



TEMPLE BETH DAVID

The Visionary View: A Newsletter about the Temple's Upcoming Plans

Honoring Heritage, Embracing the Future

Dear Temple Beth David Devotees and Friends,

It is with profound respect for tradition and a spirit of joyful anticipation that we present the next edition of a new *Temple Newsletter: The Visionary View*, dedicated entirely to the exciting plans taking shape for our sacred space. The Temple has long served as a sanctuary—a place for reflection, community, and celebration of spiritual heritage. As we look to the months and years ahead, we are thrilled to share our vision for growth, connection, and renewal.

Money Matters

There have been questions about how the proceeds from the sale of the building are being managed and invested. We want to reassure the congregation that these funds have been placed with Charles Schwab in a diversified, professionally managed investment strategy designed to preserve principal while earning a responsible return.

Our goal is to ensure that the proceeds from the sale work for us while we are still experiencing a shortfall of funds each month as we navigate our existing expenses, with the goal of reducing our overhead (salaries, operating expenses etc.) in the coming years. In addition, we will need funds to make modifications to the portion of the building we have on lease from NSSA, to serve the Temple's needs in our much smaller footprint, plans of which are in discussion (see Renovations and Enhancements section below).

At the same time, it's important to be realistic about our current financial situation. Our operating budget remains very tight, and we are still running a significant deficit. Leadership is working diligently to address this by closely examining expenses, identifying new sources of revenue, and reviewing our dues structure. While balancing the budget will be a challenge, we are approaching this work thoughtfully and carefully. We are optimistic that through this process we can develop a sustainable plan that puts the congregation on firmer financial footing for the future.



Clergy Transition- Pulpit Committee

Applications for the position of Interim Rabbi will come to us as candidates apply over the winter months. The Pulpit Committee is currently interviewing several candidates for the position of Interim Rabbi. We are in the first interview stage for some candidates and the second interview phase for others. We will continue to move the process forward with the current candidates as new applications arrive so that we do not lose potential desirable candidates.

Renovations and Enhancements – Steering Committee

In our commitment to ensuring the Temple remains a welcoming and inspiring haven for all, we are in the planning stages for all aspects of the updates needed to our portion of the facility. The Board has approved the expense to engage one of the architects that were interviewed and they have been inside the facility to take the measurements to begin the process of drawing up plans.

- **Entrance Door:** Modifications are planned to improve our current temporary entrance.



In order to improve access to the building, the architect will be including drawings for a permanent entrance to our Temple that replaces the temporary one we have currently, including lowering the existing doorway in order to remove the steps down as you enter our building and re-grading the exterior walkway to access a new permanent double door entrance that will be designed and built in its place.

- **New Building Plans:** As we lose access to existing space to NSSA over time, we will be constructing new spaces to serve the needs of our congregation. The architect will be providing drawings that include the identified spaces needed (offices, multi-purpose rooms etc.) that will be constructed over time. Once Design Plans have been drawn with several options for how to best utilize our space and are reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee and NSSA, the architect will then be asked to provide Renderings and Construction Plans for the approved design. The Construction Plans are needed to get budgetary numbers for what each phase of the construction is expected to cost. The plan is to undertake any building projects over the upcoming summers, when it would be least disruptive to our Temple services, holidays, Bnai Mitzvahs and religious school.



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Opportunities for Involvement

Our Temple is a family where everyone pitches in to keep the household running smoothly. Without involvement by our members, we are like a three-legged stool in need of support. We need member engagement to plan and execute events, become involved in committees that have been held together by just a few Temple members, and become active with religious school events, Temple services, and special events. You will be surprised with how much this involvement will pay off with the health of our Temple and you will meet and engage with other Temple members who give their heart and soul to Temple Beth David. With all that is happening over the next few years, now is the time to step forward and become involved. We need you now! Reach out to Beverly Wolcott at lbjrde@aol.com and she can share more about potential engagement.

Looking Forward Together

In the months ahead, we will provide regular updates on the progress of these projects. We invite you to follow our newsletter, visit our website, and stop by the Temple to witness the transformation firsthand. Together, we honor the legacy of those who built this sacred place and lay a foundation for those who will find solace here for generations to come. For more information or questions about this newsletter, please contact Laura Joseph (laura.i.joseph@gmail.com) or Diane Kraut (dianekraut@optimum.net).

May the Temple continue to shine as a beacon of peace, wisdom, and unity for all.

With blessings and gratitude,

The Temple Board and Steering Committee