



## *A Message From the Rabbi*

### **What Kadima is Really About!**

Worldwide events in recent months have been a growing source of deep distress. The Gaza flotilla incident has resulted in greater disparagement of Israel, thus adding to her vulnerability. The imminent nuclearization of Iran is extremely threatening.



The impact of the terrible destruction wreaked by BP in the Gulf of Mexico will certainly last for a very long time. Further damage to the ecosystem in the face of exploding international population growth raises the threatening prospect of the inability of the planet to sustain future generations of life as know it. Spinoza has taught us of the divinity of the natural world and the Torah has instructed humanity as to our responsibility toward the natural world and the care-taking of all that lives.

All this is going on simultaneous to a severe economic recession, with significant unemployment likely to continue for some time, largely resulting from the selfishness and corruption within corporate business and government.

In the midst of all this we have founded the New Reform Congregation Kadima. It is a way to look forward and to live with hope in our seriously troubled time. Rather than submit to despair, our members are engaged in seeking meaning and guidance from Judaism, even while questioning aspects of traditional theology and practice. We understand being religious as identifying with the highest ideals of Jewish teachings. Our children and adults learn in an atmosphere that encourages freedom of thought and the questioning of assumptions, as well as adherence to the values of Jewish life, such as compassion and justice. Kadima emphasizes learning and social action for adults as well as for children.

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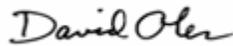
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The membership incentive programs are intended to help us bring the message of Kadima to a growing number of families and individuals who are joining our congregation. Please recommend the names of prospective members to membership chair, Susan Coleman, at [susan@thecolemans.tv](mailto:susan@thecolemans.tv) or to myself at [davidoler@nrck.org](mailto:davidoler@nrck.org).

“Kadima” means “forward.” We want to look forward, to build a community of diverse people who are like-minded in their desire to grow spiritually in an ideologically progressive, interpersonally respectful environment. We want to be mutually supportive and to help one another find hope and confidence during these challenging times to move forward as the best human beings we can be.

With best wishes,



Rabbi David Oler

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## Rabbi Oler Elected Kadima’s Founding Rabbi

Rabbi David Oler was elected as the Founding Rabbi of Congregation Kadima by all present at the Annual Meeting on May 16. At the ensuing Board meeting Rabbi Oler was granted tenure by unanimous vote.

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## Celebrating Shavuot

On Shavuot, congregational members gathered for a traditional dinner of blintzes at What’s Happening Restaurant and, again following tradition, Rabbi Oler led a session of Torah study, teaching Chapter XIX of Leviticus.

### Stay in Touch at Kadima

Contact the Rabbi, the Principal, Board members or committee chairmen by e-mail:

[office@nrck.org](mailto:office@nrck.org)

Visit the Kadima web site:

[www.nrck.org](http://www.nrck.org)



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## *From the President*

I want to thank everyone for allowing me to lead the way for the New Reform Congregation Kadima. With our newly elected board, we are excited to begin planning and working for the future and are making great strides in establishing ourselves as a congregation.

I also want to thank Rabbi Oler for the many things he's been doing in fostering the new congregation, including working with Mary to help negotiate the new home for Kadima. Our new facility will be at the Unitarian Congregation, 2100 Half Day Road in Deerfield, where we will hold our services and bar and bat mitzvahs and where our religious school and the library will be housed.

We have formed a number of committees and they are already active. There are committees for Finance, Fundraising, and Social Action as well as House, Oneg and Hospitality, and Technology and Publicity. The congregation is growing and we are continuing to reach out to the community through our Membership Committee. We have events planned out for every month thanks to our Programming Committee.

Our religious school hours will be on Friday afternoons. This will be a first of its kind and should increase our appeal to potential students as well as free up parents on Sunday mornings.

All in all, we are achieving a lower overhead and gaining more time to focus on new religious and congregational activities as Kadima continues to move forward.

On a more personal note, this summer my daughter will have a Bat Mitzvah. It will coincide with the Shabbat service on August 20, beginning at 7:30 p.m., to be held that evening at the Marriott Suites in Deerfield. All those who would like to come to the service and then join us for the oneg immediately following are invited. Please RSVP to [warren@usadishtv.com](mailto:warren@usadishtv.com) or 847-456-5033 (cell) by August 13 to let us know if you will be sharing this happy occasion with us.

