation L'Dor V'Dor a thriving community, woven together with a shared commitment to prayer, Jewish learning, and mitzvot. In the past decade, we have grown through a consolidation that brought two proud congregations into one that provides a center of Judaism for hundreds of community members.

We have been thrilled with the addition of Rabbi Yaffe and Cantor Shron, tremendously talented leaders whose enthusiasm and energy provide a nurturing synagogue, open and accepting of all who enter our doors. Thanks to the contributions of devoted members, our shul bridges people of all ages and from all walks of life. Our Saturday morning services attract over 50 members regularly. We continue to make a commitment to the welfare of Jews in Israel and throughout the world, including right here in our area.

We come to synagogue to share joy and sadness, as an extended family for social, cultural and religious gatherings.

Our mission, however, remains incomplete. The High Holidays are a time to reflect on who we are and who we want to become – as individuals and as a people. Demographics are not encouraging. For our future, we must assess our needs and be responsible in addressing them.

While we are very proud of what we offer our members, we also understand that programming for our diverse congregational family is costly. Once each year, temple members are given an opportunity to support excellence with a gift over and above their dues. Your participation, at whatever level is comfortable, is critical to help us continue building a synagogue that makes a difference in our lives.

We look at the world and see many flaws. We wonder how the problems of our nation can be solved. Perhaps now more than ever, we recognize the importance of being a member of a synagogue.

On behalf of Julie and Jordan and members of our Board, I wish you a sweet, happy, and healthy New Year. As another High Holy Day season unfolds, I hope you will join us in reflecting on the many successes and longstanding traditions at our temple and that you will respond to our needs so that we will continue to prosper as a temple family.