



Jewish Community Center of Paramus  
Congregation Beth Tikvah  
304 E. Midland Avenue ~ Paramus NJ 07652- 201.262.7691

## A Shabbat Message from Rabbi Arthur Weiner

Friday July 1, 2022 ~ Parsha: Korach

Dear JCCP/CBT family,

### **Thank You Rabbi Avram Kogen**

This Shabbat, *Parshat Korach*, marks the beginning of Rabbi Avram Kogen's 13th year of devoted service to the Jewish Community Center of Paramus/Congregation Beth Tikvah. In honor of this anniversary, I would like to again thank him for his many contributions to the religious life of our congregation.

For the past 12 years, Rabbi Kogen has served our congregation with distinction. His "official" responsibility is to serve as our *Ba'al Koreh*, our Torah reader on Shabbat and many holidays. But the truth is that he does so much more. He is a trusted friend and confidant to both me and Cantor Weiss. He leads and officiates many of our religious services. He has served as a High Holiday *Chazzan*. He has taught adult education classes. He is a friendly and welcoming face at our Shabbat services, who welcomes visitors and newcomers to our congregation. He is a teacher and a mentor within our community who has bonded with so many of our members over the years. Rabbi Kogen regularly inspires us with his encyclopedic knowledge of Jewish texts, his warm and caring personality and absolute commitment to our congregation. We are grateful for the vital role he assumes at the JCCP/CBT.

Rabbi Kogen is also a tremendous help to me "behind the scenes". For many years, Rabbi Kogen has worked with me on conversions, funerals, and other life cycle events. He is also part of my *Beit Din* (Rabbinic court) for Jewish divorce. In this way, his reach and influence extend far beyond our synagogue community. I am grateful for the wisdom that he imparts in all of the work we conduct together. Rabbi Kogen always has the right story or anecdote to share at just the right time. Though modest in his manner, Rabbi Kogen is truly respected among the Rabbinic community in New Jersey. We are lucky to count him among our religious leadership.

I guess what I am trying to say is that Rabbi Kogen has had a huge impact and has made a profound difference in our synagogue. And for that we are grateful. God willing, we look forward to many more years together.

Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Arthur Weiner