

Dear Kerem Shalom Friends,

**As we prepare to welcome Chanukah 5786, the Festival of Lights invites us to reflect on the extraordinary gift of unity and resilience sustaining us.** Courage, perseverance, and solidarity emboldened the Israelites of an earlier time to stand up, against overwhelming odds, to face their adversaries. In our own time, when we are confronted with feelings of uncertainty, division, or fear, the glow of the menorah reminds us that strength shines brightest when it is shared.

This past year, Kerem Shalom once again demonstrated what it means to meet change, and challenge, with steadiness, creativity, unity, and heart. Our community has continued to learn, celebrate, grieve, and care for one another in ways both familiar and new. Rabbi Darby's thoughtful sermons, Molly's music and spirit, Mindy's steady and empathic leadership of our Hebrew School and educational programs, Rosalie's ongoing stewardship of our adult programs, and Robyn's thorough oversight of our operations—not to mention the tireless efforts of our many volunteers—have enriched our experiences, helping us feel connected and grounded. Even the simple (but long-awaited) act of repairing our front steps reflects our shared commitment to build and rebuild what matters most.

Through worship, study, and acts of tikkun olam, Kerem Shalom remains a place where people of all backgrounds come together to find meaning and belonging. It is this shared spirit—resilient and united—that lights our way forward. **We invite you to help sustain that light.** Your annual freewill offering ensures that Kerem Shalom continues to be a vibrant Jewish home for learning, celebration, and community, and that its doors remain open to all who wish to join us—without regard to financial status. Membership dues alone cannot cover all that we do; your generosity allows our programs, services, and outreach to flourish and ensures that we can continue to show our appreciation to our cherished professional staff.

**Every gift matters. We encourage donations in multiples of \$54, symbolizing Chai (life). Whether your contribution is \$5.40, \$54, \$540, or \$5,400, your participation strengthens our shared light and keeps Kerem Shalom shining brightly.** You can make your contribution by sending a check (payable to Kerem Shalom) in the enclosed envelope, or online at [keremshalom.org/donate](https://keremshalom.org/donate). To donate stock or other securities, please contact our Administrator, Robyn Barabe, at [ksadmin@keremshalom.org](mailto:ksadmin@keremshalom.org) or 978-369-1223.

Thank you for helping our community continue to thrive—resilient, united, and filled with light. May this Chanukah bring you peace, hope, and joy.

With gratitude and warm wishes,



David Luberoff  
President



Mark Stein  
President Emeritus



Ted Barten  
Treasurer

