

Announcing John Humleker's Retirement! An important announcement from John Humleker, Bruce Manning, & Rabbi Latz - Shabbat B'reishit /October 5, 2018

Dear Shir Tikvah:

When I was hired in 2004, Shir Tikvah had 350 households, one rabbi, a part-time Religious School Director, and two administrative support staff. Over the last 15 years, we've grown to more than 550 households (a 57% increase) and added two full-time clergy and a full-time Youth Educator- I have had the pleasure of watching Shir Tikvah grow up.

Nearly 15 years later, the time has come for me to move on to the next chapter in my life and actualize my dream of retiring to the tropics (*and maybe work at a tiki bar?*), effective June 30, 2019.

It has truly been a pleasure to work at Shir Tikvah and be part of its growth and its drive to make the world a better place. I have had the pleasure to work with some awesome people over the years - to whom I say thank you for allowing me to be a part of an amazing community.

I look forward to personally saying thanks over the next few months.

John

Dear Shir Tikvah,

B'reishit-this week's parsha-teaches us the power of creation. For six mythic days, the world is busy with the work of creation; on the seventh day, we pause-even God pauses-to marvel and soak in the majesty of all we have done. It is a beautiful, poetic, holy act-to stop *doing* and appreciate *being*.

Our beloved colleague and friend, John Humleker, has shared that it is time for him to cease the work of creating and administering and working as Shir Tikvah's Executive Director so that he and Cordelia can take well deserved time in retirement and bask in the glow of all they have done professionally these past 45 years. We share the news of John's retirement next **June 30th** with happiness for him and Cordelia and sadness as we goodbye to such a valued member of Shir Tikvah's professional team.

In 15 years, John has contributed so much to our Shir Tikvah community! In the spring, we'll have a celebration and thank you event to honor John and his years of service to our congregation. If you'd like to be involved, please email [Sara](#).

Moments of professional transition such as these provide Shir Tikvah an important opportunity to evaluate our professional needs moving forward. We are blessed that Ben Goldfarb, a member of our Board of Trustees, will oversee a thorough transition process, including reflection and discernment, to ensure we enter the next phase of our congregation's life in powerful shape. Ben is a seasoned nonprofit executive, campaign manager, facilitator and trainer, with nearly 20 years of experience leading progressive state-based, national and international organizations and campaigns. He currently serves as a partner at the [Management Center](#) where he coaches progressive nonprofit executives and boards of directors around the country, with a particular emphasis on leadership transitions. We will keep you updated as our work unfolds.

We are grateful to John for all he has created; for his friendship and years of service to Shir Tikvah. We know you'll join us as we express our deep gratitude in the months ahead.

L'shalom,

Bruce Manning, President & Rabbi Michael Adam Latz