

SHABBAT MESSAGE
FEBRUARY 10, 2023



Hi Everyone,

I hope you've had a great week! The Torah portion we read tomorrow is one of the most famous passages in Judaism. It is when our people receive the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. But before that happens, Moses is reunited with his wife Zipporah, and their children. And it's a good reminder that Moses was in perhaps the most famous interfaith marriage in the history of the Jewish people.

You've heard me speak a few times in these messages over the last few months about the importance of including all members of our community in our community. It's why the Alliance released the podcast, *Breaking the Glass*, to lift the experiences that interfaith families face throughout their lives. I'm pleased to share that the entire series is available now wherever you get your podcasts. So, if you prefer to listen to all of the episodes at once, that's now an option for you.

In it, you'll hear the wonderful stories from so many members of our community who shared the joy they find in raising their children Jewishly, the beauty of their wedding ceremonies, and yes, the struggles they sometimes faced trying to find support in Jewish communal life. It's all powerful, and I hope you'll give it a listen.

At the Alliance, we remain committed to creating an open and welcoming space for all members of our community. And it's great to see that other Jewish institutions are doing so as well. Last week Hebrew College announced that it would no longer exclude people in interfaith marriages from applying to their rabbinical school. This recognition may seem like a small step, but it's an important one. Hebrew College joins the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in taking this inclusive step, and others are also considering it.

According to the last Pew Report, in the last decade, 72% of non-Orthodox Jewish marriages have been interfaith. We must not only acknowledge that reality, but embrace it, and I'm proud to work with everyone in our community to create an inclusive and vibrant space for all who want to be a part of us.

I know we can do it. After all, if this community accepted an Eagles fan like me, surely, we can hold space for those like Zipporah and Moses, people looking for a home in our Jewish community.

Until next time, I wish you a safe, peaceful, and joyous Shabbat.

Shabbat Shalom!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam".

Adam Greenman
President & CEO