Warren Schoen  
President

## **Congratulations to the First Kadima Board of Directors**

### **Officers**

President: Warren Schoen  
Executive Vice President: Bruce Hirsh  
Finance Vice President: Michael Mondschain  
Membership Vice President: Mark Shapiro  
Technology Vice President: Marc Dubey  
Treasurer: Howard Teitelbaum  
Secretary: Louise Pearson

### **Trustees**

Susan Coleman  
Sasha Feingold  
Joshua Kellman  
Paula Krecun  
Al Levine  
Scott Taxman  
Scott Warren

### **...and many thanks to the interim Board of Directors, February 28-May 16**

President: Louise Pearson  
Vice President: Mickey Kesselman  
Treasurer: Mike Kritzman  
Secretary: Jeff Kogan

Yelena Kalugina  
Cliff Silverman  
Marc Dubey  
Michael Mondschain

*A lovely dinner was held at Titi de Paris in honor of the outgoing and incoming boards of directors of Kadima. Rabbi Oler thanked them for their hard work and urged them to continue to encourage the enthusiasm of others by their wonderful example.*

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## **School Board Appointed**

Josh Kellman, Chair  
Vicky Feingold  
Alexis Gunn  
Lauren Kritzman

Yelena Kalugina  
Tanya Lerner  
Becky Thall

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## **Committees and Committee Chairs Named**

Bulletin "Kol Kadima"  
Finance  
Fundraising  
House  
Membership  
Oneg and Hospitality  
Programming  
Social Action  
Technology and Publicity

Ros Nitzberg, Editor, and Callie Dixon  
Scott Taxman  
Bruce Hirsh  
Leonard Sneider  
Susan Coleman  
Linda Hirsh, Antje Kalov, Bobbie Levine  
Shana Mallin  
Paula Krecun  
Marc Dubey

*Please feel free to contact any of the above individuals by e-mail ([office@nrck.org](mailto:office@nrck.org))  
to volunteer or to discuss your ideas or concerns*

## *A Message from the Principal*

I just spent a great week with a number of our congregation's Middle and High School students at our Youth Service Camp. The campers helped select several community service projects for this session: working with animals was a popular choice, and the group baked dog biscuits and "pupcakes" for the Orphans of the Storm shelter in Riverwoods and spent time there visiting the dogs and cats. The campers also had a field trip to the famous PAWS shelter in Chicago, the brainchild of a 14 year old girl with great sympathy for homeless dogs, where they took a tour and learned more about animal welfare. Our camp week coincided with a camp for disabled teens and young adults sponsored by the Center for Enriched Living in Riverwoods, and our campers facilitated a variety of sports activities there. The group also sold lemonade as a fundraiser for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, a charity started by a four year old girl with leukemia. The campers had fun going out for pizza, playing mini golf, and more. A report on their activities was given at the June Family Service, and the campers gave gag awards to one another. I want to thank the Shapiro family for offering their home as our base and Alexa Mather and Mara Greenberg for giving a week of their time to assist us.

I am looking forward to working with the Rabbi, School Board and teachers to create a new model for our Religious School. Though many of the subjects taught will be the same, since we will be meeting on Friday afternoons next year the overall context will be one of entering into Shabbat together, and we will conclude school with a short Shabbat service and oneg. Families will then have the rest of the weekend to spend as they wish. I am also pleased with our new location which has a nurturing atmosphere in its classrooms and a beautiful sanctuary for celebrating our holidays and b'nai mitzvah.

This edition of Kol Kadima contains some B'nai Mitzvah speeches from the past school year. I think congregants of all ages will enjoy reading our students' insights into the Torah and its lessons for living fulfilling and beneficial lives. Thanks to Rachel Silverman and Ann Oler for sharing their thoughts with us.

We had lots of children and teenagers at our June Family Service and dinner. These Shabbat celebrations are a wonderful way to get to know our members of all ages, and they continue throughout the summer. Please consider joining us soon!

Shalom,

Mary Oler

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*An apple of appreciation to our Principal and to each of the wonderful and dedicated Religious School teachers who kept classes running smoothly in our temporary quarters throughout the start-up period of the New Reform Congregation Kadima!*



## Congregational Happenings

### Sabbath Services

Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at our new home, 2100 Half Day Road, Deerfield.

#### Monthly Family Services

One Friday each month at 6:30 p.m. at Jimmy's Charhouse Restaurant, Deerfield Road and Milwaukee Avenue. Watch for specific dates!

