

Rosh Hashanah—Judy Zimmerman

My husband Steve and I have been members of Kol Shofar for almost 36 years. When asked for a reflection for this time of year-it is one of gratitude, transition and l'dor v'dor, generation to generation.

As young marrieds with young children, we joined Kol Shofar because it offered services that both of us were comfortable with. We had grown up in Conservative Jewish families that emphasized the importance of holding onto Jewish values and being synagogue members. We are thankful for parents who encouraged us and led by example by actively participating in their communities.

Kol Shofar at the time, had 60 families and services were held in a myriad of local schools. But the spirit of congregant participation and ruach was and I believe still is, our trademark. How awe inspiring for us especially to worship here in this magnificent place, considering where our institution started. So at each High Holidays we worship in this building, we are thankful not only for its splendor, but also for the continued warmth that we have as a congregation.

We are thankful for a Kol Shofar community that helped nurture us and our children. We are thankful for the bygone days of Beit Binah and Confirmation trips to Israel and Kol Shofar Family Camp retreats. Some of our best friends and children's best friends were made here during those years.

We are thankful for a community that is there for us in good times or difficult times with caring clergy. We are thankful for a community who recently helped celebrate our son Josh's and future daughter-in-laws Naomi's auf ruf . We are thankful for being able to enjoy Family Shabbats and Holiday celebrations with our other children Joy, Jason, Jake and Aimee and grandchildren Mia, Julia, Ava, Zach and Zoe.

So we are in that transition stage of life where we pass the baton to our next generation to continue what our parents and grandparents did for us with our Jewish education. Our prayer is from generation to generation that our family and synagogue will continue to thrive with the G-d's blessings.