

Since I was 16, I've worked in Jewish education as

An education director

A youth director

A curriculum writer

A consultant

A marketing/communications associate

Always a teacher

In 2003

my dream of becoming a mother came true

George Chaim was born on a snowy but auspicious day—
January 18th, it was Tu B'shvat

In September 2005, my life changed again

June Elizabeth (Yehudit Elisheva)

was born and

My heart exploded once again

Does love have no limit?



In 2006, our world as we knew it imploded

George is diagnosed with autism



I walk through my days in a stupor of overwhelming
despair, not knowing how to parent or what lies ahead
for my child

All that helps me is

Asking God for help

Esa Einai, El HeHareem

Ma ayin Ma ayin

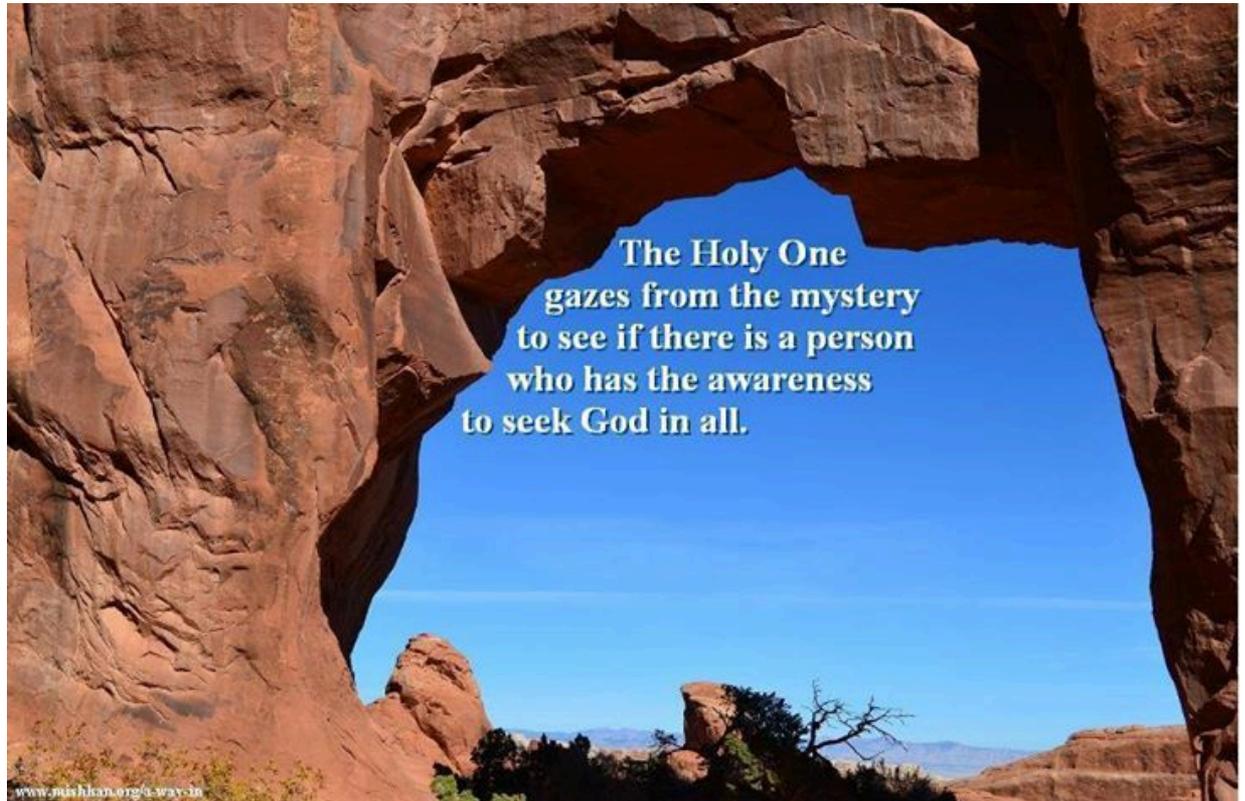
Ya'avo esrei?



Answers come slowly

I start to trust my intuition

I communicate with George even when we don't speak



The breaking of my heart

Is the opening of my heart

And I know that I can model and teach other
parents to find their own source of strength

I know that I can teach other educators

To go beyond the expectations they may carry

For children who appear as 'different'

In 2010

I started working at Jewish Learning Venture 10 hours at first and then 20 hours, doing a wide variety of things:

Facilitating the Grandparent Circle,
organizing the Adolescent Yom Limmud,
working on jkidphilly in Bucks County, being
an in home educator for “Our Jewish Home”

The common thread being

Relationships, Connecting,
Passion for Judaism



In the summer of 2012

An amazing opportunity emerged—to lead the Special Needs Resources at our agency



To pick up from the wonderful work that Debbie Gettes led and share a new perspective

I am a parent and an educator

Who knows how badly our community needs resources and support for examining our own complicated feelings about disability



I have started creating a team

Of talented professionals who can bring their skills and expertise to our community



Our new program of Special Needs Resources is called “Whole Community Inclusion”
I am most thankful for this opportunity to serve.

