



May 10, 2020

Rabbi Susan Silverman
Dan 8
Jerusalem, Israel
93509

Dearest Faith Joy,

When we met—even before we started our HUC-JIR rabbinical program—I hoped we would be roommates for that first Jerusalem year, and was so grateful that we were! When we began rabbinical school, you already spoke Hebrew, were an experienced Jewish leader from camps to song-leading to being a talented *shlichat tzibbur*. I, however, didn't even know the aleph-bet!

I will never forget your unfailing encouragement and support, taking time each night to sit with me and teach me the aleph-bet, help me dissect the homework, practice vocabulary flashcards, all with an attitude of practicality—neither sympathetic nor judgmental. You were simply present with me as a guide—increasing my knowledge while strengthening my belief in myself.

Faith Joy, you might not even see your acts that year as special because, as so many of us have discovered in the 30+ years since, that is who you are—lovingly present, generous and wise.

I am one of so many people whose work in the world is a ripple effect of your investment in me, and it is such a privilege and joy to know that your impact is rippling out through the generations of TBANJ—and will bring your gifts to a new community so deeply blessed to have your loving, wise leadership.

I love you!

