



Dear friends,

It is amazing to me that we are again reaching the end of another year. 2018 has been a crazy, interminable, frightening year in which some of the worst aspects of our society have been on stark display. We have also confronted some disturbing issues in our own house. So suffice it to say, we can't wait to say goodbye to 2018. Unfortunately, as 2018 fades into the sunset, we still look forward to the prospect of an uncertain future for our country and our world.

However, there is one thought I would like you to hold in your minds and your hearts. EMJC remains a vibrant, multifaceted, multigenerational, and multicultural place. The way we survive unsettling times is by doing it together. We are reassured by having a place in our lives where we know we are welcome. I believe that it is a place where you can find a peaceful, thoughtful, spiritual respite from everything in this world that makes you feel ill at ease.

It is our mission to sing, pray, and *knosh* with you at our Shabbos Kiddush, and to be here for you every single day as your Shul, your Community, your Family.

At this time, we ask you to remember that your support is what makes our synagogue a thriving, flourishing community. Our synagogue is approaching 100 years old and like any centenarian, it needs maintenance and repair. Indeed, we are presently dealing with a major repair of our synagogue ceiling. It is indeed, your financial support that makes our synagogue possible.

And so, as this year winds down, we want to remind you that you still have a chance to make a tax deductible donation to East Midwood Jewish Center.

No donation is too small -- \$72, \$36, \$18 – it all will help. Of course, if you find an extra 72 grand in the sofa cushions, that's good too!

And lastly, please accept our very best good wishes to you and your loved ones for the happiest, healthiest and most peaceful and loving New Year,

Michael F. Schwartz, President

