



עמנואל
emanuel synagogue
creating community • celebrating diversity

NOW
IS THE TIME
TO INVEST IN
OUR FUTURE

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY

The foundation stone of our building was laid in March 1941, a biblical three score and ten years ago.

Rabbi Kamins reminded us during Yom Kippur that at the outbreak of World War II, as the destruction of European Jewry began with ferocity, Australian men and women of courage, faith and vision knew the importance of continuity and the permanency that an appropriate building would achieve. They built Temple Emanuel, one of the few (if not only) synagogues to be built in the world as those in Europe burned, and in doing so established a leading home for liberal, progressive Judaism in Australia for the 20th century.

Despite the current economic difficulties within the world, as the beneficiaries of that past generosity, we ask you to show leadership and to take a similar responsibility for our children and grandchildren.

We have committed to the project, which will firmly establish the next chapter in the life of Emanuel Synagogue. It will continue and strengthen what is important to so many of us - a viable and strong alternative to orthodoxy and a place where all in the Jewish faith can feel at home.

Now is the time for us to make a difference, to honour the legacy we have inherited and take the next step - to transform our campus into one suitable for the next 70 years.



David Gonski AC
Campaign Patron



Rodney Brender
Emanuel President

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN OUR VISION

A Talmudic legend tells of Honi, an elderly sage, who one day, as he was walking on the road, saw a man planting a carob tree. Honi asked him, "How long will it take this tree to bear fruit?" The man replied, "Seventy years." He asked, "Are you quite sure you will live another seventy years to eat its fruit?" The man replied, "I myself found fully grown carob trees in the world; as my forebears planted for me, so am I planting for my children." (Ta'anith 23a.)

Emanuel Synagogue is proud of our dynamic, welcoming, pluralist and egalitarian community where we can all express our faith, share our values and support one another. In the last decade our congregation has nearly doubled in size and we have outgrown our premises. Because community will always be our priority, we need to invest in a functional space for us and those to come as we move into the 21st century.

Our dream is to build sacred, harmonious and beautiful spaces that are environmentally sustainable and socially responsible. The design will provide for all our services (Progressive, Masorti and Renewal), our multi-faceted learning programmes and the ability to bring together our community in all its diversity.

In the months ahead, your support of our Capital Campaign will help bring this vision to reality. Now is the time for us to join together to secure the future of our Emanuel community and enshrine its values for generations to come.

Jeffrey B. Kamins, Senior Rabbi



ABOUT EMANUEL

WHO ARE WE?

Emanuel Synagogue is a unique community in Australia, if not the world. We have a proud history, a large and growing membership of 1500 families, dynamic leadership, a large campus in Woollahra and a secure financial footing for operational requirements. We are unique in offering three minyanim – a Progressive (Reform) service of 80 years duration, Australia's first and Sydney's only Masorti (Conservative) service, and Australia's only Renewal service.

Led by four inspirational rabbis and a Shaliach Tzibbur (cantorial soloist), our services allow for different prayer styles, but all have the same fundamental egalitarian ethos. In particular we value the fact that women and girls are in a position of equality in our services and in our community.

The synagogue has a preschool accommodating 60 children, and a twice weekly Beit Midrash (Hebrew and Religion School) on site. We also enjoy a close relationship with the Emanuel School - a thriving preschool, primary and secondary pluralist Jewish day school that was founded by our community.

When the JCA undertook the most extensive research about the Australian Jewish community in the last decade, it determined that a pluralist approach, which embraces Jewish tradition, is the key to Jewish continuity and the future vitality of our community. Emanuel Synagogue is the only congregation in Sydney which models this vision of the Jewish future and is key to Jewish continuity and vitality in the century to come.



THE CURRENT SITUATION



WHY DO WE NEED TO REDEVELOP?

