



THE UNITED JEWISH CONGREGATION OF HONG KONG

Welcoming all who seek a Progressive vision of Jewish life

SHABBAT SHALOM

5 – 6 February, 2016

27 Shevat 5776

Parashat Mishpatim
(Exodus 21:1-24:18)

Rabbi Stanton M. Zamek
Rabbi Martha Bergadine, Education & Programming Director
Cantor Melissa Berman, Cantor/Programming Associate

From the Rabbi's desk

Chaverim,

Usually when we are asked - "have you heard the news?"- we know that we should brace ourselves for a report of some horror or tragedy. Not this week.

Have you heard the news? The Israeli government this week approved a resolution calling for the construction of a permanent egalitarian prayer space at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Soon, I hope, Progressive Jews will no longer have to choose between their egalitarian values and their desire to pray at the Kotel.

This victory is the result of a very long struggle and it is only a partial one. Much can happen between a commitment to build something and actually building it. We can expect a backlash and serious obstacles along the way. Still, good news is good news and this is a moment that calls for celebration.

Blessed is the One who is good and who does good.

All Blessings,
Rabbi Z
(rabbizamek@ujc.org.hk)

(Click on the link <http://www.reform.org.il/eng/About/NewsItem.asp?ContentID=3059> to read the official announcement of this historic moment issued by the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism.)

4th February 2016