

For Immediate Release

## **Jewish Congregation Welcomes New Rabbi**

August 23, 2012

Congregation Kneseth Israel (CKI) welcomes its new Rabbi, Rabbi Margaret-Frisch Klein. Rabbi joined the congregation on August 15th. Prior to her arrival to CKI, Rabbi Klein was the Education Director and Associate Rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel in Andover, Massachusetts. Rabbi Frisch Klein received her Rabbinic Ordination in May, 2010; graduating from the Academy for Jewish Religion in Riverdale, New York. Rabbi Frisch Klein had extensive experience in private industry and teaching before pursuing her dream of becoming a Rabbi. She holds a Masters of Arts Degree in Teaching (1987) from Tufts University.

Rabbi Frisch Klein has been active in Tikkun Olam (Rebuilding the World) activities: including the Greater Lowell (MA) Interfaith Leadership Alliance; the Merrimack Valley Project; the Girl Scouts of America; and the Jewish Domestic Violence Coalition. She also maintains a blog, "The Energizer Rabbi."

Rabbi Frisch Klein states, "We are excited about being back in Chicagoland where my husband and I both have roots. I am excited to lead this dynamic congregation that has put a great deal thought into its visioning process. I wanted to work for a congregation that is pluralistic; welcoming of diversity; cherishes tradition but embraces modernity; is willing to try new things to enrich congregants' spirituality and bring meaning to their lives; has a strong social action component; and is actively trying to build community both internally and in the wider non-Jewish world. Congregation Kneseth Israel's was looking for a spiritual leader to partner with to carry out their vision, and it was a match: maybe even "beshert" (destined). There is a lot of work to do and I welcome the challenges but I am thrilled to be that partner.

Congregation Kneseth Israel offers weekly services, a religious school, observance of all lifecycle events, and a variety of additional programming. CKI is located at 330 Division Street in Elgin. For regular updates or more information, please visit our website at [www.ckielgin.org](http://www.ckielgin.org), or call at 847-741-5656.

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[For more information, you may contact Joe Rosenfeld at 847-888-1950]