KENESETH ISRAEL
CONGREGATION
ק"ק כנסת ישראל דלואיסויל

March 19, 2020

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Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am writing to share with you an update regarding the search for the next rabbi of Keneseth Israel.

Since my last letter to you, we sent a representative of the KI Rabbinic Search Committee to New York to meet with prospective graduates of the rabbinical school of the Jewish Theological Seminary. We have also conducted interviews with prospective candidates who have submitted an application to us.

We invited one of those candidates, Sam Blustin, to visit KI this past February 28th through March 1st. While the Search Committee and a large number of congregants feels that Sam remains a strong candidate, the feedback we received from a similar number of congregants suggests that the congregation would like to see additional candidates before a potential offer is made. Therefore, we are continuing to advertise for this position and interview candidates.

As you might expect with the obvious Coronavirus issues, we are restricted in bringing candidates in to KI for the immediate future. However, this does not impede the Search Committee's hard work in advertising the position and finding candidates.

As such, we have decided to broaden our search outside of the Conservative Movement's Rabbinical Assembly Career Center and its Joint Placement Commission. We have begun advertising in various other rabbinical schools in America, as well as in Israel. We will also begin placing announcements on certain websites that specialize in rabbinic searches and job placement in the non-profit Jewish communal world.

We are committed to making this an inclusive process and we will continue to solicit your input as we move forward. Thank you to everyone who attended the town meeting about our search, who responded to the constituent survey, and came to the services and programs when Rabbi Blustin visited. If you have suggestions or questions, I encourage you to reach out to me at sweinberg@lynchcox.com.

The KI Rabbinic Search Committee and Board of Directors are grateful for your support and will continue to offer periodic updates on the search as the process moves forward.

Sincerely,

Scott Weinberg
Chair, KI Rabbinic Search Committee

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