

President's Perspective . . .

Dear Friends,

It has been another amazing month at Anshai Torah, which is no surprise. Our programming continues to be outstanding so if you're wondering where to go on any given day and of course on Shabbat, find your way to the shul. Your lives will be enriched exponentially.

Last weekend, the Dallas Street Choir helped us usher in Shabbat with an Oneg concert and then sang throughout Friday night services. This is a group of incredibly talented people who, although homeless, have found joy through singing together and have taken their gifts on the road. If you were fortunate enough to be in shul for their performance, you know how inspiring they were. Our high school students had the opportunity to share Shabbat dinner with these folks and have an open dialogue about our differing perceptions on homelessness. I want to acknowledge and thank our Rabbis, Board of Directors, our high school students and a few other special friends who came together to create gift bags for each member of the choir, and to our catering staff who packed up cases of food for them.

My sense is that this experience for all involved, will last far beyond Friday night. There is nothing like perspective to keep us grounded.

Some of you know how I found my way to Anshai Torah back in 2010, after my father passed away. This community came together and opened its arms for me, and for my family, and we became part of something so much bigger. It was then I realized what Anshai Torah is, a tapestry of exceptional members, clergy, and professionals who care deeply for one another. Having had some personal challenges over the last month, I have again had to lean on my Anshai family and the outpouring of support and love has been immeasurable, priceless. This is beyond the cost of membership or any fundraiser. This is extraordinary humanity and beyond my own experiences, I have the privilege of seeing it everywhere at our shul. Don't be afraid to reach out for help. No matter the circumstances, the Anshai Torah community is here for all of us. Recent life experiences have reminded me of what is most important: family, friendships, and a strong Jewish community.

Warmly, Marcy