



בס"ד

Sunday, August 26, 2018 || 26 August 2018

Dear Members and Friends,

We are proud that Congregation Sha'arei Torah (CST/The Village Shul) has once again had an exciting and eventful year!

Established classes and programs continue to flourish. Our annual events such as the Labor Day BBQ, Seder Summit, Purim Se'udah, and Yom Ha'aztmaut celebration are all well attended and enjoyed by our membership. Weekly and monthly scheduled programming, such as Torah classes, Family Learning, Seder Summit, Book Club, and NCSY gatherings are likewise popular and develop in response to the interests of our congregants.

Three highlights from the year in particular demonstrate the vitality and development of the shul. First, we are proud to report that Cincinnati's chapter of NCSY, an international youth group sponsored by the Orthodox Union and led locally by congregant-volunteer, Debbie Rubinoff, was named chapter of the year for the Midwest region! We're proud of the high level of activity and engagement of our NCSY troupe and are pleased that the group was recognized for its tremendous achievement of reviving this organization in such a short period of time. Second, another congregant-volunteer, Shoni Golin-Cahn assumed leadership of the artistic development of the new aron and parkokhet that have been installed in stages over the past year. Shoni along with Michael Maltinsky, Howard Mayers and Cynthia & Bob Rosen, the subcommittee working on this project, oversaw the funding, artistic renderings and execution of this project. Shoni's derashah explaining the meaning behind the various elements of the parkokhet that she herself hand-stitched was met with a standing ovation by a grateful and impressed membership. Third, Sha'arei Torah's inaugural year participating in the Jewish Federation's Create Your Jewish Legacy Program has been a great success, with CST leading the way at the top of its cohort. The program, aimed at getting benefactors of all income levels to consider leaving a legacy to the shul in their estate, was met by tremendous enthusiasm by our membership. Led by Sha'arei Torah's team of Ben Schneider, Ronnen Isakov, Norman Frankel and Rabbi Ezra Goldschmiedt, to date, an impressive 42% of our congregants have joined the program!

In addition to those three highlights featured above, know that the shul flourishes and functions due to the daily service of our large

Rabbi Ezra Goldschmiedt

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cadre of outstanding volunteers who do so much to help us with our programming and in maintaining the premises and security of our campus. Indeed, the time, talents, and dollars of our members have created and sustained the shul. We thank all of you for participating and look forward to your future contributions; We would not be where we are today without each one of you!

Please respond promptly to the enclosed membership dues form - thank you for your continued support and participation!

Sincerely,
CST/The Village Shul

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