

2020-21/5781

Dear New Member,

Welcome to our Netivot Shalom family. We want you to feel part of our community. We want you to find ways to meet other members and form lasting relationships. Of course, this year is different from other years. A year ago I would have encouraged you to come to services, meet people at Kiddush, attend weekly Torah or Talmud study with some of our learned teachers, join in meditation, knit with Netivot Knits, see films with V'zot Yisrael, bicycle or hike with other members, get involved with social action. Or bring your young children to our Shabbat b'yachad program and have your older children and teens join Shabboptions or Ketzev or Amitim. You get the idea.

But this year is different. Covid-19 and the resulting shelter in place have changed everything. We are now zooming everything! You can join us for services: Wednesday morning minyan, Kabbalat Shabbat, Shabbat morning, Havdallah. We offer Torah and Talmud study on zoom, classes on zoom, game night on zoom, "Offerings of Hope and Gratitude presented by Rabbi Chai, and much more.

We take social action seriously; we formed a group to work on climate change and have also begun the hard work of becoming an anti-racist shul. We have created a Membership Experience Team to work on creating relational opportunities for our members. This group of congregants along with the ritual committee, our new youth education director, Rebecca Goodman, and of course Rabbi Chai are working hard to create meaningful and participatory High Holiday experiences for all.

We hope you get involved with the Netivot Shalom community. Please feel free to contact me. I would enjoy having a more personal conversation with you. You can email me at <u>l.yellenberg@gmail.com</u>. I look forward to getting to know you.

B'ruchim Habaim,

Lynne Yellenberg, President of the Board