

Dear Faith Joy

I remember first meeting you when we were first year rabbinical students at HUC in Jerusalem. That was a long time ago! Since then, we've shared over 30 years of joys and oys of our careers, motherhood and marriage, and the fullness that comes with embracing life in all of its complexities. You are the most steadfast of friends, always willing and able to listen, share your opinions and expertise, and act with humility and sincere kindness.

I know from our weekly "schmooze and study" how passionately you care for your congregants. You delight in their joys, share their sorrows and find meaning in teaching, learning and growing with them. I've always admired your passion for social justice and your unwillingness to 'stand idly by' and instead confront injustices head on.

I am so excited for you and David as you embark upon this next phase of your lives. One of my favorite 'quotable quotes' is *meshane makom, meshane mazal* – change your place, change your fortune. I always read this as a positive statement, that something good, even great is just around the next corner.

Kol hakavod for all you have given to B'nai Abraham and your New Jersey community. Enjoy all of the well-deserved attention. And may you and David, Ezra, Benjamin, Samuel and Daniel be blessed in all your future endeavors.

With love and gratitude

Judi

(Rabbi Judith Beiner Community Chaplain Jewish Family and Career Services of Atlanta)