

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL CENTER Elmora Avenue Synagogue

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> HARAV PINCHAS M. TEITZ זצ״ל Founder

RAV ELAZAR M. TEITZ Mara D'Asra

RABBI AVROHOM HERMAN Ray

Dear Friends,

Summer 2024/ Menachem Av 5784

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We hope that this letter finds you and your family well. Our Shul continues to be the center of the community, providing *minyanim* during the week and on *Shabbos*, youth programming, regular weekly shiurim for men and women as well as weekly Shabbos *kiddushim*. Furthermore, our Shul continues to offer more engaging and well-attended programs, such as, Friday night Onegs; the women's tea and other creative get togethers, Yom Tov luncheons, panel discussions and guest speakers. All of this is a concerted effort to increase the feeling of community and provide additional social and educational venues for our members. This past year, we also formed a vibrant committee to focus on growing the community. As a result of this committee's hard work this past year, our Shul had a successful Experience Elizabeth Shabbaton in February 2024 and a parlor meeting this past July in Teaneck. We look forward to further developments in this area.

We continue to be *zoche* to have the extraordinary leadership of Rabbi Herman providing *chizuk* to the community. In addition to Rabbi Herman's dedication to our shul and the ceaseless energy of our volunteers, we are excited to announce that Ahuva Himmel has accepted the job as our new Youth Director. Ahuva will ensure that our youngest members have a safe and supervised place to go on Shabbos (youth groups) and develop exciting programming for our youth. The presence of an active youth department is instrumental in sending a clear message to the children in our community, namely, that they are vital assets to our Shul.

Our community needs your support! We respectfully ask you to continue with your much appreciated support of our Shul and renew your membership. We encourage you to become a member of our Shul, even if you have not done so in the past and/or are new to our community.

We understand that the cost of living for our members has continued to rise and our Shul expenses have also continued to rise. However, due to the changes recently implemented in our community, our Board of Directors has decided (again) not to raise the membership rates or the seating rates. Our membership year is September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025. This cycle is independent of when *Rosh HaShanah* occurs on the secular calendar.

We ask that you please take the time to complete and return the enclosed membership form as soon as possible, so the Seating Committee has adequate time to prepare the Main Shul seating for the rapidly approaching *Yamim Noraim*.

When completing the membership form please keep the following points in mind:

- An individual or family needs to be a member in good standing to purchase membership and/or additional seats in the Shul for the upcoming. As a reminder, this means:
 - All outstanding balances be paid, or a payment plan (that extends no longer than 12 months) is in place to settle old balances, which includes a credit card authorization, or postdated checks being provided to the JEC Office (Harriet Naggar).
- Individuals/families who are financially unable to pay full membership are encouraged to contact either Rabbi Herman or Shua Walshver to discuss an appropriate accommodation. Please note that arrangements made in 2022 (5783) do not automatically carry over and new arrangements must be agreed upon each year.

Please select the appropriate membership category as follows (these definitions are provided for clarity):

- Couple/Family membership should be selected when there are two adults in the family unit.
- Single family membership should only be selected when there is a single adult in the family unit with children living at home.
- Single membership should be selected **<u>only</u>** when there is one adult in the family unit, with no children living at home.
- Nonresident membership should be selected only when the member no longer resides in the Elizabeth community.

This year we continue to encourage completion of the membership form online. This can be done by visiting: <u>Membership 5785 (All Types) - Event - JEC Elmora</u> <u>Ave Shul</u> .If you are unable to complete the form online, you may utilize the paper form enclosed as a PDF in this letter. Please print the PDF and submit the paper form to the JEC Office together with payment arrangements. Alternatively, a limited number of forms will be available in the JEC office.

Membership forms that are submitted without payment (i.e., credit card information, single check, or post-dated checks) will not be accepted, and seating requests will not be honored.

<u>The online form or the enclosed paper forms (with payment arrangements)</u> <u>must be submitted no later than Monday September 15, 2024 (at 5PM).</u> <u>Seating requests submitted online or delivered to the JEC Office after Monday</u>

September 15, 2024 (at 5PM), are not guaranteed to appear on the seating

<u>chart.</u> The seating committee will work diligently to meet your specific seating requests but will have final discretion on seat placement. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.

We anticipate offering various opportunities to hear *shofar* blowing. If you are unable to attend shul in person, please contact Rabbi Herman who will make arrangements and/or accommodations as needed.

There will be a separate communication regarding childcare for the Yomim Noraim, which will be available to our members and guests for a fee (on a per child/per day basis).

We thank you, in advance, for your dedication to our Shul and extend our wishes for a year of excellent health, peace, and prosperity to you and your family among *Klal Yisroel*.

K'siva V'Chasima Tovah.With wishes of bracha and hatzlacha to all we remain,

Sincerely yours, Shua Walshver Eli Lasky Shua Walshver and Eli Lasky Chairmen

RoAnna Pascher

RoAnna Pascher Treasurer

P.S. If you do not currently receive emails from the Shul but would like to, please email us at <u>elmorawebsite@thejec.org</u> so we can add you to our list.