



Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

A Message From Our Rabbi



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Today, until 12:40 (my appointment time at the RMV in Pittsfield), I was driving around with an expired registration sticker (Don't ask!). I had a folder of documentation as to why that was the case in case I was pulled over by the police. I worried that I would be able to explain the situation clearly. What I didn't worry about was dying...If I was a black man that would have been my first concern. The reality for a minor glitch I could lose my life...because of a mistake. WHAAAATTTT???? Not knowing the difference between a Taser and a gun. The unsuitability of some police officers for the demands of the job. This is an outrage. During the Derek Chauvin trial, just miles away, another young black man is dead. Daunte Wright is dead, a young father, son, and family member did not survive a traffic stop for an expired registration. If I was him, I would not be writing to you tonight. I would be dead and being mourned by my family, community and decent people anywhere.

I am sickened and heartbroken, incensed and wondering when this will turn some corner toward change.

Join me for coffee tomorrow at 10 am on Zoom and on Saturday morning for services at 10 am (same Zoom). I'd love to see you and share some time with you, Barbara