- We have outgrown our prayer spaces. We have at least two simultaneous services each Shabbat. Our second space, the Neuweg chapel, has poor acoustics and layout, and it leaks. It is cramped for weekly services. On High Holy Days a large portion of our community must pray off site, in an unsuitable location that does not do justice to the beautiful Masorti service.
- As our synagogue and staff have increased in size, we have outgrown our office space. In addition, there are no suitable spaces available for the rabbis to meet with bereaved families, wedding parties and other small groups.
- The education centre is inadequate for our thriving Beit Midrash (Hebrew and Religion School). Our group of dynamic and committed Netzer youth leaders have inadequate office and meeting space.
- There is no third space for intimate ritual moments such as conversion ceremonies, nor for our smaller prayer services. The Renewal minyan gathers in the education centre which is accessible only by stairs, thereby excluding many members of our community.
- We are not permitted to use Sydney's mikvaot. Our converts, brides and others must use the ocean for what should be personal and private rituals.
- We do not have a secure location that is large enough for the whole community to enjoy Kiddush together.

THE VISION

WHAT WILL WE DO?

STAGE 1

- We will replace the current uncomfortable pews in the main sanctuary with new, individual, padded seats. They will be much more comfortable and roomy. The new seats will complete the refurbishment of the existing main sanctuary that began eight years ago. The new seats will make the sanctuary even more conducive to prayer and reflection. This will be completed before the High Holy Days 2012. The current sanctuary will remain the home of the High Holy Day Progressive Service.



STAGE 2

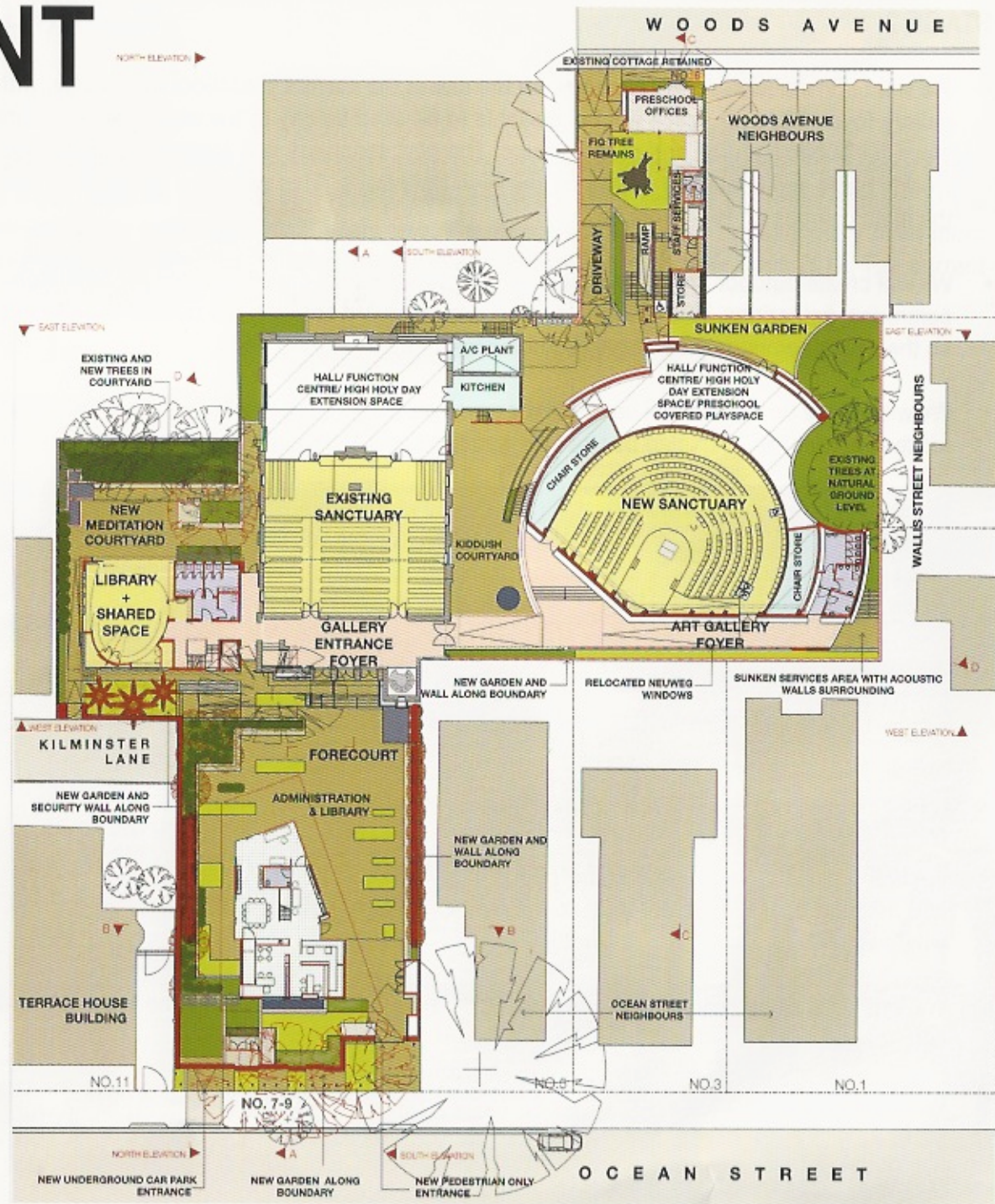
- We will build a new second sanctuary, on the site of the current preschool play space, with a beautiful art gallery foyer. The new space will be available to be used by any of the weekly services and will also be a place for public lectures and study groups. The new sanctuary will accommodate about 350 people on a weekly basis and about 660 people for the High Holy Days. This will allow the Masorti minyan to return to the main campus on High Holy Days.
- We will create outdoor prayer and meeting spaces with landscaped gardens for reflection, meditation and communal gatherings. This will include a secure courtyard between the current sanctuary and the new one so the whole community can have Kiddush together.
- We will build a new preschool on top of the new sanctuary with a roof-top garden that will be the play space for the children, and can also be used for weddings and synagogue functions.
- We will transform the current ground floor office area into a third flexible shared space and the level above it into a new education centre. This space can be used for our Renewal services, and for a second Friday night service. It will house a world class Jewish and Yiddish library. The education centre will also have office and meeting space for Netzer.
- We will enhance our security. The well-being and welfare of our congregation is paramount so our security will be state of the art.

