

## **President's HHD Speech - Sheryl Liberman, Sep 24, 2014**

L'shanah tovah--a happy, healthy new year to you all. It is a great pleasure to welcome the New Year 5775 and pray with you here at our Betenu home.

Here at Betenu, we face the future together as a Jewish community. Being Jewish challenges us to remember our moral responsibilities and here at Betenu, we can make an impact. Our Executive Board who strive to keep Betenu, Our Home, a special place, are the following:

Please stand---Myself and Elsa Conrad-Co presidents

Bob Rimalover-V P Finance

Pam Blotcky-V P Ed

Barbara Bailey- V P Admin & Publicity

Mark Starin-Membership

Steve Blotcky, Allison Leary, Vivian MacGuire and Roberta Pavoll-trustees

Sara Murphy and Joel Silberberg-Trustees at large

Feel free to greet them, ask for information or give suggestions to them after services.

About a year ago, at a Shabbat service, Rav Nate asked us what goals we wanted to set for Betenu in the upcoming year. I did not have an immediate answer. It was a question that nagged at me. Because Betenu is a vital part of me and my family, that goal did become clear--**strengthening the relationships of our membership**. I challenge you, this year to re-engage with Jewish traditions and experiences. Be active in our community by celebrating Shabbat at our weekly services; feed the hungry by filling a grocery bag available upstairs by the front door and return it at Yom Kippur; be the person who delivers

those groceries to a local food bank; drop some change in one of the tzedaka boxes around the synagogue and see that your children also contribute at Sunday school.

Betenu's membership is multi- generational. We can work together to build new bridges among us--Are you young or young at heart? Help re-create our NFTY youth group; make a phone call to a sick congregant, support our student population by visiting the Sunday school to share a family memory that helped influence your Jewish life; attend a class-led service. All of these opportunities allow for us to engage with the Betenu community, ensure that our Jewish experiences make a difference and give our next generation the knowledge and example to form a sense of who they are as a Jewish person. This will add meaning, joy and fulfillment in our rich tradition to our lives as an entire congregation. Every one of us has the responsibility to provide for and to help build something tangible for Betenu, and for the next generation of Jewish children.

We all are accountable to ensure the lessons and values of life and loving are passed on and only through participation, action and l'dor v' dor will we gain strength and insight. **We are small but we can accomplished incredible things here at Betenu from one mitzvah to another, one generation to the next.**

**I' shana tovah  
Sheryl**