

A TIME-SENSITIVE REQUEST FOR HELP & A CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

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June 3, 2011

Dear Fellow Member,

Time-sensitive request for help. For our shul's finances, as in life, timing is everything: if you can help us raise \$100,000 in payments and pledges between now and July 15, you will dramatically impact the shul's fiscal health for the next decade. That's because the size of the shul's mortgage – and therefore our monthly payments over the next decade (the life of the mortgage) – depends on how much we borrow over the next six weeks or so. *Every dollar in building fund or pledges that you pay over the next six weeks will – by reducing the amount we have to borrow – save us nearly that amount in mortgage payments over the next decade. Every dollar that you pledge by July 15 will allow us to dip that much more deeply into our existing cash reserves (rather than borrowing from the bank), knowing that payments to replenish those reserves will be forthcoming.*

Attached to this letter are the names of the dozens of families who have already generously dedicated part of our *mikdash me'at* in memory or in honor of a loved one. As you may notice, the list has grown considerably over the last few months. We encourage you to join them in linking our collective future with your family's. The list of dedication opportunities is attached to this letter. It can also be viewed – and dedications can be made – at <http://www.bethaaron.org/expansion/> or by emailing us at expansion@bethaaron.org.

'Walk-throughs.' If you have made, or are considering, a pledge please let us know and we will be happy to arrange for a 'walk-through' of the project at a mutually convenient time.

If you have any questions, or if there is something that you wish to dedicate that is not on the attached list, please don't hesitate to contact your fellow members whose names appear at the bottom of the dedication opportunities page.

Construction update. The last major structural phase of the project is now behind us, with the expansion of the main sanctuary and the removal of the old "main" staircase. The final phase of the project – installation of tiles, carpeting (including replacement of the carpeting in the main sanctuary), wall coverings & fixtures, spackling, painting, etc. – is well underway. We expect to receive a certificate of occupancy from the town for the entire facility in late June, consistent with what we told the kehilla last July, though there may be some finishes that will not be installed until after the certificate is received.

We hope to have at least a portion of the expanded facility available for Shavuot; we will update you as we get closer.

Chanukat habayit. As mentioned previously, we are starting to formulate plans for a *chanukat habayit*. In order to ensure that the maximum number of people can participate and that the facility will be as complete as possible by the time of the dedication, it is likely that it will take place in early September. Please stay tuned for details.

As always, please email us at expansion@bethaaron.org with any questions.

The Expansion/Renovation Committee