



CONGREGATION *Or Torah*

3800 DEMPSTER
SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076

(847) 679-3645

Rabbi Zvi Engel
Rabbi

Rabbi Harvey A. Well
Rabbi Emeritus

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Laura Lerer
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Jane Best
George Hanus
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Sima Neiger
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Michael Shiner
Trustees

Laura Lerer
Shoshanah Zaretsky
Presidium-Women's Group

Sarah Silvestri Bernstein
Executive Director

June 7, 2016 Rosh Chodesh 1 Sivan 5776

Dear Fellow Congregants:

The Board of Directors and various committees have started to plan for the Yamim Noraim and want to thank you very much for your continued support of Or Torah and to wish you and your families' health, happiness and success for the upcoming year.

Membership dues remain unchanged from last year at \$1800 for this coming year per family. Each family membership includes two seats, additional charges for children and guests can be found listed on the shul website and on the attached pricing sheet. For new members, single parent families and couples under 30 years of age dues will be \$900. If you elect to pay your entire balance by June 30th the shul will deduct \$100 from the total amount paid.

As always, NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY DUE TO FINANCIAL ISSUES however we do ask that you contact anyone of the following below to arrange a payment plan. As a reminder, even if you have established a payment plan in the past, please contact one of the individuals below to confirm the continuation of your payment plan terms.

Marc Pershan at Ortorahpresident@gmail.com

Joel Gorenstein at joel.gorenstein@gmail.com

Sarah Bernstein at ortorahexec@gmail.com

The fiscal year for Or Torah begins on July 1, 2016 and it is critical for the effective management of the shul's finances that any remaining dues, obligations and building fund payments are satisfied before that date. Only congregants who have satisfied their financial obligations or have established a payment plan will have their seating requests processed so please contact us as soon as possible.

Finally, just a reminder that seats for the various minyanim are confirmed on a "first come, first served" basis and to guarantee receiving the same seat as last year the request and the associated payment needs to be received by July 31, 2016. Seating requests after that time may not be able to be accommodated.

Rabbi Engel, Joel, Sarah, Marla and I would like to thank the Or Torah leadership team and the many volunteers for all their hard work to prepare for the Yamim Noraim. We are confident that our Shul Family will continue to grow and prosper in 5777 and for many more years to come.

L'Shana Tova
Sincerely,

Marc Pershan
President

Joel Gorenstein
Executive Vice President

This form for Main Minyan attendees only

Family Name _____

Will not be attending Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur Services _____

MAIN MINYAN ROSH HASHANA

Men's side

Women's side

Member Name _____

Children Name _____

Guests Name _____

MAIN MINYAN YOM KIPPUR

Men's side

Women's side

Member Name _____

Children Name _____

Guests name _____

Please note that due to the complexity of seating assignments, it may not be possible to accommodate all requests.

(Husband) I would prefer to sit in the same section as last year:

Yes ____ No ____

(Wife) I would prefer to sit in the same section as last year:

Yes ____ No ____

This form for Or Torah West Minyan attendees only

Family Name _____

Will not be attending Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur Services _____

WEST MINYAN ROSH HASHANA

Men's side

Women's side

Member Name _____

Children Name _____

Guests Name _____

WEST MINYAN YOM KIPPUR

Men's side

Women's side

Member Name _____

Children Name _____

Guests Name _____

Please note that due to the complexity of seating assignments, it may not be possible to accommodate all requests.

(Husband) I would prefer to sit in the same section as last year: Yes____ No ____

(Wife) I would prefer to sit in the same section as last year: Yes____ No ____

This form for Early Minyan attendees only

Family Name _____

Will not be attending Rosh Hashana or Yom Kippur Services _____

EARLY MINYAN ROSH HASHANA

Men's side

Women's side

Member Name _____

Children Name _____

Guests Name _____

EARLY MINYAN YOM KIPPUR

Men's side

Women's side

Member Name _____

Children Name _____

Guests Name _____

Please note that due to the complexity of seating assignments, it may not be possible to accommodate all requests.

(Husband) I would prefer to sit in the same section as last year: Yes____ No _____

(Wife) I would prefer to sit in the same section as last year: Yes____ No _____

NAME _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

Will not be attending Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur Services _____

DUES PAYMENT WORKSHEET

Dues \$ 1,800 for family \$ _____

\$900 for single, first time member or couples under 30 years of age \$ _____

of seats requested for children _____ x \$75/seat \$ _____

of guest seats* requested _____ x \$200/seat Rosh Hashanah \$ _____

of guest seats* requested _____ x \$100/seat Yom Kippur \$ _____

Payment towards Building Fund Obligation** \$ _____

Total \$ _____

* Please note that children of members includes those who are still in school, live with their parents, or who are otherwise still fully dependent on the member parents. Requests for guest seats must be paid in full in order to be assigned.

