



Dear BTEE Community,

My name is Gabrielle Mitchell-Marell and I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new President of BTEE and to invite you to renew your membership and join us for this year's High Holiday season. I'm honored to take on this role after the extraordinary work of our former co-presidents, Lauren and Limor, who led our community out of the darkness and insularity of Covid and helped BTEE progress as reflected in our renovated courtyard, updated social hall, revitalized gardens, new outdoor lighting and freshly installed windows, and the hiring of our new Executive Director, Devorah Brous.

I have been part of the BTEE community since 2017 when my first child joined the haven that is the Early Childhood Center. My second son now attends the ECC, while my older one goes to the Hebrew School. This will be my 4th year serving on the board, most recently as the membership co-chair. In my other work, I teach English and writing at the community college level. I am excited to be leading this Jewish community that means so much to me. I am invested in seeing it thrive in a world where many of us long for places and people to commune with in homes away from home. Please do introduce yourself if you see me or Devorah on campus during the holidays so we can get to know those who make up our community!

Time for Reflection and Sharing

Our committed staff, clergy and volunteer community are preparing for the Jewish New Year. We have a full line-up of religious and spiritual services and offerings planned for the holidays. Please see the schedule included in this packet. We have an incredible team of clergy and volunteers who put their heart and soul into creating a slate of innovative ritual-based worship in the sanctuary as well as robust family-friendly and accessible programs with food and drinks.

Time of Reflection and Giving

We are in the middle of our annual membership drive and I beseech you to invest in our community by renewing your membership right now. We'd love for you to come to even more BTEE events this year and try a new program or event! Even if you only come occasionally, by investing your time and money in a small and historic synagogue you help to sustain a Jewish enclave. It is truly a mitzvah when you show up for our institution that has served Burbank and surrounding communities during ups and downs since 1946.

Whether you are renewing your membership as a Hebrew School parent, recommitting to support our synagogue after a year, or twenty of belonging, whether you are joining us for the first time as a new member seeking a sense of belonging, or you are a preschool parent who hopes to stay connected to a Jewish community after your preschooler graduates, please join

us for an incredible High Holiday season and so much more this year...Please complete the enclosed membership form or visit our website: <https://www.btee.org/join>.

L'shanah tovah!

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PS - If you've already filled out the membership form and/or High Holy Day registration THANK YOU!