

For Such a Time as This



- CONGREGATION -
SHEMA YISRAEL
Messianic Synagogue

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



...who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther 4:14 (NKJV)

I tell you, you will never see Me again until you say, 'Baruch ha-ba b'shem Adonai. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'

Matthew 23:39 (TLV)



Quotes from Members

We are called to be a blessing so I believe we will be that. We will also be the Messianic voice in the community for those who are seeking to know their Messiah.

— JB

My relationship and walk with the Lord has been strengthened. I have been drawn back to my first love - Yeshua.

— RSB

Learning and exploring the full truth is what brought me here, and the incredible and supportive family is what kept me here.

— SG

The Ruach (Holy Spirit) led me to Shema to increase my knowledge of Jewish customs and High Holy Days.

— Mark Stone



Shalom,

Over the years, when I have talked about spiritual things with local Jewish people they have asked me, "What synagogue do you attend?" When I answer "Congregation Shema Yisrael," they almost always say, "I've never heard of that synagogue." That answer has been helpful because I usually get to share that it is a Messianic Jewish synagogue where we believe that Yeshua is the Messiah. But that answer has also been very discouraging because it means that 34 years after Congregation Shema Yisrael's founding, most of the people we are trying to reach still don't even know we exist, much less what we believe or what we have to offer. We are invisible to them, even though we have put on many outreach events, advertised, have an online presence and use social media.



Therefore, I am very pleased to be able to share with you the direction the Ruach Ha Kodesh (Holy Spirit) has been leading Congregation Shema Yisrael over the past few years. He has opened a door of opportunity for us to purchase a beautiful facility whose location will make us very visible to the Jewish community of the Greater Rochester area. That facility is located in Brighton NY, very near the Jewish Community Center (JCC) and on the most frequently used street leading to the JCC.

This facility will greatly enhance our ability to fulfill the purpose of Congregation Shema Yisrael, which is to effectively reach the Jewish people of the Greater Rochester area with the Good News of Yeshua (Jesus) and disciple them. The increased visibility will also enhance our ability to effectively reach and disciple non-Jewish people by connecting them with the Jewish Roots of their faith and restoring a Biblical understanding of God's plan for Israel and our relationship to the Laws of Moses..

We believe reaching and discipling the Jewish people of this area is vitally important:

1. Because Jewish people, like all people, need to hear the Good News effectively presented and have an opportunity to enter the Kingdom of God.
2. Because Yeshua said, speaking to the Jewish people in Jerusalem just before His crucifixion, "For I tell you, from now on, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of ADONAI (the LORD).'" (Matthew 23:39). We understand Him to mean He will not return until the Jewish people welcome Him.

Please read this brochure carefully and prayerfully. As you do, simply ask the Lord, "What do You want to do through me to accomplish Your will for Congregation Shema Yisrael?" If you pray this prayer and do what God leads you to do in faith, our capital campaign, ***For Such a Time as This***, will succeed in raising the money we need to purchase this facility.

Please pray for us to be able to walk with the Lord through this awesome open door! Please also pray for the successful sale of our building, as we will be selling our current facility on Winton Road to raise part of the money to purchase the facility on Edgewood Ave. by the end of 2020.

Blessings, Rabbi Jim and Diane Appel

HOW SHEMA YISRAEL CAME TO BE

Our congregation was established by Jonathan Bernis in 1984 and was blessed to be able to meet in a downtown church for four years. In 1988, we took a major step of faith and bought and renovated our current facility on North Winton Road. We have been greatly blessed to have this facility as our home for 30 years. Many people, both Jewish and Gentile, have found the Lord here, been set free from bondage, connected with their Jewish Roots, received a Biblical understanding of God's plan for Israel and gained an understanding of our relationship to the Laws of Moses. Significant events have also taken place here and many outreaches have been launched from here including Sharing Our Bread, our Russian Outreach, Holiday Celebrations, Aleph Clubs, Fishing Outreach Trips, the Chanukah Light Show, the Annual March of Remembrance, Bridge Bags and our Public Market Outreach.