STAGE 3

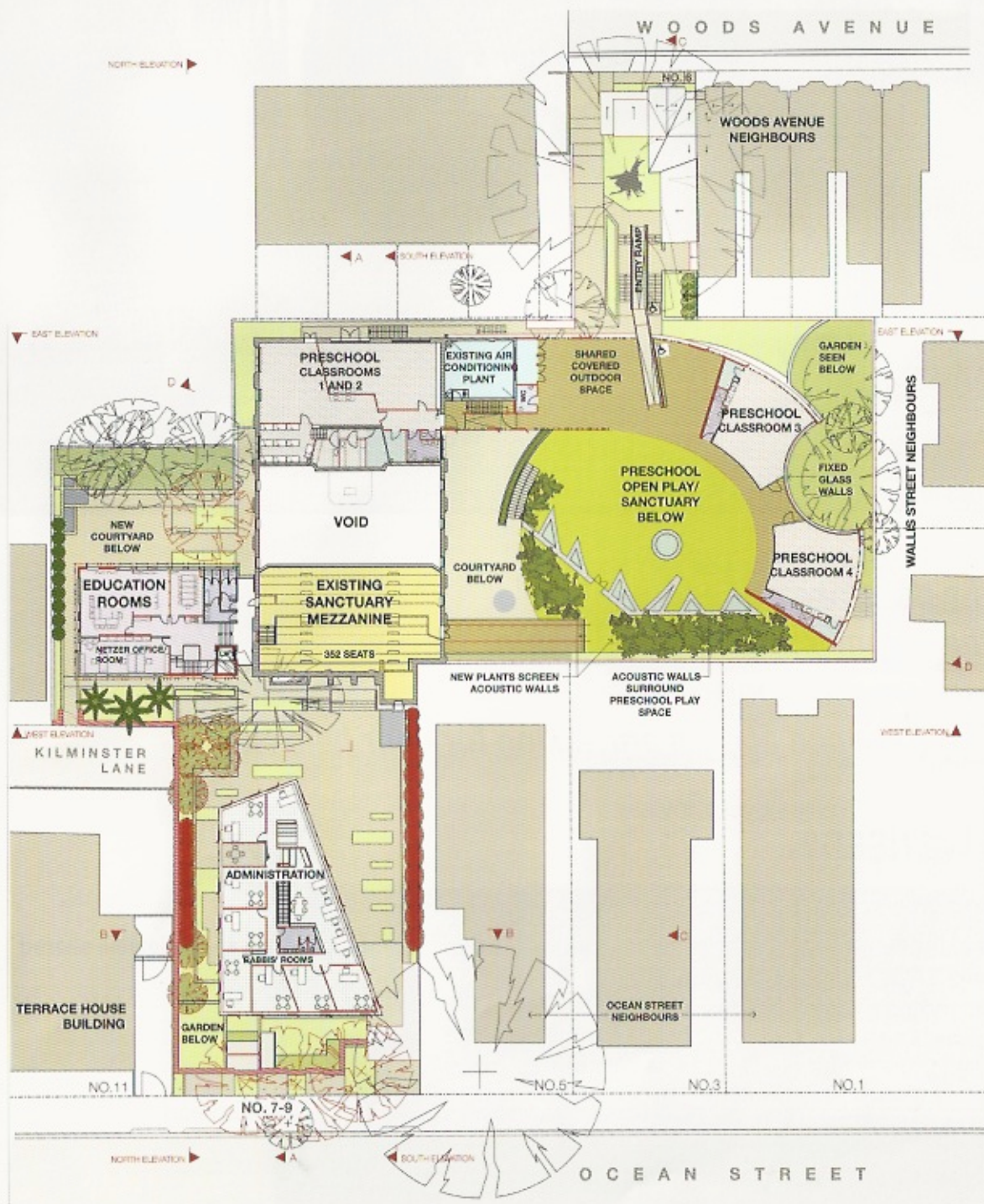
- We will build a modern, welcoming community centre in the front courtyard, containing suitable office and meeting space. This will replace the Neuweg chapel but we will relocate the beautiful stained glass windows.
- We will build underground staff parking, permitting the open areas around the community centre to be landscaped.
- We will build a mikvah.



