

BEVERLY HILLS SYNAGOGUE
 YOUNG ISRAEL OF NORTH BEVERLY HILLS

June 18, 2020

Dear Friends,

Rabbi Pini Dunne
Senior Rabbi

Nati Baram
Chazzan

Stephen Rothman
President

Lee Samson
Chairman

William Lopatin
Vice President

Michael Baum
Secretary

Moshe Sassover
Gabai Rishon

Sam Varon
Treasurer

Board of Director

Annie Baum
 Ruthie Kellerman
 Michael Novack
 Ernie Goldberger
 Judith Garshofsky
 George Schaeffer

Just three months ago, in the midst of planning a variety of shul programs, including our first *Daf Yomi Siyum* Shabbat luncheon, several Concerts, Friday Night Dinners, Youth Programs, Sisterhood events, Shavuot programming, our Annual Banquet, a range of scholars-in-residence, and celebrating several upcoming member *simchas*, our whole world suddenly ground to a halt. Not only did we have to cancel all our programming, we had to close the shul completely, and we have only carefully begun the reopening process over the past couple of weeks.

And yet, although everyone expected it to be a very dark time for our community, it has turned into something truly amazing. While all our venue-based events were cancelled, our community bond grew stronger as we all learnt to use Zoom, or to connect through WhatsApp, and tune in to SoundCloud and YouTube. We launched regular online classes, social “gatherings” and davening, and initiated WhatsApp group connections. Within our community, members started to take on *chesed* activities, like delivering Shabbat meals to frontline medical professionals, grocery shopping for some of our homebound members, and regular phone-call check-ins, and much more. In this new world of uncertainty, connection to the Synagogue proved to be more important than ever.

With that being said, we still cannot be sure what things will look like a month or three months from now. What we do know for certain is that whatever the situation may be, our Synagogue will continue to thrive and flourish. I would therefore like to invite you, once again, to renew your membership of YINBH for the Jewish Calendar Year 5781 (September 2020 – August 2021). We will certainly be having High Holiday services, although at this stage we cannot plan them in any meaningful detail. Nevertheless, we very much want you to remain a part of the community, whatever the High Holiday plans may turn out to be, and we want you to know that we – by which I mean the clergy, office staff, executive and board members – are all here for you, and we intend to cater to your Jewish needs through this very difficult time until it is finally behind us.

As you know, membership dues represent the major portion of our operating budget, and we are therefore hoping for your continued loyal and generous support. Our synagogue offers many services to our members beyond services in the building, and we also work hard to keep everyone connected to each other. Your membership donation provides us with the resources to continue offering the level of service you are used to, and of which we are so proud. Please review your Membership Form – it has been populated with your details. Please send it back to us together with a check or credit card authorization form, and include any corrections and additions.

Let me conclude by saying that it is you, our members, who make it possible for our community to forge ahead, and it is you who make us who we are. May the merit of your commitment to our beautiful community bring blessings to your family and peace and security to all of Israel. Thanking you so much in anticipation of your generous support.

Sincerely,



Stephen Rothman
President