



בית מדרש תורני לאומי - Bet Midrash Torani Leumi

1 Rechov Asher, Bet Shemesh 99544

Mara De'atra: Rav Chagai Raviv

Elul 5780

Shalom Friends,

With Rosh Hashanah 5781 approaching, the members of the BMTL Vaad would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a K'tiva V'Chatima Tova.

Our standard bracha of a "year filled with good health" takes on added significance in light of the events of this past year. May Hashem hear our tefilot, and bless us, and all of Israel, with a year filled with health, happiness, success and peace.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the community during this past year. Thank you to Aviva Zahatz for doing a wonderful job as the shul's treasurer for the past two years- וכל מי שעוסקים בצרכי ציבור באמונה הקדוש ברוך הוא ישלם שכרם.

This year has proven to be challenging in so many ways. Our communal life has changed dramatically. Using the technological advancements of our day and age, we are trying to fill the void that Corona has left us. The limitations on the number of people allowed in the shul has thrown our most basic of communal activities askew. Nevertheless, the shul continues to serve the community; our Mara D'Atra, Rav Chagai still teaches and leads and is accessible to all. The shul building remains open and the lights still burn.

Together with the other shuls in the neighborhood we are working towards meeting the spiritual needs of the community during the upcoming High Holidays, while adhering to the ever-changing Ministry of Health guidelines.

Membership Dues

Annual dues comprise the biggest portion of the shul revenue that supports our yearly budget. Keeping the shul open and running during these unusual times requires nearly the same operational budget as under usual circumstances. After serving us faithfully for many years, we recently needed to replace the old air-conditioning system in the Selesny Hall. In addition, the High Holidays are bringing with them additional expenses as we are committed to helping to defray some of the costs of equipment for the "street minyanim" (seating, fans, tarps, etc) to the extent that we are able.

In order to continue to thrive as a community in trying and challenging times such as these, where some have not even had the opportunity to enter the shul since Purim, we are reminded that the shul is still there and needs our commitment. We must continue to invest our time, resources, and energies.

We are aware of the challenging times that face us all. **Dues for 5781 will remain the same at NIS 1,500 per family and NIS 750 for a single.** There will be no charge for seating this year.

We will again offer a special new-member discount of 10%: dues for first-time members will be NIS 1,350.

In order to service the community to our maximum abilities, the shul counts on families to contribute financially via membership dues and other special campaigns. If you are financially able please consider donating to offset our expected budgetary shortfall. *Nevertheless, membership in the BMTL community **will never be conditioned** upon financial considerations, especially in these trying times.*

As always, we ask that everyone who has not completed payment of their building fund pledge to continue moving in that direction. **If you are not yet a building fund member we strongly encourage you to sign up now and begin making donations towards the total building fund amount of \$2,000 (roughly 7,000₪ as of today) along with your membership dues for 5781.** Building Fund payments are essential for payment of our capital expenses. This is a suggested commitment of every family in our kehilla, and payments may be spread out over time. Payment of the building fund entitles your family to priority with respect to seats for Yamim Noraim, discounts on use of the Selesny Simcha Hall, and other privileges.

We have tried to make paying shul dues and all other contributions as easy as possible.

Payment can be made by credit card, check or wire transfer.

Please go online to <http://bmtl.org/membership>, where you will be able to select your membership type, complete the membership form, and choose your payment method. For those paying by credit card, you will be able to follow a link to pay online. For those preferring to pay by check or wire transfer, please submit the form online and then send an email to BMTL.finance@gmail.com to confirm/arrange payment. Multiple payments can only be accepted using an Israeli credit card or postdated checks. If one uses a credit card from outside of Israel, only one payment in its entirety will be accepted.

The Sheinfeld community is lucky to be served by a number of batei kneset. **Members of other batei kneset** who regularly avail themselves of our services are invited to join BMTL as associate members. Associate members are entitled to discounts on use of the Selesny Simcha Hall and other privileges. **Associate membership dues are NIS 500.** Please note that associate

membership is intended only for those people who have already paid full membership in another beit kneset for the upcoming year.

If special accommodations are needed, please contact Stuart Schrader at 052-347-8485 (stuart.schrader@gmail.com) to arrange.

Contact Information

We would like to keep the shul records up to date. When you enter your information into the system, please provide us with current email address (es) and phone number(s). There will also be an opportunity to enter names of any family members that should appear on the card in the gabbai's box.

We look forward to a wonderful, healthy and meaningful year, filled with success and prosperity for all of Klal Yisrael.

Sincerely,

The BMTL Vaad:

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| • Stuart Schrader | 052-347-8485 Yoshev Rosh (stuart.schrader@gmail.com) |
| • Hillel Scheinfeld | 054-754-4426 Gabbai |
| • Shulamit Felsenthal | 052-801-6350 Treasurer (bmtl.finance@gmail.com) |
| • Elyssa Aftel | 054-228-7120 Building maintenance |
| • Mike Greenwald | 058-789-2000 Adult programming |
| • Brian Thau | 052-257-3109 Adult programming |
| • Dan Leffel | 053-284-4587 Noar programming |
| • Rami Strosberg | 053-521-6015 Noar programming |