



Message from the Rabbi August 14, 2022

Dear congregants and friends of Congregation L'Dor Va-Dor

I wish to thank everyone for an outpouring of love and support for our efforts to protect women's autonomy over their body and the separation of church and state, with our lawsuit that challenges Florida's new anti-abortion law.

We are encouraged to receive so many calls, emails and communications letting us know that you share our goal of defending women's rights from Christian nationalists who don't speak for all Christians nor the rest of us in their effort to inflict their Biblical misinterpretations on all others in defiance of the Constitution and the democratic institutions of America which prevent the establishment of one religion over another and guarantee religious freedom to all people.

We are excited to announce that we are in the process of expanding our litigation to add more plaintiffs to Congregation L'Dor Va-Dor, including a Buddhist, Unitarian ministers, an abortion doctor, a woman of child-bearing years and the renowned social justice icon, Rabbi Arthur Waskow, who leads the Shalom Center. We are also adding additional causes of action to strengthen our case as we gear up for a hearing which we hope to schedule in the near future.

As always, I thank you for your continuing good wishes and support and pledge to do all in our power to vindicate a woman's right to choose and the freedom of people of all faiths, including free thinkers who put their faith in science and reason to live their lives free of governmental intrusion. The Governor made a mockery of the separation of church and state by appearing as the head of state in a church, to announce this affront to the dignity of women.

We do not know the outcome of our efforts, but we are inspired by the words of Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel who famously said, "There are times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest." I thank our board, our members and the legions of friends who have given me the privilege of waging this battle for freedom.

I am also happy to announce plans to launch the Temple of Understanding, Palm Beach County Chapter whose goal is to unite the religions of the world to protect our precious planet and its inhabitants and to use religion to build bridges of understanding and knock down walls of separation. We hope to have a common sanctuary to be used for this and many other ecumenical purposes.

All are welcome to share the High Holy Days with us, regardless of your religious affiliation in person at Santaluces High School in Lantana, or in cyberspace. If you are interested, please contact us for more information.

With love and peace,

Rabbi Barry Silver