



July 20, 2009

Dear Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah Members:

All of us have chosen to be members of the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah for many reasons. These include sharing a religious experience, a desire to participate in Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World), community building and friendship, educating one another and our children, and celebrating holidays, simchas, and Jewish culture together. Or perhaps there is another reason that has led you to join and build this community.

The Havurah continues to be a vibrant community—we began as a small group of friends meeting monthly for Shabbat service and have grown, hiring a rabbinical student intern for the year and an events coordinator to lead us as we continue to grow and change. We continue to hold Shabbat services three times a month: services with a potluck dinner on the fourth Friday of the month; Kabbalat Shabbat and discussion on the second Friday of the month; and a learning Shabbat service on the first Saturday of the month. Our Beit Sefer school continues to grow, and we have celebrated many more B'nai Mitzvot together. Our High Holiday services allow us to participate, learn, and worship together while still creating a space for personal reflection and introspection. And we are offering more programs to meet the interests of our diverse and talented members.

The Board works hard to be fiscally responsible, yet our costs are increasing as we expand paid staff and programs to support our active community. We know that the financial downturn has impacted many of our members, and we understand that contributions to the Havurah this year will need to be reduced for some. We ask that you give what you feel comfortable giving this year, no more than that. We also ask that those who have not been directly affected by the economy consider increasing their contribution for the year to help out other members who are suffering.

The degree of contribution is voluntary and based on your means, and you decide the amount to give. This year we are asking the same minimum level of support as last year and have raised the upper level to reflect our increased costs and programming and to cover those who cannot contribute as much. Even though the AARH maintains a policy of not turning anyone away, we ask you to consider a contribution at the upper end of your comfort level so that we can maintain and enhance the Hav's efforts to offer a wide array of programs, a hallmark of our community.

Respectfully yours,

Havurah Board of Directors

Audrey Newell, *Chair*

Shari Fox, *Co-Chair*

Alicia Kent, *Secretary*

Keith Kurz, *Treasurer*

Marcy Epstein

Sally Fink

Sally Goldberg

Mark Schneyer

MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM

July 1, 2009 (5769) to June 30, 2010 (5770)

Your Contact Information:

Names <i>(as you wish them to appear in the directory)</i>	Please include birth dates of children after their names
Address	
Phone Number(s)	
Email address(es)	
When did you join the Havurah?	
Interests, skills, expertise for volunteering	

Membership Contribution:

- \$600 to \$1200: This range allows you to choose the amount of your donation. We hope that if you are able, you will consider donating for others in our community who cannot give as much this year.
- \$50: Student rate.
- What if my circumstances limit the amount I can pay? It really is okay. We do not want anyone's financial status to be an obstacle to membership. Simply give what you can.
- What if I feel able to give more? Any extra that you wish to contribute will be appreciated in a year when others may not be able to give as much.
- What if I have questions about my amount of giving? If you would like to discuss your situation, please contact Keith Kurz, Treasurer (734-930-0923, kkurz@ubemachinery.com).

My **membership** donation for the year will be \$_____.

Make checks payable to: AARH

Mail membership forms and contributions to: AARH
PO Box 7451
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

Thank you! The Havurah is grateful for your contribution.