

## Rabbi Rick Jacobs

President

November 16, 2024 15 Cheshvan 5785

Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation 37 Main Street Southington, CT 06789

Dear friends,

How excited and blessed I am to offer the entire Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation family a hearty *mazel tov* and *yasher koach*, both personally and on behalf of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), as you celebrate your synagogue's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary tonight. Since 1984, Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation has had an impressive history of spiritual leadership and integrity, and it is an honor to mark this milestone moment with you and all who are celebrating.

Since its founding, Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation has stood as a beacon of Reform Jewish life, where the *kehillah* has continued to reach new heights and serve as a place where Torah is central to the lives of all its members and Reform Judaism thrives. From worship and education to youth programming and so much more, Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation is an exemplary congregation within our network of Reform congregations in North America. The URJ is truly blessed to count Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation as one of its own.

With the countenance of the Holy One of Blessing shining brightly upon you, may you and your wonderful synagogue family continue to flourish and grow from strength to strength. *Yasher koach*.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Rick Jacobs

