



To be read from the pulpit

Loss of Place

Spiritual experience is often grounded in place: a home where friends and family gather for Shabbat or shiva, the location of a wedding, a favorite park or hilltop, or even where we first fell in love. Certainly this is the experience so many of us have in the place we call Camp Newman.

Even though when we leave a place we take the experience with us always, yet when the actual place is harmed, or gone, then there is a spiritual wound. We need to hear that the actual place where spiritual experience happens does matter, and that it abides in a deep and important part of our being.

While we and the Jewish tradition see the preservation of life as paramount, and find relief in knowing our loved ones are safe, it is important to acknowledge that special location of blessed memory, and to know that we are now bereft of something sacred.

Knowing our loss, let our voices join in prayer, reflection, and song as we hold one another close. Whatever tomorrow may bring, we can face the future together and bring our comfort to one another.

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