REDEVELOPMENT PLANS



GROUND FLOOR



- ALL SPACES ARE MULTI PURPOSE FOR EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE'S CORE FUNCTIONS:
- TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING
 - INSPIRING PRAYER
 - COMMUNAL GATHERING
- | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SPR BOUNDARY | TREES NEW | PAVING NEW | COMBINED FOSTER SPACE | ADMINISTRATION / LIBRARY SPACE |
| WALLS NEW | TREES RETAINED | HEDGE/BOULDER | KH PRE SCHOOL WIDE/STASTEN | SERVICE / STORAGE / REAR |
| WALLS EXIST | LANDSCAPE NEW | WATER FEATURE | ADULT EDUCATION | COMBINED FOSTER SPACE |

FIRST FLOOR



REALISING OUR VISION

*We have the development approval.
We have the commitment and leadership.
Now we need your support.
Our campaign is open and we are asking for your help NOW.*

WHAT DO WE NEED?

STAGES 1 AND 2

\$3m New seats in the current sanctuary, transformation of the current office area into a new flexible shared space, library and a new education centre, and gardens

\$4m New sanctuary and Kiddush courtyard

\$2m New preschool

STAGE 3

\$1m Mikvah

\$5m Community centre and offices, underground staff parking

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We ask everybody to give what they can over the next three to five years to make this dream a reality. You can support the redevelopment in two ways.

First, by making a donation. Donations will be fully tax deductible and can be recognised by suitable plaques or naming rights to honour family members or other persons, in a space of your choice. Everyone who gives at any level will be recognised on an honour board. Donations can be made in one instalment or in regular instalments over three or five years.

