

BETH ABRAHAM

THE SEPHARDIC CONGREGATION OF NEW ENGLAND

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President's Report

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Elul 5769

September 2009

Dear Friends:

Services for the High Holidays (Yamim Nora'im)

Once again we take great pleasure in inviting you, your family, and friends to our High Holiday Services, in our beautiful Sephardic orthodox tradition. See the attached schedule. *As is our custom, all who wish it will have the opportunity to have an aliyah to the Torah.* It is important that all outstanding pledges are fulfilled before the New Year.

Our services will be led by Dr. Baruch Mazor, and we are glad that he will be assisted by the Hazzan Yehuda Shakir who has become familiar to us with his pleasant melodies, strong voice, and his *oud*.

Guest Hazzan Yehuda Shakir Leil Eliyahoo HaNavi Celebration

He will perform for us at a special evening of music and song on
Motzaei Shabbat Sept. 26.

**Minha will begin at 5:55 pm, followed by Arvit, and Havdala and a
Celebration of Leil Eliyahoo HaNavi**

Food Drive

Jewish families are in greater need for food this year, but fewer organizations are contributing. Please bring your donations of small packages of grains and other Rosh HaShanah needs for this time of the year, before Sunday September 13th.

Our synagogue has a good name, and this is the kind of act that enhances our reputation.

Daily Services

An important aspect of the "completeness" of our synagogue are the daily services that we maintain. I wish to send out a call to ask you to become committed to a satisfying morning tradition.

Remember that there is a Torah reading on Mondays, Thursdays and on some other days. There are occasions when it is difficult to have a minyan, so I ask you to choose two days, or one day a week to join us and support your friends and community. Frequently, morning services are followed by a congenial breakfast.

Our finances - We are not managing very well.

We all share an awareness of how expenses have been going up. Our contributions are lagging behind.

Our major general source of income comes on the High Holy Days in memberships and auction pledges.

1. ***Please fulfill your outstanding pledges - you may not always receive a reminder; sometimes we do not have a correct record.***

If you have an enclosed reminder with this letter, PLEASE send payment immediately before the holidays. We apologize for any possible errors

2. Become a member - applications are enclosed
3. ***Donate generously during the High Holidays - miswot will be available to anyone.***
5. Become a Founder with a special Building Fund donation.

Gifts to the Synagogue

We have wonderful and caring members who are frequently eager to add to our building and to the beautification of our surroundings. To make certain that all physical gifts are consistent with the overall plans, please discuss your plans with the synagogue board before bringing the item.

Consideration: double-sided

Just as it is our philosophy in this synagogue to be considerate of the personal lives and choices of all our congregants, it is equally important for our congregants to be considerate of the customs of our traditional synagogue and the neighborhood.

Please be thoughtful in manner of dignified dress, in minimizing the disturbance of cellphones (remember to leave them home on Shabbat and Yom Tov), and in courtesy of not using automobiles near the entrance of the synagogue.

Tizku leShanim Rabbot

As we pass through this period of the Haftarat of Consolation, may the Almighty bring their messages of hope and Shalom to be a reality upon us, the land of Israel, and on this hospitable land of America. And, may He bring you and your families a happy, healthy and tranquil New Year!

David Sheena

Dr. David Sheena, President