

temple beth tikvah בית תקוה

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January 7, 2021 23 Tevet 5781

Dear TBT Family,

After an extensive search that yielded many qualified candidates, we are thrilled to announce that the Search Committee and the Board were unanimous in their decision to hire Rabbi Danny Moss to be TBT's next rabbi, starting on July 1. We write today to welcome Rabbi Moss to our congregation and to introduce him to you.

As you all know, the Search Committee was not given an easy task! We understood that any rabbi who would follow Rabbi Offner had to be someone special. We knew that the person we were looking for needed to be warm, engaging, scholarly, thoughtful and inclusive to all. It had to be someone who had a vision for TBT and its new building while having an understanding of our fundamental values and what we hold sacred. We also knew a sense of humor and ability to spread joy wouldn't hurt! We are pleased to say we have found that all in Rabbi Moss.

Rabbi Moss, originally from Chicago, comes to us with a wealth of knowledge, talents and an enthusiasm for what we will do together. A graduate of Oberlin College, majoring in Jewish Studies and Comparative Religion, he pursued his rabbinic studies at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion. He is in his fourth year at Temple Israel in Westport, CT, first as Assistant Rabbi and currently the Associate Rabbi. He is scholarly, musical and full of ideas. His enthusiasm for his work, his desire to cultivate community and his easy manner made it clear that he and TBT were made for each other. He will be joining our community along with his wonderful wife, Rabbi Susan Landau Moss, the palliative care chaplain of Bridgeport Hospital.

You can click on the link on our website, www.TBTshoreline.org, to hear him say hello in his own words. Still want to know more about how and why we selected him? Then come to a special Zoom meeting, this Sunday at 7:00 PM (link in your inbox) where Marlene Schwartz will share her presentation to the Board on behalf of the Search Committee. Come hear about the Committee's process for evaluating 21 candidates to select Rabbi Moss based on our congregation's priorities and values.

We also want to say a great thank you to our amazing Search Committee. This committed group of volunteers worked with tireless dedication over the last few months to find just the right person, as they have. When Rabbi Offner announced her retirement at Simchat Torah, we noted that the moment you come to an end is the very moment you also come to a new beginning. It gives us great pleasure to announce this new beginning with Rabbi Moss this July. We feel lucky to have found him and know that the future is going to be very bright.

B'Shalom,

Sarah N. Min

Sarah Mervine TBT President

Mariene Schwartz

Marlene Schwartz Search Committee Co-Chair

Karen Goldberg Search Committee Co-Chair

Rabbi Stacy K. Offner

Cantor Jennifer Boyle Cantor-Educator Jennifer Casillo Preschool Director Kimberly E. Romine *Administrator* Bonnie Mahon Administrative Assistant Dr. Howard F. Sommer Rabbi Emeritus