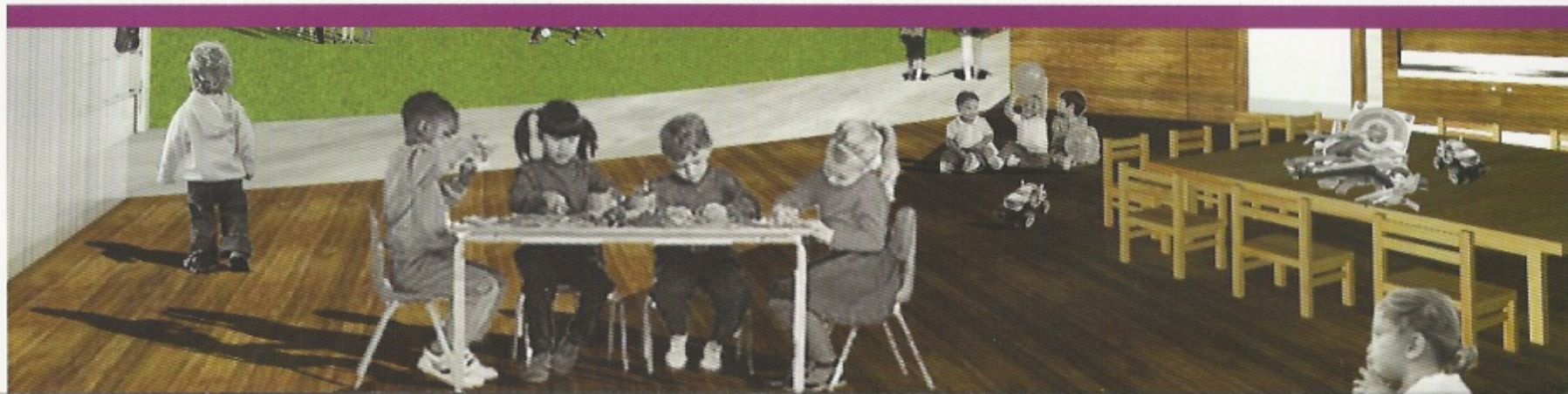
Secondly, by purchasing an allocated seat. Seats are now available, for perpetual use by a donor or his or her family, including on High Holy Days. This may be in the current sanctuary or in the new sanctuary, which will be used for our Masorti services during future High Holy Days. The cost of a seat is 50% tax deductible.

In accordance with our egalitarian ethos, no more than half of all seats will be allocated, and seats will generally be allocated on a two rows on, two rows off basis.

A seat may be purchased for \$9,990 now, for \$11,000 payable over three years, or for \$12,500 payable over five years. A 10% discount is available for the third and subsequent seats bought by an immediate family unit.

Members who formerly had an allocated space in the pews will have the first opportunity to select an allocated seat close to their familiar location. After that, allocations will be made as pledges are received.

Further information is provided in the FAQ section that follows.



FAQs

THE CAMPAIGN

Q. How much money is needed?

A. About \$9 million for stages 1 and 2. \$15 million in total.

Q. How is the project being funded?

A. The development will be funded from donations and seat pledges. Before construction starts, we will have sufficient commitments to ensure that, on the basis that the pledges are met, we will be able to fund the redevelopment through our own resources.

Q. Do I have to make my first payment immediately?

A. We ask that the first payment be made when completing the pledge card.

DONATIONS

Q. Are donations tax deductible?

A. Yes. Gifts by donation made to one of our Capital Campaign funds are allowed deductions for tax purposes under section 78(1)(a) of the Tax Act.

Q. What is the structure of the gift?

A. Donations can be paid in one instalment or in regular monthly or quarterly instalments over the next three or five years.

Q. What are the payment options?

A. This is explained on the pledge card. Payment may be made by cheque, credit card or online.

SEATS

Q. Are seat purchases tax deductible?

A. Seat purchases are 50% tax deductible. We will issue you with two receipts, one, for half the seat cost, that is an allowable tax deduction, and a second, for the other half of the cost, that is not an allowable tax deduction.

