



Dear Religious School Parents,

Welcome to the start of another what promises to be a unique and exciting year at the Morris Gold Religious School. We know that this year will be much different than prior years as we bring our children to learn together while remaining separate. Our experience Spring Semester of the last Religious School term demonstrates that Jewish learning and growth is possible utilizing distance learning methods, and with your help and support this coming year will be memorable, meaningful, and enriching for your children, your family, and your Temple community.

You are a valued part of our Temple Beth Emet Family. The education of our children is a primary obligation of the Jewish community. As Torah commands us, *“(a)nd these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children”* (Deuteronomy 6:6). Our Temple Beth Emet family takes this obligation seriously, yet joyously, and we are honored to partner with you in instilling in the next generation the knowledge and experiences that will form their Jewish identities for the rest of their lives.

As parents, your role in your children’s Jewish education is perhaps more important than ours. This is even more true this year than in the past, as we rely on you to oversee your children’s attendant, attention, and application to their religious studies at home. As I often say, if we want Judaism to be important to our children, we must show them that Judaism is important to us. I also urge you to become involved to the extent possible in our Temple community. There are opportunities through our Religious School Parents Association, Shabbat and holiday observances, adult education, Book Club, Sisterhood, Havurot, and numerous other Temple activities and volunteer opportunities. Some activities and opportunities have, of course, have been impacted by the current health situation, but not all.

We know that there are many demands on your personal and family time, but I assure you that if you make the investment of your energies in our Temple Beth Emet community, the return will be surprisingly rewarding. Our Temple belongs to you as well as you belonging to it.

Thank you again for allowing us to be part of your children’s Jewish education. Please feel free to express your ideas or concerns to me, Rabbi Mark, our Education Chair David Goldstein, Religious School Parents Association President Cherie Rye, or any member of the Board of Directors.

We are going to have a wonderful year!

Cordially,

IRA L. GOLDSTEIN, President