



25 Nisan 5777 /April 21, 2017

Dear Shir Tikvah:

We are a people intoxicated with stories. We love to share them, to listen to them, to wrap ourselves in them like a blanket. Stories of the creation of the world, of the first Jews Abraham and Sarah, the Exodus from Egypt, Esther's triumph over Haman, building the Temple, wandering, exile, despair, and rebirth. We love the complicated characters in our stories, the drama, the hope, the Divine Presence, the possibilities, the hope for the future, the expression of longing and pain, the vision of a new world.

Jews are people who tell stories.

What are the stories you love? What stories touch your heart, move your soul, inspire you?

For 29 years, Shir Tikvah has been telling stories. In nearly three decades as a holy community, our stories live in the walls of our building, breathe in the hearts of our members, resonate as we sing in our sanctuary and when we march in the streets.

On social media, there is a growing phenomenon of "Six Word Stories." Literally, telling a story in six words.

Six words.

Can you imagine the Torah in six words?

The Pesach Haggadah?

The creation of Israel?

The Jewish people today?

A spiritual invitation this Shabbat: Tell a Shir Tikvah story in six words. Send them to me. We'll collect them and share them in the weeks ahead. We'll weave together our stories of hope and song, joy and pain, wandering and return.

Our Shir Tikvah stories.

Shabbat Shalom,
Michael