



## Message From Cantor Joshua Shron

I am always impressed by the quality and quantity of events taking place at our synagogue. A glance at the many colorful flyers in our lobby, paints a beautiful picture of a thriving organization, truly offering something for everyone, nearly every day of the week.

Over the past few weeks, however, I've found myself cringing a bit when walking through the lobby of the synagogue.

Why? Because upon one of our many flyers is a head shot of yours truly, encouraging everyone to attend our annual Israel Bonds Breakfast on Sunday, May 22nd. Apparently, the powers that be have selected me as this year's honoree, and are urging all congregational members to invest in the state of Israel in my honor.

Wow. I am extremely humbled by this wonderful honor, and thrilled for the opportunity to help the State of Israel in such a tangible, meaningful way. I've always done my best to show support for Israel, but this honor affords me the chance to show support in a manner unlike any other. I've got to admit, however, I'm not very comfortable being honored. I feel a bit squeamish hearing people singing my praises, and I feel funny suggesting that people spend their hard-earned money in my honor. I'm certainly not crazy about seeing my face on promotional flyers.

But you know what? I've come to terms with that. To paraphrase the prophet Isaiah, "For the sake of Zion," feel free to use my photo anywhere you see fit.

Our annual Israel Bonds Breakfast is very important to me. It's a critical way for our community to show our solidarity with the State of Israel, which desperately needs our help. Surrounded by enemies on all sides, under constant threat of terrorism or military attack, with Iranian nuclear missiles pointed directly at the heart of its population centers, Israel needs us more than ever. Israel maintains one of the toughest militaries in the world and protects its citizens with nearly-miraculous (yet increasingly expensive) technologies that are the envy of the modern world. All this while maintaining a high quality of life for its citizens in one of the toughest neighborhoods in the world.

If a close member of your family asked you for a loan, could you look him or her in the eye and say no? Israel - the heart and soul of world Jewry - is asking for our help (and offering to repay us with interest!). How can we refuse?

My strong connection to Israel came primarily through Israeli music. For the past 21 years, I have volunteered as host of a weekly radio program devoted to the music of Israel (you can hear it Sundays at 11am at [www.wrsu.org](http://www.wrsu.org)), and my connection to Israeli culture has significantly deepened my dedication to the land itself. How fitting it is that we will hear a presentation by an Israeli musical troupe featuring Yonatan Gutfeld, a talented singer/songwriter who has written songs for some of Israel's most popular artists. They couldn't have picked a better special guest.

So in this particular case, I'm extremely proud to accept the honor being bestowed upon me, and I unabashedly encourage everyone to purchase an interest-bearing Israel bond at our event of May 22nd. If I have touched your life in any way over the past seven years...if I have helped prepare your child in becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah...if you've been inspired by a particular melody or service...if you simply think I'm a nice guy...or if you care about the safety and security of our beloved Land of Israel...I'm proud to invite and encourage you to join us at our annual Israel Bonds Breakfast on Sunday, May 22nd.

As we prepare to celebrate 68 years since the miraculous birth of the modern State of Israel, let's join together as a community in a strong showing of support for God's greatest gift to the Jewish people. We say it all the time...but let's take this incredible opportunity to show the world: *Am Yisrael Chai!*

*Cantor Josh Shron*



## Teen Conversations with The Cantor at L'Dor V'Dor

**Tuesdays, May 10 & 24  
At 8:00 p.m.**