Q. What is the cost of seats?

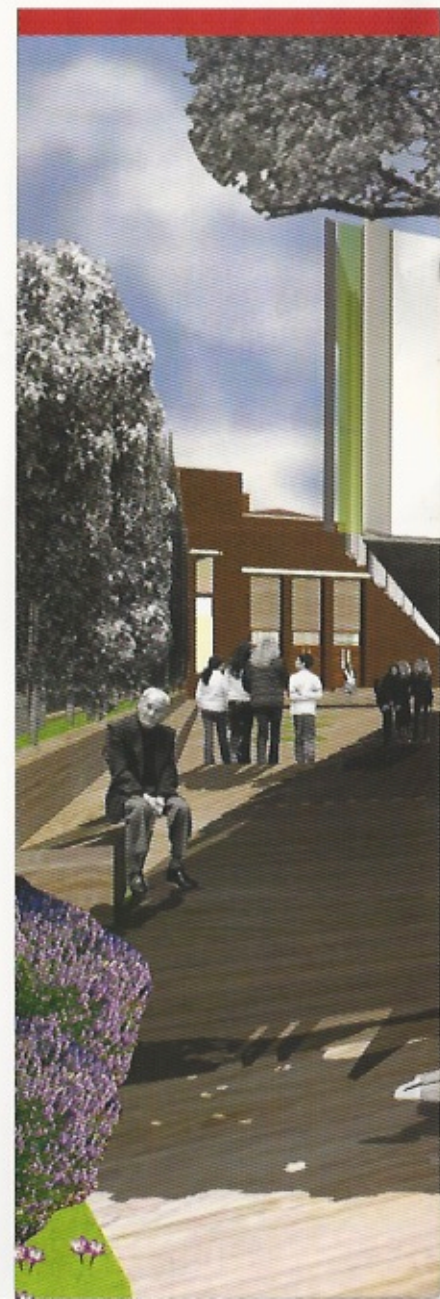
A. There are three options: (a) an up front payment of \$9,990 now; (b) three annual instalments totalling \$11,000; or (c) five annual instalments totalling \$12,500. Details are set out on the pledge card.

Q. What are the payment options?

A. This is explained on the pledge card. Payment may be made by cheque, credit card or online. If you are paying by cheque, we will ask you to write two separate cheques.



- Q. Are there any discounts?
A. There will be a 10% discount for third and subsequent seats bought by an immediate family unit. The discount does not operate on the first two seats. It is taken off the payment amount and method selected (eg 10% off \$9,990 if paying in one instalment, 10% off \$12,500 if paying by five annual instalments).
- Q. Can we sit near relatives or friends?
A. You will be able to advise the Seating Committee of your preferences about the location of your seat(s) before they are allocated. The Seating Committee will take into account your request for a particular location.
- Q. What happens if I stop making payments?
A. We will not refund payments if later seat instalments are not made and you will not retain any right to an allocated seat.
- Q. How many seats will be sold?
A. No more than half the total number of seats in each sanctuary.
- Q. I used to have a seat in a pew. Can I sit near where I always used to sit?
A. Yes. When allocating seats, the Seating Committee will take into account the location of your former allocated seat and your request for a particular location. In the current synagogue, it is envisaged that most allocated seats will be downstairs in the fixed seating. There may be an opportunity for you to buy a seat in the gallery.
- Q. Can I buy a seat in either the current sanctuary or the new one?
A. Yes. You may decide which of the two sanctuaries you prefer. The Progressive service will continue to use the current sanctuary for High Holy Days. The Masorti service will use the new sanctuary for High Holy Days.
- Q. How long will my rights last?
A. It is envisaged that rights will be perpetual so long as the seats exist and your annual membership fees are paid in full.
- Q. What annual fees will I have to pay?
A. Membership fees will remain the same as they are now for seat and non seat holders, without any changes.
- Q. Can I, or my estate, transfer my seat to a family member?
A. Yes. There will be no transfer fee for ten years from the time the seat is first available for use.
- Q. Can I transfer my seats between sanctuaries?
A. Yes, so long as there are available seats and you remain a member.



A FINAL WORD FROM THE RABBIS

In one of the most beautiful moments in the Torah, the Israelites are instructed to build a sanctuary, a place where they can welcome God's presence into their midst, a place where they can learn, pray and join together as a community. Every Israelite brought forth a gift, a voluntary offering of their heart. Every contribution added another dimension and richness to the sanctuary, crafting a place which was holy because each person gave from their hearts, a small piece of themselves.

Just as our forebears had the faith to build for us, so must each of us, with our own faith, courage and vision, create a beautiful and sacred space, a home for Emanuel Synagogue's unique expression of pluralism, a place which enhances our ability to be inclusive, welcoming and dynamic.

Together we will create a sacred space where we can all share each other's gifts and welcome God's presence into our midst, for generations to come.

Now is the time. Now our opportunity. Now our responsibility.

Rabbi Jeffrey B. Kamins, Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio, Rabbi Paul Jacobson and Rabbi Dr Orna Triguboff