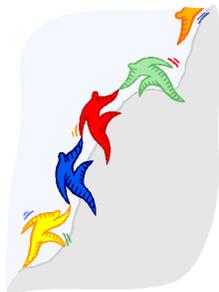


*Many thanks to Rabbi and Mary Oler for graciously opening their home for Sabbath services during Kadima's start-up period. The peace of the Sabbath was enhanced by the added sense of close community.*

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### Social Action Committee Meets

The Social Action Committee, which consists of Paula Krecun, Linda Hirsh, Antje Kalov, Leonard Sneider and Lois Summers, has met twice over the last few weeks at Rabbi David Oler's house. We have discussed different services we as a new organization could become involved with.



The members of the SAC have decided to focus on four important services this year:

- 1) A Blood Drive
- 2) Feeding the Homeless
- 3) Hand in Hand (where we help our community members in times of joy and sorrow)
- 4) Sedgebrook (We will be helping the elderly in different ways)

We will also be putting information into the bulletin concerning helping the environment. We were thinking about calling it the "Green Corner."

None of this will be possible without your help. If you would like more information on any of these projects please get in touch with Paula Krecun at [pkrecun@comcast.net](mailto:pkrecun@comcast.net) or 847-674-4963. You will be receiving more information concerning all of these projects as we move forward.

We are looking forward to a great year!

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### Program Committee Plans Events

**July 10**, 7:00 p.m.: An evening of Greek food and wine at Opa! Estiatorio. RSVP to [faith.dolgin@gmail.com](mailto:faith.dolgin@gmail.com) by July 7.

**August 27**: Membership Open House service for prospective members

**August 29**: Barbeque

*Please plan to come and enjoy each other's company at these occasions!*

## News about Kadima Members



**Jack Henkin** and **Louise Pearson** received a Special Award from Interfaith Housing on May 13 for their effort in organizing support for a needy family. Rabbi Oler spoke in their honor and Kadima took out a congratulatory ad descriptive of Jack and Louise that quoted from the biblical Book of Micah, "act justly, love mercy and walk humbly."

Congratulations to  
**Eric and Jolie Centazzo**  
on the birth of their son.



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## Thanks to...



The Congregation is especially grateful to **Jack Henkin** and **Louise Pearson** whose generous contributions have enabled Kadima to rent facilities and cover certain other expenses.



Heartfelt thanks also to **Howard and Debbie Teitelbaum**. Because of them Kadima has been able to purchase one hundred copies of the Torah (with English translation and commentary, published by the Reform Movement) and to meet the publication costs for new liturgical materials.



And thanks to **Congregation Emanuel of Chicago** for lending the New Reform Congregation Kadima a Torah Scroll.

## ***Patrons and Sustaining Members***

Patrons and Sustaining Members generously choose to pay special dues that make it possible for the congregation to assist members who find it difficult to pay full dues or school fees.

Please consider becoming a Patron or Sustaining Member.

Patron: \$5,760  
Sustaining: \$4,210  
Sustaining Single: \$2,885

Patrons:

**Jack Henkin and Louise Pearson**

**Howard and Debbie Teitelbaum**

Sustaining Members:

**Al and Bobbie Levine  
Warren and Ellen Schoen**



Sincere condolences to

**Howard and Debbie Teitelbaum**

on the loss of  
Howard's mother,  
Eunice Teitelbaum

## **B'not Mitzvah**

### **Jessica Victoria Schoen**

August 20, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Deerfield Marriott Suites 6 N Parkway

Jessica Schoen is entering the seventh grade at Caruso Middle School in Deerfield. Jessica has reached the honor roll consecutively for the past three semesters at Caruso. She currently works with the children at the school who have disabilities and has been with the peer buddy program teaching the students and sharing playtime with them at school and at home. Jessica is actively part of the Caruso cheerleading team and captain of her team with Cheer Alliance in Lake Forest and recently performed at UIC, Navy Pier and Mundelein High School for competition tournaments. During her summers Jess has been on the Deerfield travel softball for the past four years. A social butterfly, she loves her friends and family. She enjoys music, dance, and drama. She has been working hard preparing for her Bat Mitzvah and is looking forward to celebrating with her relatives and friends from temple and school.

### **Marnie Kritzman**

September 4, 2010

10:30 a.m.

