

## A New Age

We are under an illusion. That illusion is that things stay the same. That change is the exception. That the world that we leave when we go to bed is the world that we return to when we wake up.

Here's the secret. It isn't. *Nothing stays the same. Our lives are in constant motion.* We cling to the illusion so that we can make sense of our lives.

Change is constant, but we tend to refuse to see.

However, today we see. I'm writing this in the wee hours of Inauguration Day. Today the world feels different. What a great time to be alive!

President Obama talks about a new age of responsibility. What it really comes down to is that we need to care for each other, for our neighbors, for our neighbors near and far, for our brothers and for our sisters, for all people and for the world itself.

What is the role of Shir Chadash in this grand vision? Shir Chadash is our sanctuary in this world, our place of refuge and safety, our chance to recharge our spirits so that we can do these things that we must do. We come together and leave better people. We forge bonds of love and respect. Maybe we leave better equipped to do the right things. Maybe that's what Judaism is about.

It's our sanctuary. But change is coming. Someday we'll move on. We'll take the most important part with us, each other, but we'll have another home nearby.

Many people have asked me about our new home. Where? That we know, on Freedom Road. When? That we don't know, but working together we'll get there.

It's a short walk, but a long distance. We have to grow so that we can reach out and share these bonds with more friends. We have to weave together more spirits and along the way do more for our neighbors. We'll get there. Change is constant.

We're changing.

Let us go from strength to strength.

Michael