



April 20, 2018

Dear Green Road Synagogue Members,

Our congregation is vibrant and growing! We are pleased to report that we have over 350 member families, with 21 new families joining since the summer. As the hub of our Modern Orthodox community, we are proud of the programming and services we offer our members and the community at large.

- Minyanim: daily, Shabbat, and Yom Tov services, with Hashkama, Teen, and Sephardic minyan options
- Children's Shabbat groups
- Shabbat kiddush and seudat shlishit provide opportunities for our members to connect with each other
- Beit Midrash with opportunities for chavruta learning, adult classes, and shiurim
- Host local youth organizations (i.e., FMS High School mishmar program, NCSY Jewish Scholars Program, Bnei Akiva, Yachad, Boy Scouts). We are pleased to provide a community center for our youth.

In addition to our ongoing programs and services, we are proud to share highlights of special programs we offered this year or are scheduled for the near future:

*Mikhli Learning Initiative and Educational Programs*

- Scholar in Residence series. This year, we have engaged five speakers of renown
- Syrel Greene Spring Lecture Series for Women by Women
- Beit Midrash style learning and lectures
- Women's Simchat Torah learning program
- Mesibot and lectures at members' homes
- Siyum Tanach and Tikkun Leil Shavuot

*Youth Programs*

- Pre-Simchat Torah children's hakafot with over 100 children attending
- Chanukah movie and breakfast event with over 70 children attending
- Interactive Purim Megillah reading and story-telling with over 100 children attending

*Chesed*

- Volunteer events at the Cleveland Chesed Center

- Mishloach manot delivery and visits to our elderly and homebound members. Our volunteers and elderly members expressed how meaningful this experience was and have asked that we expand this program.
- Provide hospitality and meals for lifecycle events
- Partnering with Jewish Big Brothers and Big Sisters Association to promote our members becoming mentors and making appropriate referrals to the program

#### *Outreach and Engagement/GRS Keshet*

- Our largest ever seudat shlishit at the end of the summer welcomed new families with over 150 members in attendance
- Connections Shabbat brought together members across the generations at the Shabbat table
- Social events geared to our younger generation (bowling, ice cream social at the Film Festival, 90's night)
- Purim Chagiga and break fast with over 250 members attending
- Pre-Pesach Shabbat lunch
- Pre-Shavuot program and lunch

#### *Film Festival*

- Screening of four meaningful and evocative films attracted both members and non-members with 50-150 attendees at each film

This year saw a number of challenges:

#### Repair aging facility

- Cleanup and repair due to flooding in the basement
- Kitchen repairs to conform to Cuyahoga County Board of Health standards
- Roof repair due to leaks
- Short-term repair of driveway and parking lot

#### Manage catering

- Loss of our preferred caterer at the end of the summer
- Engaged Chef Dave's Catering after a few months of negotiation. We look forward to a successful partnership and additional source of revenue.

#### Reinvigorate the new building process

- Hiring a new General Contractor with the goal to build a facility that meets our budget
- Developing a second wave building campaign to enable us to build the facility that meets our needs

Our current areas of growth:

#### *Development*

- Developing strategies to market donation and sponsorship opportunities and streamline these initiatives
- Coordinating among committees to identify areas of need (i.e., Kiddush fund, membership dues)
- Growing the annual Ner Tamid fundraising campaign

#### *Board Governance*

- Engaging in board development
- Reviewing and amending bylaws to reflect our current needs

#### *Youth*

- Enhancing our Shabbat morning programming, with particular emphasis on enhancing the experience of our young women. We are in the process of applying for the OU Women's Initiative Challenge Grant designed to support creative synagogue-based programming for girls and women.

#### *Safety and Security*

- Reconstituting and reconfiguring the committee and its mission
- Working closely with Jewish Federation of Cleveland to establish best practices and train volunteers
- Purchasing security equipment through the Ohio Emergency Management Agency Security grant to enhance our current security measures
- In the coming weeks, you will observe a new video surveillance and monitoring system in both the interior and exterior of our facility.
- In partnership with the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and local safety agencies, we will develop and implement emergency protocols. Stay tuned for more information about this important initiative.

Green Road Synagogue thrives because of its committees and dedicated volunteers. Thank you to everyone who ensures that our shul continues to serve as the center of our community with both your volunteer efforts and financial support. Please feel free to reach out to me about any of the many initiatives outlined above.

With great appreciation,

Adena Klineman