



CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

July 28, 2017

Dear Members of Congregation Beth Shalom,

I am proud to report that Beth Shalom is healthy and growing. We continue to draw new members, and the number of children in our Religious School increases each year. We expect as many as 14 students in the school year that begins next month. Our future is bright. Having these students and young families is critical to the long-term sustainability of our congregation and faith.

As you probably know, for the past few years we have been holding our Religious School classes and other congregational meetings at a small office location near Michigan Rd called the Multi-Purpose Building, or MPB. We have been leasing it on a month-by-month basis. Fortunately, the monthly rent has been minimal, a blessing for our small congregation. As our Religious School's student body has increased, though, we have outgrown the current MPB.

At the congregation's Annual Meeting in June, we reported that we have been searching for larger space since January. We recently found reasonably priced office space nearby. Adding to the urgency, last week we learned that our landlord at the MPB may take back our space for his own business use. In short, our time at the current MPB is limited, and the CBS board has unanimously voted to pursue a 3-year lease at the new location. Since the 2017-18 Religious School year starts soon, we are working to finalize the details and logistics of this move.

The new space is located in the southwestern part of Carmel, is 60% larger, cleaner, brighter, more open, is located on the main floor and has plenty of parking. It will be great for classes, meetings and occasional worship services. Although the cost is below the average market price in the Carmel area, the new, larger location will cost more than what we had budgeted for.

We will be contacting members of the congregation to request additional financial support to offset the rental difference and keep our budget on track. Any extra you can give will be greatly appreciated. To make a donation, please contact our Treasurer, Jeff Seidenstein, at jeff@seidenstein.us or **317-445-7363**. All conversations and donations will be held in the strictest of confidence.

Thank you to everyone from all of us at CBS who want to see this special congregation thrive and grow as the warm and extended family it has come to be. We look forward to welcoming you at our new and larger MPB location in the next several weeks.

Your President,
Karen Friedman