

Rabbi's Column

Almost everything takes longer than originally anticipated. In those rare cases where it doesn't take longer in objective moments, anticipation elongates those moments so that it seems to take longer.

Quite often the task takes longer because some aspect of it occurs more slowly than it did when the task was mentally reviewed. I am reminded of that recently, as Andrea and I have been involved in finding out whether we still have all the books listed on a previous inventory list. Thankfully the spreadsheet lives on the computer, so it can be comparatively easy to update. When we complete the project (which we started during the summer months) we will have a new snapshot of most of our extensive library. We have also rediscovered that some labeling aspects of the inventory process made a lot of sense to us when we began. Not so much sense anymore. Why did we ever think that alphabetizing by title could be a useful way to avoid purchasing duplicates?

In the Torah this week we are transitioning out of one mode and set of tales, before beginning another set of tales next week. The three people who began the Israelite family have now blossomed into a large group of 70. All the major protagonists die, even Joseph. In the midst of coming to a close, there are hints of what the future will hold in the context of Jacob's blessings to his sons.

The next major event being held at the synagogue will be the Annual Pre-Legislative Interfaith Service at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, January 8th, 2019. Breakfast will follow the service.

In the meantime, remember to be kind to the people you meet.