



Beth Isaiah Congregation

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Visit us at 47 Surrey Street West

Dear Congregants,

I'd like to welcome you to our synagogue and look forward to chatting with you throughout the High Holidays and during the year. We approach the coming year with a feeling of anticipation and excitement! Cantor Fisher received his rabbinical ordination this past Summer. Congratulations Rabbi Fisher! Our membership is growing, we continue to add more tables to accommodate more people at our Shabbat Kiddush Luncheons, we welcomed back many alumni this past Summer for a fantastic reunion, and we have a wealth of events and initiatives planned going forward.

Our diverse Board of Directors brings to the table a healthy selection of opinions, experience, and history. Rabbi and Tchiya Fisher continue to bring boundless energy and dedication from the heart. As a result, Beth Isaiah offers a rich set of programs and events throughout the year, appealing to Jews of all flavours, interfaith couples, and the greater Guelph community, all of whom are warmly welcome.

Beth Isaiah is quickly becoming *the* focal point for Jewish life in Guelph and neighbouring cities. If you haven't yet had a chance, check out our Israeli folk dancing evenings, games nights, movie nights, Hebrew speaking classes, children's events (edible Menorahs anyone?!), Torah classes, Speaker series, community Seders, and more! Of course, we always have Shabbat Services, followed by a cozy Kiddush/Lunch where you can shmooze, laugh, and share. To stay up to date, be sure to sign up for our online newsletter or check the Events section of our website, at www.guelphsynagogue.ca. Not on the computer? No worries, we'll get you on the phone list.

We want to ensure that our offerings reflect the needs of our current members, future members, and the greater community as much as possible. To this end, please share your Wish List so we remain informed and in tune with the pulse of our strong community. In addition, I encourage you to join a committee, help out with an event, celebrate a life event with a Kiddush, bring your friends out for an evening, and be involved with *enhancing and shaping* the very Shul you're looking for. Congrats and critiques are welcome anytime. Just email board@guelphsynagogue.ca or call 519.822.8487.

In order to continue to enjoy all that Beth Isaiah has to offer, we must pay our bills and cover costs (at minimum) to hold events. Funds raised from donations and Dues are the two key sources of "income" and they are not at an ideal level. To continue at "status quo" represents a significant strain on our cash flow and creates a debt situation

that is not sustainable. While we intentionally do not charge for tickets to any High Holiday service, we must keep the lights on. I trust you place value in Beth Isaiah and would feel a loss if our communal building was not here. To this end, please strive to increase one-time or monthly donations or Dues.

Adopting the “Latté Factor” idea, skipping one fancy beverage a week and donating that money as an “investment” helps ensure the long-term survival of the Shul. There are many ways to grow our nest egg. And it needs to grow. I thank you in advance for your increased financial contribution to our synagogue.

Wishing you a New Year filled with joy, health, discovery, and abundance.

Jason Bavington, President
on behalf of the Board of Directors