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Jay L. Kooper, President

Dear Ellen, Ruth and Abby

The mission statement of Temple B'nai Abraham begins with the words, "*We are a warm, welcoming and inclusive community.*" No one has worked as hard or as selflessly to make those words a reality for our community. And while it is entirely appropriate that we are honoring you tonight for the leaders you have been and continue to be, far more importantly, we are celebrating you for the warm, welcoming and inclusive people you are.

No critical part of our Temple life has been left untouched by your leadership and influence. Our Building and Grounds continue to provide us with a beautiful indoor and outdoor home in which to worship and celebrate together. Our Board of Education continues to enhance the educational experience for our Congregants from early childhood to adult education. Our Social Action provides our Congregants the opportunity to take part in *Tikkun Olam* through helping others. None of this has been possible without Ellen Klein, Ruth Ross and Abby Silverman.

And at a time in our broader world where the rights and dignity of women are unjustifiably challenged and even, shamefully, denigrated, you stand as role models not just for young women, but for all of us, with your dignity, leadership and kindness to others. There is no truly adequate way to thank you for all that you have done, but we can rightfully celebrate you for being the very best of Temple B'nai Abraham.

Mazel Tov, Ellen, Ruth and Abby. May you always go from strength to strength celebrating nothing but simchas.

With great affection,