

Dear Green Road Synagogue Kehillah:

Thank you for your generous support of the Green Road Synagogue annual Ner Tamid campaign. Last year we were thrilled to have extensive member participation in the campaign and exceeded our fundraising goal of \$125,000 by raising \$132,200! Your continued participation in this essential annual campaign will help us maintain our current operating budget, particularly in these challenging economic times.

While the community -and indeed the world- is facing many challenges this year, Green Road Synagogue is proud to continue to offer an array of programs and services to our membership. We encourage you to visit our website [www.greenroadsynagogue.org](http://www.greenroadsynagogue.org) to access all programs and information. Rabbi Blau continues to meet the Rabbinic, educational, and pastoral needs of our community. Rabbi Blau has also been consulting with professionals in the field to determine best practices for structuring minyanim once Governor DeWine opens up opportunities for small gatherings. We will certainly keep everyone posted about these developments.

Our programs may now be held via Zoom to comply with physical distancing; however, we refuse to sacrifice quality or quantity. In some ways, holding our programs virtually has allowed us to provide access to more programs and capture a larger audience than in the past. Our Syrel Greene Lecture series is proceeding on Sunday evenings with an outstanding cast of lecturers, including younger women who typically would be unable to contribute as they no longer live in Cleveland. Rabbi Blau's nightly Halacha shiur is well attended and we hope you are taking advantage of the learning opportunities that are regularly posted.

While our Shabbat Youth Groups are not currently meeting, thought and care is still being put into the programs. The material that would be covered in groups is available on our website and emailed with The Weekly. Family projects for Yom Ha'atzmaut were sent out and projects for Lag B'Omer, and Shavuot will follow. We are also planning a summer Parsha Project for children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and virtual learning for Middle and High School students.

As the entire world has moved to a digital format, the shul is flooded with opportunities for shiurim, learning guides, kumsitz, support, chizuk sessions, Tehillim, virtual concerts, and many other programs. We review and curate these programs and present them to our kehillah in a way that is relevant and meaningful. A review of past and current programming is highlighted below:

### **Programming**

- Educational programming, shiurim, and learning opportunities
  - Rabbi Blau's weekly Halacha Shiur
  - Rabbi Blau's Weekly Drasha
  - Seudat Shlishit To-Go

- Weekly Moreh Nevuchim shiur with Dr. Chiel; weekly Parsha class for women with Rabbi Berger, weekly Masechet Bava Metzia shiur with Rabbinic intern Gabe Falk, Women and Halacha shiur with Sarah Rudolph
- Syrel Greene Lecture Series via Zoom
- Our Mikhli Learning Initiative Scholars-In-Residence Program hosted five stellar scholars this year. We look forward to this program series next year.
- The Women’s Beit Midrash with Dr. Anya Kleinman provided many learning opportunities throughout the year. We look forward to the resumption of the Women’s Beit Midrash
- Collaborative learning opportunities with the Community Beit Midrash
- Youth and Family programs
  - Weekly parsha learning material
  - We look forward to our youth program resuming Shabbat groups when feasible
  - We look forward to resuming Tot Shabbat and Family Minyan when feasible
  - Sukkah Hop
  - Kids’ Hakafot
  - Chanukkah Movie & PJ Party
  - Chanukah-Fest with shiurim for men and women
  - Purim Chesed Event (decorating mishloach manot bags and delivering them to homebound members)
  - Purim Sing-along for kids
  - Purim Chagiga
  - Yom Ha’atzmaut Arts & Crafts
  - Activity emails for Lag B’Omer and Shavuot
  - We look forward to the resumption of our Film Series when feasible

The Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees has continued to meet to respond to the needs of our kehillah as well as plan for the upcoming year. Highlights this year include shifting Rabbi Blau from a part-time to a full-time position, expanding the role of the Administrator to Administrative and Program Director, hiring an Education Consultant, approving the application for the Paycheck Protection Program loan, thoughtful discussion regarding our Ner Tamid campaign, as well as reviewing construction progress and shul finances.

The *Building Committee* meets weekly to review the construction process. Under the guidance of our dedicated committee progress continues to be made on our new building despite a reduced work crew to comply with physical distancing protocols. We are looking forward to a late summer opening of our new building. Our *Catering Committee* has continued to meet regularly and is focusing on how to create a revenue stream with room rentals and catering opportunities in our gorgeous new building. Our *Chesed Committee* has also continued their work. The committee partnered with Issi’s Pizza to provide soup to older and homebound members who find leaving their homes to be challenging. We also partnered with JSL catering to provide “Sedar in a Box” to our members who were in need. The committee is also working with Rabbi Blau to launch a “Check-in with the Rabbi” initiative. Members who are interested are invited to sign up for a weekly check-in with Rabbi Blau. A newly reformed

*Membership Committee* takes responsibility for welcoming newcomers to Cleveland and new members to our shul. This committee also works on engaging our members. Our *Ritual Committee* will meet with local physicians to discuss best practices in order to resume minyanim at shul. Our *Security Committee* continues to monitor the security of our facility and work with the ritual committee to plan for the re-opening of our minyanim. In addition to reviewing finances and applying for the Paycheck Protection Program, the *Finance Committee* continues oversight of our finances and plan the budget for the coming fiscal year. Of course, our *Development Committee* is working on ways to reach our members through our Ner Tamid Campaign.

Green Road Synagogue remains as vibrant, thoughtful, purposeful, and as connected to the community as ever. We have not stopped working to reach you and creating opportunities for you to reach us. However, without our regular minyanim, the shul has experienced a loss of revenue. Without weekly aliyot and pushka contributions as well as a significantly reduced response to our Pesach Yizkor appeal, the Ner Tamid Campaign is more important than ever. We will need the generous support of our members to meet our annual operating costs.

This year, our goal is to raise **\$175,000** to meet our payroll, security, maintenance, and program costs. We are encouraging the full participation of our membership to come together as a kehillah and support our shul.

#### **Ner Tamid Levels**

- *Benefactor*                      \$10,000 and above
- *Cornerstone*                     \$5,000 - \$9,999
- *Pillar*                                \$3,600 - \$4,999
- *Partner*                            \$2,500 - \$3,599
- *Patron*                              \$1,800 - \$2,499
- *Sustainer*                        \$1,000 - \$1,799
- *Supporter*                        \$500 - \$999
- *Contributor*                     \$100 - \$499

With great appreciation,

Adena Klineman  
President

Ari Jaffe  
Chair, Development Committee

Rabbi Blau  
Spiritual Leader

Sarah Ehrenreich  
Administrative and Program Director