** The building fund obligation is a one-time obligation for \$3,500, payable \$700/year for 5 years beginning with the member's 4th membership year. The Building Fund commitment must be paid, with a minimum of \$500 of the balance paid in each year from the 4th year as a member.

Payment options

____ Enclosed is my check for the full amount.

____ Enclosed is my check for 50% and a second check dated no later than
December 1, 2016 for the balance.

____ Please bill my VISA or MasterCard for the full amount.

____ Please bill my VISA or MasterCard for 50% and again on December 1, 2016
for the balance.

____ I have contacted either the president or treasurer and have made specific arrangements for payment. I understand that the president, treasurer or financial secretary will be required to approve the arrangement prior to me receiving a seat.

Please note that all outstanding obligations (including any required building fund debt) to the Shul must be settled at this time unless specific arrangements have been made with the president and/or treasurer on how the balance will be paid over time. **No one will be turned away due to financial circumstances.**

VISA OR MASTERCARD please fill out, we do not have credit card numbers on file

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

Amount to be charged: _____

Security Code: _____

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Youth

- Sponsor cupcakes for your child's youth group for a birthday for \$50
- Sponsor cupcakes for all of the youth groups (excluding babies) for a birthday for \$180

Shiurim (for a listing please contact Rabbi Engel or Sarah Bernstein)

- Sponsor a weekly shiur for a week for \$180
- Dedicate a shiur for an entire year for \$3,600

Daf Yomi

- Dedicate and rename the Daf Yomi Learning Shiur in perpetuity for \$180,000
- Sponsor a year of Daf Yomi learning for \$18,000
- Sponsor a Seder of Daf Yomi for \$3,600
- Sponsor a month of Daf Yomi learning for \$1,800
- Sponsor a week of Daf Yomi learning for \$720
- Sponsor a day of Daf Yomi learning for \$180

Seforim

- Dedicate a Chumash for \$72
- Dedicate an Artscroll or Koren Siddur for \$36

Scholar in Residence

- Dedicate a scholar in residence weekend for \$3,600
- Sponsor a scholar in residence shiur for \$1,800

Or Torah Simcha Tree

- Dedicate a leaf on the Or Torah Simcha Tree for \$1,000 (\$720 if paid at the time of reserving the shul for a simcha)
- Dedicate a stone for the Or Torah Simcha Tree for \$18,000 (includes 18 leaves)

Yahrtzeit Plaques can be engraved and placed on the Yahrtzeit Board for \$500

Shalosh Sheudes/Kiddush

- Shalosh Sheudes can be sponsored for \$225
- Cholent can be added to the regular shul Kiddush (not for smachot) for \$500 (contact Marla for other kiddush pricing)

Shul Dedication opportunities for larger items, *e.g.*, rooms, programs, book cases or Mezuzot, please contact Sarah Bernstein



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Dear Members:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the building fund obligation for each member family of Congregation Or Torah. Please note that this refers to the *existing* building fund and does not represent a new obligation. We would like to both emphasize the importance of the building fund to Or Torah's financial security and provide a detailed explanation of the payment process.

This building fund was instituted when the plans for the purchase of the current Or Torah building were made. The funds raised were critical for building our current space and have been used to pay off some of the debt on the building. The continued commitment of our members to the building fund has enabled Or Torah to undergo the recent expansion without having an additional capital campaign. It is imperative for us to continue the building fund to ensure the growth and expansion of our shul – our Mikdash Me'at.

The building fund obligation is a one-time obligation, of \$3,500, payable over 5 years at a suggested \$700/year (with a minimum of \$500) beginning with the member's 4th year as a member. Participation in and payment of the building fund is required in order to be considered a member in good standing. If a member joined Or Torah in the 2006-07 (5767) membership year, the building fund obligation would be as follows:

Membership Year	Amount
5767 (2006-07)	\$0
5768 (2007-08)	\$0
5769 (2008-09)	\$0
5770 (2009-10)	\$700 suggested or a minimum of \$500
5771 (2010-11)	\$700 suggested or a minimum of \$500
5772 (2011-12)	\$700 suggested or a minimum of \$500
5774 (2012-13)	\$700 suggested or a minimum of \$500
5775 (2013-14)	Balance Owed

Some families have given authorizations for \$50 to be paid monthly from their first year as a member to pay it off slowly in less than 6 years. Other families have been paying \$60 a month beginning from their 4th year to be paid off their obligation over the required 5 year period.

Of course, the building fund obligation can be satisfied at any earlier time as well. *In accordance with the long-standing policy of Or Torah, nobody will be denied membership due to financial hardship as long as arrangements are made with the Treasurer or President.*

The building fund is an important component in the financial well-being of Or Torah and allows us to meet the capital needs of the shul as our membership grows. We hope this letter eliminates any confusion and we ask those members who have not yet satisfied their building fund obligations to please do so as soon as possible.

We anticipate updating the Building Fund Board in the near future to properly recognize the many current and former members who have fulfilled their building fund obligation.

Best regards,

The Finance Committee