

April 2022

Welcome Back!

Dear Members, Past Members and Friends,

It has been a challenging two years here at Beth Judah. Due to Covid, we were forced to close, then reopen, and close again. I am excited to announce that with the recommendation of the Health and Safety Committee and the Board of Directors, we plan to reopen May 6 and 7. We welcome back Rabbi and Leora, and we hope you will join us for these services.

Over the past two years, Beth Judah has unfortunately experienced the loss of many beloved congregants, our President, and our beloved facilities caretaker. All are major losses to our community, and we owe it to them to continue to service Cape May County.

Recently many of you have called and questioned the decisions of the Board of Directors and the budget that the congregation passed during a Zoom meeting March 7. Let me put to rest any questions on whether enough thought and time were given to this effort. To answer those questions, committees were asked their needs, and many hours were given by the committees to calculate last year's exact figures and proposed expenses and income for 2022. I hope that answers questions in regard to this issue.

Others have asked what they are getting for the dues they pay. Let me assure you that behind the scenes, Board members who serve on committees are working. Thanks to Religious Committee chairman Brad Altman who worked with Rabbi Isaacs, High Holiday services were held, and Friday night Zoom services are held every Friday at 7 p.m. Starting May 6 and 7, twice a month in-house services will recommence, including three outdoor services June 3, July 22 and August 19 at Booth Amphitheatre in North Wildwood. Moving to the facilities, Building Committee chairman Morey Edelman has been busy. They have installed new double doors in social hall, along with repairing the air conditioning, and researching live streaming equipment and presenting their findings to the Board for approval. Installation is set for the week of April 4. They are also preparing for the reopening of the temple and parsonage. And, unfortunately, lately they have been dealing with major roofing problems at the temple. Also, your Health and Safety Committee members Dr. Brian Altman, Dr. Scott Maslow and Dr. Richard Goldhammer have kept us safe through Covid. Dr. Scott Maslow also oversees our investments. And finally, now that Beth Judah will be opening the doors again, we look forward to hearing from Dr. Jerrold Casway, with the help of Ruth Edelman, to begin programs. So, as you can see, Beth Judah is busy behind the scenes.

As president, I have been overseeing all operations, and recently I've had the pleasure of appointing Andy Shapiro to the Executive Board of Directors with the approval of the Board members at large. The addition of Eric Frenchman as Secretary of the Executive Board has been a pleasure to work with. There is an opening on the Executive Board for the position of Vice President. Anyone interested should please contact me.

So, as you can see, Beth Judah may seem idle, but we are hard at work for you. But we need your help. We need you to help rejuvenate Beth Judah with your energy. We need your participation in services and events. We need your financial support so we can service you and others. We hope those who have resigned will reconsider. We hope those who chose not to make a 2021 High Holiday pledge will also reconsider. Help us to serve you and all congregants.

Wishing you a Happy Passover. Please pray for the world, and especially, for Ukraine.

With gratitude,

Michael

Michael D. Brown
President & Treasurer