



From Your President

By Steve Aronowitz

It's only a once-a-year event but, for me, it's certainly worth the wait and if you were fortunate enough to be in attendance at the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving service, I am pretty sure you left the synagogue feeling good about where we live.

The well-attended event, which moves from one House of Worship to another each year, highlights the beauty of our community. Interspersed with music, readings and addresses by local spiritual leaders, the theme of the program was "joining together."

"There is great value in understanding that religion and religious differences don't divide us from very basic and human spiritual imperatives we have, one of which is Thanksgiving," explained Pastor Forrest Parkinson of the Community Church of Little Neck.

Pastor Forrest was joined by his wife, Pastor Moira Parkinson, who confirmed, "We are part of a greater community, an expression of God's will and province." The Pastor continued, "It's the highlight of my year...it means so much to see the diversity in people coming together for the common good of our community. I can't think of a higher purpose...to care for our neighbors."

Thanksgiving is a food-centered holiday for many; taking a few minutes to celebrate what we have together brings meaning to the day.

Our own Cantor Josh Shron, led the audience in a Hebrew song of Thanksgiving and Rabbi Gary Greene of Marathon Jewish Community Center, offered a Jewish interpretation of scripture, which concluded the evening.

"Each of us typically lives in our own bubble, often oblivious to various aspects of the world around us," commented Cantor Shron. "But when you open your eyes, you discover that we all share so much in common. For me personally, this service is always eye-opening, inspiring, interesting and educational," he continued. "Everyone who attends always feels thankful that they came."

I encourage you to arrange your schedule to attend next year. It is a moving experience.

