

SANCTUARY REDESIGN FUNDRAISING



BY THE BEKI SANCTUARY FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE
(MURRAY AKRESH, MARK OPPENHEIMER, JESSEY PALUMBO,
JOHN WARECK, JOHN WEISER)

As you know, BEKI is in the midst of a major effort to redesign our sanctuary. Fundraising for the sanctuary redesign is in full swing. Our goal is to raise the \$1,000,000 to \$1,250,000 needed to successfully complete this major renewal of our sanctuary. As of mid-June, pledges and donations already exceed \$500,000, and we are optimistic that we will reach our goal. We need your help to get there.

Our plan is to update BEKI's sanctuary to reflect a worship space that reflects our 21st-century values: warmth, inclusiveness, spiritual intimacy, and true egalitarianism. The redesign builds on priorities expressed in our congregational survey: **accessibility**; a different **seating layout**; improved **acoustics**; better **climate control** and air quality; more **natural** light; and a warm atmosphere that fosters a sense of **community, participatory prayer and singing**, and a spiritual experience. We hope you have seen the preliminary conceptual design sketches in the lobby or on the website.

We are asking that you join the members of the Fund-

raising Committee and the BEKI Board, all of whom have already pledged to support the redesign.

Please note that unlike many other congregations, BEKI does not require members to annually pay into a Building Fund to finance these types of major building renovations. Given that BEKI has no Building Fund, we hope that you will make a pledge that is at least ten times your Annual Appeal donation or at least two-to-three times your annual BEKI dues.

We prefer that pledge payments be made by Dec. 31, 2022. However, if it will allow you to increase the amount of your pledge, we are accepting payment over a period not to exceed five years.

If you are over age 70½ or have appreciated securities, you may be able to take advantage of existing tax laws. We would be happy to provide additional information.

Please contact Peggy in the BEKI office to make your pledge and indicate your payment period. Email her at office@BEKI.org or call 203-389-2108 ext. 114. If you want to talk to someone about the redesign or your pledge, please contact anyone on the Sanctuary Fundraising Committee.

Thank you very much for your generosity!