



## High Holiday Seating Guidelines

### 5770 / 2009

#### **SEAT ASSIGNMENTS:**

The Seating Committee will make every effort to assign you and your family members seats that are next to each other. **Only members in good standing (see below) are eligible for seats.** Please bear in mind that the configurations of the Main Sanctuary and the Beit Midrash upstairs are very close to full capacity. Therefore, some shifting from last year's assignments may be necessary to provide contiguous seating. In some cases, particularly if a family has a large, unexpected number of guests, it cannot be guaranteed that they will be able to all sit together. However, every effort will be made to preserve the general location. The Sephardic minyan will be meeting on the lower level. **Please note that you may only request one minyan location, and there will be no guarantees seats will be open at the other minyanim.**

Please fill out your seating form as completely as possible. Please specify at which minyan you and your guests wish to daven. Please also note whether you, your whole family, and/or guests will be here for both Rosh Hashanah and/or Yom Kippur. Please also indicate *on which day of Rosh Hashanah* you will be present should this apply, since this situation has arisen in the last few years. There may be instances where these seats could be shared, and it would be inconsiderate to "hold" a seat if one knows he/she will be davening elsewhere for one of the days of Rosh Hashanah.

If you have any special requests, please put them in writing by indicating on the reverse side of the seating form. Also enclosed are seating layouts of the Main Sanctuary and the Beit Midrash. Please remember that the persons serving on the Seating Committee are selfless volunteers who have agreed to undertake a very difficult assignment. **Forms must be submitted by September 4, 2009 in order for the seats to be assigned.**

#### **MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING:**

Only MEMBERS-IN-GOOD-STANDING will receive assigned seats. To be considered a member-in-good-standing, one must have paid:

- 1) All outstanding prior membership dues, pledges, and building fund assessments.
- 2) One-half of year 5770 (2009-2010) dues.

*Consideration will be provided to any member who feels that he or she requires financial relief. Your request will be handled in a confidential matter.*

**Please feel free to confidentially discuss your requested relief with either the shul's Executive Director, Gwen Horowitz, at 610-664-5626, President, Charles Parker, at 610-660-9040, or Treasurer, Ed Altman, at 610-664-8696.**

## **SEATING POLICY PRACTICES:**

1. Each **FULL** member-in-good-standing is entitled to one seat, or two seats for a full family membership. **ASSOCIATE** members-in-good-standing will be charged the discounted rate of \$100 per seat.
2. Additional seats for **FULL** members' children will be provided upon request at no additional cost, provided the child is at least **eight** years of age. Children will be assigned seats only next to their parents. **ASSOCIATE** members who request seats for children will be charged \$100 per seat.
3. Children under the age of eight will not have assigned seats, though seven year-olds may be considered if space permits. Please indicate on your seating form the ages of your children, and if you feel your seven-year old would actually use his/her seat.
4. Additional seats for adult independent children, parents, grandparents, and/or friends of all members-in-good-standing are also available for an additional cost of \$100 per seat. Members-in-good-standing are responsible for paying for the seat costs of their guests. Payment for guest seats must be enclosed with the seating form.
5. Non-members who desire guest seating will be charged \$200.00 per seat, including the Beit Midrash minyan and Sephardic minyan.
6. If LMS babysitting services are requested, there is a \$36 fee per family. Please indicate this on the seating form in the payment section and include this amount with your payment.
7. Members-in-good-standing must respond to this mailing by **September 4, 2009**, in order to receive assigned seats.
8. Members-in-good-standing who fail to respond to this mailing will not be assigned seats.
9. All forms & checks must be sent to the Lower Merion Synagogue, PO Box 2528, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.
10. Unfortunately, seating requests cannot be made by telephone. Please indicate in writing any specific requests on the seating form itself, the enclosed room layouts, or attach a separate note.
11. All assigned seats will be indicated on alphabetized lists and large maps outside the doors of the two minyanim.

Your full cooperation and understanding is greatly appreciated. This year's seating arrangements will again be especially difficult as our minyanim are, Baruch Hashem, very close to full capacity, If you have any questions about seating or would like to volunteer your assistance, please call the synagogue office (610-664-5626), or e-mail [shul@verizon.net](mailto:shul@verizon.net), subject: seating.

Additional seating forms and copies of these guidelines can be found on the shul's website: [www.lmsonline.org](http://www.lmsonline.org) (select #9 – Yamim Nora'im and other forms).