WHAT SHEMA YISRAEL STANDS FOR

WE EXIST TO:

- Reach Jewish people with the good news of Messiah Yeshua and to connect them personally with the God of Israel.
- Disciple Jewish and non-Jewish believers into spiritual maturity.
- Inspire believers to connect with the Jewish roots of their faith and gain a Biblical understanding of God's plan for Israel and our relationship to the Laws of Moses.



Quotes from Members

Here we honor the Lord's appointed times. Our teachings are biblical, and we are fed spiritually.

— Don Barone

I was drawn to Shema by the love I felt the first time I walked through the door; how people were so nice without knowing who I was.

— Lisa Rivera

I am excited because God is moving – spiritually and physically. I believe this is part of God's end times scenario – and we are a part of what He is doing.

— Linda Miller



PRESENT

PRESENT STATE OF SHEMA YISRAEL:

WHAT IS LACKING: REASON FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

- Lack of visibility to the local Jewish community. Because our present location is well outside of the local Jewish community, most Jewish people are unaware of our existence. Having a facility visible to the Jewish community would make us more effective.
- Lack of alternatives for the “spiritually seeking” Jewish people. Many of the 25,000 Jewish people in the Greater Rochester area are “spiritually seeking,” especially among Intermarried Couples and adult children of Intermarried Couples. Congregation Shema Yisrael can provide an alternative for them but, because of our current location, they are unaware of our existence.
- Lack of accessibility for Jewish believers. Jewish people who have come to believe that Yeshua is the Messiah are unaware of Shema Yisrael's existence and that we are a place where they can follow Yeshua without having to lose their Jewish identity, enabling them to more effectively reach family and friends with the Good News.



FUTURE

GAINS FOR PURCHASING EFMC:

ABOUT THE EFMC BUILDING

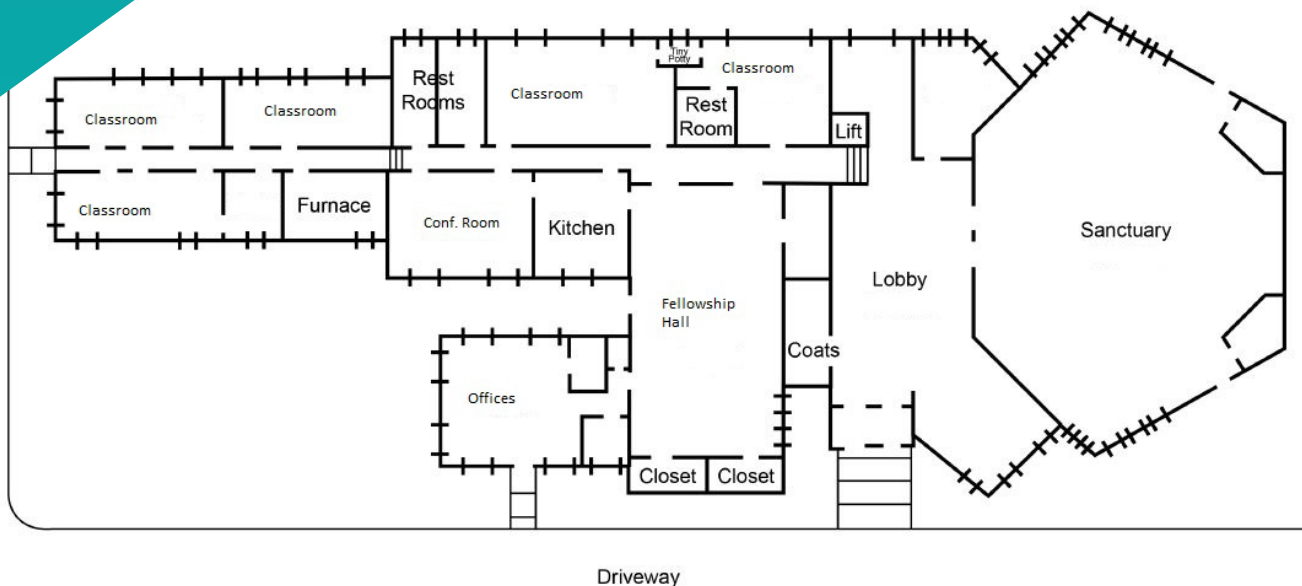
In addition to the benefit of being in a location where many Jewish people will pass by our sign, we will gain several significant improvements by purchasing the EFMC facility.

