



Greenburgh Hebrew Center

515 Broadway Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

914-693-4260 Main

914-693-4907 Fax

www.g-h-c.org

Jay M. Stein, Rabbi

Janet Leuchter, Cantor

Barry A. Kenter, Rabbi Emeritus

Naomi R. Feinkind, President

Dear Friends,

What better way to honor Cantor Janet Leuchter than through song? *Eshet Chayl*, a song traditionally sung on Friday night before the Shabbat meal, comes from the Book of Proverbs (Chapter 31: 10-31). Eshet Chayl is translated as “Woman of Valor” where each of the 21 stanzas attributes a different quality to women; specifically, stanza 26 “***She opens her mouth with wisdom, and teaching of kindness is upon her tongue***” clearly defines Cantor Janet Leuchter for me.

The wisdom, concern, and kindheartedness that she has exhibited over these past ten years is notable. Whether it is working with a fearful child during B’nei Mitzvah Training, entering a Religious School classroom or merely walking the room during Kiddush on Shabbat afternoons, her kindness is conveyed to all.

For nearly five hundred Shabbat mornings, Cantor Janet Leuchter has led us in prayer. As our Shaliach Tzibur, her voice has enhanced the beauty of our services. She has crafted a meaningful worship experience with delightful melodies that encourages the participation of the congregation.

For ten years, Cantor Janet has engaged us during the High Holidays. Her ability to direct a choir, while small in number but strong in spirit, has amazed and moved us. Her stamina at the Amud has been incredible and her ability to involve the congregation has been inspirational. She has supported us at all life cycle events, celebrating with us in times of joy and comforting us in times of sorrow.

Ninety-five young people have had the opportunity to experience the tutorial expertise and caring of our cantor. For six months or more, Cantor Janet prepared each of them for their B’nei Mitzvahs. She taught them to chant Torah and Haftarah, each with its own trope, the prayers and so much more. Janet Leuchter taught them self-confidence and supported each one as they faced their family, friends and congregation at this most important life-cycle event.

Our ECC and RS students have benefited from their experiences with Cantor Janet. Her enthusiasm in leading the ECC children in song and her teaching of Tefillah in the RS will not be forgotten. Her eagerness and generosity of spirit in preparing the students for Family Shabbat and her development of a Children’s band and Choir has been appreciated by all.

Dear Janet, as you move on to the next chapter of your life, I wish you, joy, good health and happiness. I thank you for your dedication and commitment to GHC, for you are truly an Eshet Chayl, A Woman of Valor.

Most sincerely,
Naomi Feinkind
President

A vibrant egalitarian Conservative Jewish community in Westchester County,
embracing our traditions while actively participating in our changing world.