



Renovation News

January 2019 Update

As you read this note, we will have vacated our building (with the exception of our Pre-School, which continues to run uninterrupted). Below, we share the latest information on our renovation and alternative locations for activities.

The latest information will always be on our website. Be sure to check www.bnaijehudah.org often.

MOVING OUT

We thank our many volunteers - led by Rick Klein - along with our staff and Fry-Wagner Moving and Storage for helping us move out of our building. We are delighted that many took books to stock their own Jewish libraries in their homes. The remaining books from our Library that we will not use when we return have all been donated to worthwhile institutions.

In addition, many of our chairs have been donated to churches and other groups in the area. We are pleased to share what we have with others. Altogether, we have probably given away close to \$100,000 worth of furniture and materials to other groups. Once again, B'nai Jehudah demonstrated how much it is an integral part of the fabric of greater Kansas City. Our "leftovers" become essential resources for others.



RENOVATIONS

Our architects have finished their design work on the building and are now focused on inside details - furniture, finishes, signage, audio-visual, and other tech. Our contractors have bid out all the sub-contracting work and are getting ready to begin demolition. We look forward to construction beginning in the upcoming weeks. Contained in this message are images provided by our architects, HOK, as



to what some of our interior spaces may look like in just a few months.

Because of cost considerations, our Building Committee and Board of Trustees decided to retain the original footprint of our Chapel. While it will remain the same physical shell, many aspects of the space will be changed. We will be improving sound and lighting, and adding significant tech capabilities, including high-definition screens and streaming capabilities. We will have all new carpet, wall treatments, chairs. And - of course - we are addressing the light that comes in through the windows.

We are excited for the transformation to our Social Hall, giving us the ability to partition it off into a smaller area. We are changing the direction we will sit for High Holiday and other large services, providing better sound, sight lines, and a more spiritual atmosphere.

Along with our new Gathering Hall, which will house much of the Michael Klein Judaica Collection; our new Community Commons, which will be an area we can sit and schmooze, and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee; our small Prayer Space, which will house our yarzeit tablets and be the new location for daily minyan and other intimate spiritual moments; our completely new offices...and all the "hidden" improvements - security, HVAC,

environmental changes, outside lighting and landscaping...well, we know it will be spectacular.

ACTIVITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION

SHABBAT: Please remember that all Shabbat services will be held at the Jewish Community Campus (5801 W. 115 Steet, Overland Park). We will hold Erev Shabbat (Friday) services in the MAC room, which is near the White Theatre. We will enter the campus through the Theater entrance (there is a big aluminum piece of artwork in the middle of the circle drive by the entrance). The MAC room is the third set of doors on the left, as soon as we walk in. Shabbat morning (Saturday) services will also be in the MAC room. On the occasions where numbers exceed 200 or so, we will be in the Social Hall. It will be more direct to enter the campus through the main entrance and walk straight in to the Social Hall. IF we do hold services in the Social Hall, that information will always be in Rabbi Nemitoff's weekly Bisseleh Bytes, in a special email from the congregation, and on our website.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: We have put together a comprehensive booklet that describes all the educational activities for our children, January-June, 2019. It has been handed out, emailed, and is available via our website (www.bnaijehudah.org). The booklet lists clearly where all classes will be held. If there are questions, contact **Dayna Gershon** (913-663-4050; education@bnaijehudah.org)

OFFICES: We have leased a stand-alone building, located at **20105 Metcalf Ave. Our office hours will be Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:30 pm. Please note that we will be CLOSED ON MONDAYS.** It is about 15 minutes from our current location. Drive south on Metcalf and it will be on the left, just after the stop sign at 199th and Metcalf. Or take 69 Highway south to 199th Street



and turn left. Go to Metcalf and turn right. We will have a "yard sign" by the driveway, with our logo, indicating that these are B'nai Jehudah's offices. By the time you read this message, we will already be in these rented facilities. Our administrative & senior staff all have offices in the building. There is parking immediately in front of the building. Please continue to address all mail to our Nall Ave. building. **PLEASE NOTE: Unless otherwise arranged, all in-person meetings with staff will occur at this new location, including all B'nai Mitzvah meetings, rehearsals, etc.**

TORAH STUDY/TALMUD STUDY:

We are grateful to Village Shalom (5500 W. 123 Street, Overland Park) for offering to host these every-Wednesday classes. We will meet weekly in the Staff Development Room on the second floor. Our Torah Study is 10:00-11:30 am each Wednesday with either Rabbi Nemitoff or Rabbi Smiley, followed by an hour of Talmud Study with Rabbi Padorr.

DAILY MINYAN: We are delighted to be offering our Daily Minyan, Monday-Thursday (5:45-6:00 pm) at the Chapel of Menorah Medical Center (5721 W. 119 Street, Overland Park), just to the right after coming in the main entrance. **In an experiment to see if it is more convenient, ALL Sunday morning minyan services will now be at 9:45 am at KI Synagogue, in their small chapel.**

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As you will read elsewhere in this Bulletin, we have been graced with generosity from many individuals as we work to renovate/re-inspire our building. We have raised an extraordinary amount of money...and yet there is still more we want to do. If you haven't given yet, please consider investing in our future. Make a pledge (1-5 years) for a meaningful amount that you determine. Call/email/write Jeanne Adler (913-663-4050; execdirector@bnaijehudah.org). **Let us know how you will help.**