- An air-conditioned sanctuary that is twice the size of our current one.
- A large lobby for before and after-service fellowship.
- A 50% larger fellowship hall that seats 100 people
- A well equipped, modern kitchen
- Office space sufficient for our expanding needs
- A large parking lot
- A new HVAC system that will reduce utilities costs
- Modern plumbing and electrical systems which will reduce maintenance costs
- Lots of classrooms and a playground.

The EFMC facility opens up several new possibilities for growth of our ministries.

1. There are apartment complexes in the neighborhood with many single parent families whom we can help with our Sharing Our Bread grocery distribution ministry.
2. The facility would be ideal for a Day Care and/or Pre-School.
3. The EFMC facility is the ideal location for a Messianic Jewish Synagogue in the Greater Rochester area. We believe that thousands of Jewish people will become aware of the existence and location of our congregation and what we have to offer.
4. Local Jewish seekers will become aware they can learn about the Bible and Messiah in a culturally Jewish friendly setting.

All this will result in revival in the Jewish community of Greater Rochester.





Quotes from Members

Moving to Edgewood will bring us to an area that will facilitate growth and opportunity to reach the Jewish community.

— Jerry Parrillo



I believe we are being placed in the Jewish community for "such a time as this" – as God starts to remove the blindness from our Jewish brothers and sisters – we will be available and ready.

— LM

An opportunity to grow and to reach more Jewish and non-Jewish people with the saving truth of Messiah Yeshua.

— Pastor Tom Burgo



FUNDRAISING INFORMATION AND GOALS

Contributing to the *For Such a Time as This* campaign is an opportunity to participate with God in reaching Jewish and non-Jewish people with the life-saving Good News of Messiah Yeshua.

EXCELLENT GOAL: \$310,000 GOAL OVER A 2 YEAR PERIOD:

This goal will allow us to purchase the Edgewood facility with an affordable mortgage, enabling us to continue our current programs and operations.

EXCITING GOAL: \$790,000 GOAL OVER A 2 YEAR PERIOD:

This kind of commitment would be an exciting result and would keep our mortgage payment the same as it is today, allowing us to expand our programs and operations.

EXTRAORDINARY GOAL: \$910,000 GOAL OVER A 2 YEAR PERIOD:

This goal would give us the incredible opportunity to purchase this facility without a mortgage. Our God is an extraordinary God and He can do the extraordinary!

WHAT DOES GIVING LOOK LIKE?

CONTRIBUTIONS			TOTALS	
Daily	Weekly	Monthly	1-Year	2.2-Year
100	700	3042	36500	80300
50	350	1521	18250	40150
20	140	608	7300	16060
15	105	456	5475	12045
10	70	304	3650	8030
5	35	152	1825	4015
4	28	122	1460	3212
3	21	91	1095	2409
2	14	61	730	1606
1	7	30	365	803

Some examples of giving:	Total raised in 2.2 years	
97 people giving just \$4.00/day	\$310,000	Excellent Goal Exceeded
197 people giving just \$5.00/day	\$790,000	Exciting Goal Exceeded
113 people giving just \$10.00/day	\$910,000	Extraordinary Goal Exceeded

HOW TO PARTICIPATE



Give a one-time up-front gift.

Ask God what He would have you contribute.



Make a weekly or monthly pledge.

By spreading out your giving over a 2 year period, you can contribute far more than you thought was possible.



Give stocks, securities or assets.

A creative way to participate is by donating stocks, securities or assets.



Consider sacrificial giving.

This is not giving recklessly or presumptuously without attention to the reality of one's financial circumstances. Sacrificial giving means to sacrifice something you are paying for now, in order to be able to financially support what the Lord has put on your heart.