Marnie Kritzman will become a Bat Mitzvah on September 4th. She finished sixth grade as an honor student at Shepard Middle School in Deerfield. Marnie loves school, soccer, basketball, running, swimming, singing, dancing, acting, theater and time with her friends. Marnie is very social and makes friends easily. Her favorite subject at school is Language Arts where she can express her strong creative skills. This summer Marnie returned to Chippewa Ranch Camp in Eagle River Wisconsin. She calls camp her other home. This is her third year and she's made some great camp friends. Marnie is working hard on becoming a Bat Mitzvah and signed up for tutor sessions at camp. She is a wonderful daughter, sister and friend.

*Congratulations to Jessica and Marnie and to their families!*

*All members of Kadima are invited to come and celebrate this milestone with our b'not mitzvah.*



*The following comments were made by celebrants on the occasion of their recent B'not Mitzvah. The whole congregation shares in the joy and pride of their families and friends.*



### **Rachel Silverman**

The portion I will read is Genesis chapter 37, verses 1-11. In this portion, Jacob's favorite son was Joseph because Jacob was older when Joseph was born and so he appreciated him more and because Joseph was his beloved wife Rachel's second son. He loved him so much that he gave him a coat of many colors. As a result Joseph's eleven brothers hated him. Joseph had two dreams that he told to his brothers. In both dreams they were bowing to him. This made them hate him even more. He told the second dream to his father. Jacob was annoyed at his son. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him.

When studying the portion I was surprised to find that Jacob was annoyed at Joseph's dreams. I thought that he would be proud. I think that Jacob is very proud but the dreams seem to show that even Jacob will bow to Joseph. That might have been a bit too far for Jacob and I think he was really taken aback at Joseph's dreams. I think Joseph was feeling over-confident and even boasting. I can take from this that in life it is important to think about the reactions of people in our lives and how our words will sound to them.

I picked this portion because I was familiar with the story when I was younger so I wanted to learn more about it. I wanted to find out what the dreams meant. I also wanted to discover why Joseph was Jacob's favorite son because I realized that was the reason why the brothers hated him.

While analyzing the portion I saw that everyone was affected by the preference that Jacob showed and this had consequences for the future too. Looking deeper into this portion I realized that decisions made in the present affect the future. From Joseph being sold into slavery all the way to him saving Egypt from famine by his dreams to his whole family moving from Canaan to Egypt. In my life I will try to make good choices in school and friendships. As I grow older there will be many more choices in life to make that will have an effect far into the future. I will continue to strive to make good choices.



### **Ann Oler**

The Torah portion for this coming week is Ki Tavo. I will be reading from a special torah: my grandfather wrote this torah scroll, and it was used for my dad's and brothers' b'nai mitzvah.

In the portion of Ki Tavo, the Israelites are commanded to celebrate an annual Thanksgiving for the first fruits identified with Israel: wheat, barley, vines, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates. This ceremony is known as Bikkurim. To express their thanks to God for the bountiful land, the Israelites place the first fruits in a basket and take them to the sanctuary. Each Israelite then gives the basket to the priest who sets the fruit before the altar.

As part of the ceremony of Bikkurim, each Israelite then says a special prayer found in this torah portion, including the words "arami oved avi" which means "my father was a wandering Aramean." This could refer to Abraham who was an Aramean or to Jacob who was a wanderer. This phrase, said in appreciation to God, is also an expression of humility, because it is an acknowledgement that our ancestors did not possess land. The prayer or declaration also thanks God for the Exodus from Egypt and for that reason it is quoted in the Haggadah for Passover.

The portion concludes with the commandment that the Israelites give 10% of the grain they harvest to the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and only then may they eat until they are full. The reading concludes with a prayer that God bless them in their new home, in Israel, the land of milk and honey.

The ceremony of Bikkurim and the commandment to tithe described in the Torah portion of Ki Tavo teach us that when we receive something we should think about how we can use it for the good of others before ourselves. Instead of just eating the first fruits, the Israelites must first express thanks, and in addition they are required to support the poor out of the grain that they grew. When we receive something special, such as a gift or accomplish an academic achievement, we tend to think about how we deserve it and how we can use it for our own gratification. Instead we should think about how we can use it to help others. Just as the Israelites gave 10% of their grain to the poor, we should give a portion of what we earn or receive towards our favorite charity before saving or spending the rest on whatever we need for ourselves. If we are blessed with a particular talent, we should share it for the benefit of others in need as well. This portion should inspire us to be grateful for all that we have and to think of others before ourselves.