First Shabbat with Rabbi Ruhi Sophia  
-from the Rabbinic Transition Committee

A very full house turned out Friday evening, July 17, to welcome Rabbi Ruhi Sophia on her first Shabbat as our new rabbi at TBI. The energy in the room was palpable as Rabbi Ruhi Sophia led us in prayer and song with her beautiful voice, teaching us a few new melodies along the way. In her D’var Torah, she spoke about how we form community, linking it to the week’s Torah portion. The oneg—a first opportunity for congregants to meet and greet the rabbi—was festive and full, as many people had a chance to introduce themselves to Rabbi Ruhi Sophia. Shabbat morning began with Rabbi Ruhi Sophia sharing her insights at the weekly Torah study group. At shacharit services Saturday morning there was a sense of ease and comfort as we all davened together. The weekend concluded with Rabbi Ruhi Sophia leading a mincha service, officiating with evident pleasure, at the first of what will be many more B’nai Mitzvah to come. What a full and joyful first Shabbat we spent together with our new rabbi!

Tugman Park meet-and-greet with Rabbi Ruhi Sophia  
-from the Rabbinic Transition Committee

It was fun in the sun with Rabbi Ruhi Sophia at the August 17 "meet and greet" at Tugman Park. Our youngest congregants, along with middle-schoolers and middle-aged folks, all had a chance to visit (and swing!) with the Rabbi as we enjoyed our picnic lunches and chatted. This small, low-key, "Eugene style" gathering offered
ample time for unhurried conversation. Not only did people have a chance to meet the Rabbi, but this cross-section of people didn't all know each other before today's get together, and now do!