For example, giving up Cable TV should save about \$120 per month. That's \$2900 over 2 years. Giving up going out to lunch once per week for a couple would save \$3600 over 2 years. Other ways of sacrificially giving could involve finding additional work to do, or selling some things you don't need anymore.



Quotes from Members

I really did learn my Jewish roots, but more than that feel like I better understand God's character and ways. My prayer life and language have dramatically grown, and my faith in God's provision and healing. I also have mentors and accountability here, which is so valuable.

— SG

Edgewood is a bigger facility so we have room to grow as a congregation. Hopefully, too, we will become known and visible to the community in Brighton and to all the Jewish people who live in our city.

— Judith Benhamou

YOU HAVE QUESTIONS? WE HAVE ANSWERS

Should I redirect my tithe or regular giving to the *For Such a Time as This* campaign?

No. Your giving commitment to the campaign should be above and beyond your regular giving. Your tithe and regular giving are used to support the current programs and ministries of Congregation Shema Yisrael.

How do I make my commitment to the *For Such a Time as This* campaign?

During the launch of the campaign, we will come together as a family to participate with God in this exciting move.

We will have an opportunity to:

- Complete a commitment card to indicate what God is leading us to give, over and above our regular giving, for the next three years.
- Give our First Fruits Offering – our largest possible gift that counts toward that commitment. First fruit offerings & commitment cards can be turned in before or after that weekend in case you're unable to attend one of the services.

What is a First Fruits Offering?

A First Fruit offering is a way of worshipping God by giving a portion of what God has given to us for supporting His work on earth.

Is my commitment confidential?

All giving to Congregation Shema Yisrael is completely confidential, including giving to the *For Such a Time as This* campaign.

Can my commitment be changed if necessary?

Commitments can be changed if necessary, allowing you to either increase or decrease your commitment as needed. Your decision to change your commitment should be done only after much prayer.

Will I be billed monthly for my pledge?

No. We will be counting on you to meet your commitments in a timely manner. If giving via check, please be sure to designate your checks by writing 'FOR SUCH A TIME' on the memo line.

What are donor advised funds?

These are all types of assets (cash, stocks, non-liquid assets). You can setup a Giving Fund through National Christian Foundation and choose Congregation Shema Yisrael as the recipient of these assets and receive an income tax deduction at the time of the donation.

For more information, call the office or visit www.nationalchristian.com.

What happens in the event that more or less than the outlined goals are committed?

If more than the target amount is sacrificially given over the next two years then this will allow us to expand the scope of our project and/or reduce the size of our building loan debt.

What is expected of me?

Pray and ask God what He would have you do to participate. Ask questions and be informed.

Thank you for prayerfully considering participating in the ***For Such a Time as This*** capital campaign. This campaign is not just about giving money, but is an opportunity to partner with God as He brings about His end times plan. Congregation Shema Yisrael is committed to reaching Jewish people with the Good News of Messiah Yeshua so that they will be ready to welcome Him when He returns, and they will say, “Baruch ha-ba b’shem Adonai. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Congregation Shema Yisrael is here ***For Such a Time as This***. God is calling us to help reach more people with the Good News, and we invite you to participate as you are led by the Lord. God bless you.



Quotes from Members

This place is Spirit filled and has good teachings. Got baptized again here!

— John St. George

Shema Yisrael has contributed a great deal to my spiritual development. It taught what I need in the Bible. Over the years, I grew in the Lord and my understanding of Jewish customs and how important they were.

— Robert L. Schneider



Quotes from Members

It will be wonderful for this congregation to be a light to non-messianic synagogues in this area. "And so all Israel shall be saved." Romans 11:26.

— CK

Shema has taught me to be obedient to the word in areas I wasn't before. It has emphasized and demonstrated the untiy of the old and new covenants.

— JP

It is important that Shema Yisrael is working much as the early church did, in a Jewish way.

— RS

Moving to the Edgewood facility is a chance to shine brightly in a Jewish neighborhood! I am excited for the opportunity to reach more Jewish people!

— Ethel Chadwick



- CONGREGATION -

SHEMA YISRAEL

Messianic Synagogue

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