Navigating the Land: Courage and Curiosity
Parshat Sh'lach L'cha, Numbers 13:1-15:41

By Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman
Associate Rabbi, Temple Sinai, Brookline, MA

Last November 9, I found myself in a new land. Distraught, I tried to put my finger on the root of my distress. It wasn’t just that I found the outcome of the election tragic for many reasons; I was experiencing something more profound, resembling extreme disorientation.

I finally figured it out when I was reminded of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s famous quote, “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” Prior to that day, in my mind’s eye I had seen my country at a certain place on that beloved arc, and now, as in an eerie movie, the camera zoomed out and behold! The arc’s trajectory lengthened, jutting far into the distance.

Well, this was demoralizing.