Questions & Answers

Q: What is Kadima?
A: Kadima is the name of the CSR capital improvement campaign and also the Hebrew word for forward, representing the direction CSR is going. The Kadima campaign began over a year and a half ago to raise funds to start much needed renovations on the synagogue.

Q: Why is our synagogue being renovated?
A: The sanctuary and other public spaces at CSR were all built over 50 years ago and need to be updated. The time is right to make CSR a place that is more inviting, accessible, environmentally sensitive, technologically with the times and, most importantly, able to meet the needs of our congregants for generations to come.

Q: What will actually be changing at the synagogue?
A: The planned renovations will include creating a new unified entry, revamping the worship space, and modernizing the infrastructure of the building.

Q: What does “modernizing the infrastructure” actually mean?
A: It means that updates are being made to the electrical, plumbing, mechanical systems, and their efficiencies as well as adding fire protection/sprinklers to the building.

Q: Will the footprint of the building change?
A: Yes, there are minimal additions being made to the building footprint at the front lobby as well as a storage space. The building is adjacent to wetlands, and we do not want to encroach on the parking lot which limits our ability to build out.

Q: What other improvements will we see with the renovation?
A: Attention is being paid to all audio/visual needs, and ways to improve worship and other experiences. We consider these enhancements a critical part of the remodeling project.

Q: What will happen to the stained-glass windows and the stained glass on the ark?
A: Several of the stained-glass panels will be incorporated into a piece of artwork and displayed in our new lobby area. The art will enhance our public space and pay tribute to our past. The project will prepare the space for the installation while the actual cost for production and completion of the stained-glass artwork is a separate donor opportunity outside of the planned cost of the project.

Q: Where will services and other activities take place during construction?
A: Religious School and the Early Childhood Center will remain at 200 Forest Avenue. All worship services and other occasions that would normally take place in our sanctuary and Social Hall will be off-site. Alternative locations for B’nei Mitzvah services have been secured at neighboring Jewish communities of KTI and Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester. Friday night Shabbat services and Shabbat morning Torah study will take place in the Rye Presbyterian chapel. The local Rye clergy/congregation have graciously welcomed our CSR community, making us feel at home with our portable ark and our Torahs.
Q: When will the renovations begin?  

Q: How long will the renovation take?  
A: Assuming the renovation is done in a single phase, it should take approximately 15 months, covering two summers and the intermediary school year.

Q: How close are we to reaching our goal of the Kadima capital campaign?  
A: The Kadima campaign that we embarked on over a year and a half ago needs to raise $1.2 to meet our $6.2 M goal. There is a currently a generous matching pledge with $85,000 remaining to be matched. We hope that the pool of Matching Funds will grow.

And perhaps, one of the most important questions of all...

Q: What can you do to help in reaching our goal?  
A: While gifts to date have been very generous across a broad spectrum of congregants, every gift is appreciated and accepted with gratitude. At our final stages of this campaign, we ask that you start a conversation with a Kadima Committee or CSR Board member to find out how you can be part of CSR’s exciting transformation.

If you have additional questions regarding the Kadima Together campaign, please email us at kadimatogether@comsynrye.org.