

Jamie MacMillan
High Holidays 2017

Returning

T'shuva, according to *Judaism for Dummies*, is "the return, the renewal, the repentance that each Jew is called to."

Rosh Hashanah and this time of introspection has traditionally focused on returning as part of our realignment process. Return to our true selves, and our true soul.

My journey over the last few years has been one of returning, as well as discovery, and finding my spiritual home.

One important part of this has been returning to Belfast last July, where I grew up. Midcoast is where my roots are. I never expected to live here again, but it feels right. With my partner, I have a place in a community and have established a Jewish home. We have a mezuzah on our doorpost, like most of you.

After the High Holidays last year, we joined Adas Yoshuron Synagogue. It is our spiritual home now, as well a place to socialize with other Jews.

Last November, after several years of study and contemplation, I completed the process of converting to Judaism (with the help of 3 Maine Rabbis). I have returned, or found my true soul.

As I share prayers, songs, and connection with all of you, may we all find our return as a community to be fulfilling and joyous.