



Jewish Community of the Cayman Islands

ANNUAL REPORT

1 September 2008 – 31 August 2009

Box 292
Grand Cayman KY1-1104
Cayman Islands
info@jccicayman.org

A Brief History

There is a long and vibrant history of a Jewish presence throughout the Caribbean and for many years in the Cayman Islands. Here, in Grand Cayman, over the years a small Jewish community has gathered to observe the holidays and Shabbat. As Cayman grew in population over the past twenty plus years, so too, the Jewish community has grown.

In response to the needs of this community in its efforts to encourage a strong Jewish heritage, bring a Jewish identity its children and endeavor to make the richness of the Torah relevant to our modern lives, the Jewish Community of the Cayman Islands (JCCI) formed.

The JCCI is a young organization that came to life over a Passover Seder in 2008. A committee was formed and it was decided to bring a rabbi for the upcoming High Holidays. Funds were raised, siddurim were purchased, a venue was chosen and Rabbi Rich Kirschen traveled from Jerusalem and led the community in Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services.

This was just one year ago and in the past year the JCCI has made great strides in building an enduring community. There are now monthly Shabbat services, holiday observances, an Adult Discussion Group, religious lessons and Hebrew lessons for the children. Pledges were made and a Sefer Torah was acquired. As we observe the High Holidays this year, we will read from this beautiful Torah.

Much has been accomplished in one year, but now it is time to look to the future and continue the mission of the JCCI.

The Way Forward

As we observe the High Holidays, we reflect upon the past year and look ahead to the new year. In this new year, the JCCI has set an ambitious agenda. With your continued participation and support, the JCCI can learn from its challenging moments and build upon its successes .

The JCCI is actively exploring the hiring of a full time community coordinator to oversee regular religious classes, weekly Shabbat services, plan holiday observances and organize community activities and fund raisers. In this way, the JCCI will continue its positive momentum and drive our programs forward.

Our website is being finalized and in this way the our community will be more accessible on island and globally.

In the coming year there will celebrate a Bar Mitzvah and a Bat Mitzvah.

The success and growth of our community is in all of our hands. Your donations of time and funds will lead to ever greater successes.

Become an active member of the JCCI and one year from now, as we look back upon the progress made in our second year, take pride in what has been accomplished. Be a part of Cayman history and a part of establishing a long lasting Jewish community in Cayman.

**Shana Tova Umetukah
Ketiva Ve'chatima Tova!**

“May you have a good and sweet year and may you be written and sealed (in the book of life) for a good year”