

**TEMPLE ISRAEL**

**Block Family  
Religious School**

**Bar / Bat Mitzvah  
Handbook  
2022/2023**

## 2022/2023 B'nei Mitzvah Dates

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*Parashat Terumah*

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*Parashat Ki Tisa*

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*Parashat Noach*

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*Bar Mitzvah Date: 3/25/23*

*Parashat Vayikra*

# **Bar / Bat Mitzvah** **Handbook 2022/23**

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Dear Bar or Bat Mitzvah Student,

*Yasher Koach!* You are about to embark on the next stage of your journey to Jewish adulthood. As you begin this phase of your Jewish education, you will not only continue with your class in religious school, but will also meet weekly with either Stefanie Posner or Rabbi Shields. These private meetings begin six to nine months prior to your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, depending on your needs. Stefanie Posner will assess you and speak with your parents as to the best time for you to begin. You will begin your process of learning basic prayers and sharpening your reading skills with her. When she deems you are ready to work with the Rabbi on your Torah portion, your lessons will continue with him. Our goal is to give you the tools and support that you need. We will work with you to ensure your success.

*Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* means Son or Daughter of the Commandments. You become a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* by reaching the Jewish age of maturity; thirteen for boys and twelve for girls. Your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* date is the day you will demonstrate your entry into Jewish adulthood by leading the congregation in prayer, being called to Torah, and delivering a *d'var Torah*, a teaching about your Torah portion. The journey to your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* day will require a serious commitment not only by you, but by your family as well. The following pages will outline the course of preparation you and your family will follow. Becoming *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* is about accepting Jewish responsibility. It is about developing knowledge and habits that will shape your adult life.

You will learn many skills that we will ask you to continue to use to serve this congregation and any congregation you might be a member of in the future. Your path will give you the opportunity to engage in *tikkun olam*, the repair of the world, through our community *mitzvah* projects. We will ask you and your family to be engaged members of the Jewish community.

We hope that you and your parents will read through this booklet together and refer back to it often throughout the period of preparation for your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*. On behalf of everyone at Temple Israel, we want you to know that we are extremely proud of your choice to enrich your life and the life of the Jewish people by celebrating your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, and we look forward to welcoming you as an adult member of our congregation.

*Mazal Tov!*

Michael Shields  
Rabbi

Stefanie Posner  
Education Director

Mark Burk  
Temple President

## Family Expectations and Obligations

The expectations for our *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* families break down into three general areas: those related to learning (*Torah*), those related to good works (*G'milut Chasidim*) and those related to the Temple Israel community (*Kehillah*).

### Learning (*Torah*)

- 1) Student is to have at least weekly lessons with the Education Director for the initial 6 month liturgy sessions, and every 1 to 2 weeks with the Rabbi depending on student needs and scheduling. Student must be at lesson on time and with all the materials needed for the lesson. The expectation is that these meetings will be at a regularly scheduled time.
- 2) Student is to adhere to practice schedule laid out by their teachers, generally 30 minutes per day.
- 3) Parent or student must call in advance to cancel a lesson.
- 4) The entire family is expected to attend a pre-scheduled seminar with the Rabbi. This will generally occur during Religious School hours. The topics included are:
  - a) History and meaning of *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*
  - b) What do our prayers mean?
  - c) What is actually happening during the Torah service? How do we participate?
- 5) Student is expected to continue attending religious school, not only during the year of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, but through PARTY.

### Good Works (*G'milut Chasidim*)

- 1) Family is expected to participate in at least two (2) congregation wide *mitzvah* opportunities. These include but are not limited to:
  - a. Temple Mitzvah Projects
  - b. Meals on Wheels
  - c. Shelter dinners
  - d. Christmas Day at Shelter or Ronald McDonald House
- 2) Student is to do an independent *Mitzvah* Project of their choice. This should be a project that has the potential to positively affect another person's life.

### Community (*Kehillah*)

- 3) Families are expected to attend the *B'nai Mitzvah* of the other members of the students' class.
- 4) Family is expected to attend the Friday night service and sponsor or prepare the Friday night *oneg* and the Saturday *kiddush* luncheon the weekend of the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.

## Student Curriculum

### *Tefillah and Torah*

Each student's *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* service will be customized according to ability and preference, at the discretion of the Rabbi, and in consultation with the family. We especially encourage the student and family to participate in the decisions about melodies, readings and honors that will give this service your personal touch, as we create a service together that will invite the entire congregation to pray and celebrate Shabbat. The following list represents many of the elements of the *Shabbat* morning service at Temple Israel, which you will help to lead at your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*. Much of the material should be review, as it will have been covered in your previous Hebrew classes. The Education Director will not necessarily cover all of the material in the order it is listed here, and may include additional material if time allows. You and your parents will receive regular email updates from the Education Director, with your personal progress shown on the chart below.

<u>Item</u>	<u>started</u>	<u>complete</u>
Blessing before Torah	_____	_____
Blessing after Torah	_____	_____
Blessing before Haftarah	_____	_____
Blessing after Haftarah	_____	_____
Shabbat Evening Kiddush	_____	_____
Daily Blessings	_____	_____
Ashrei	_____	_____
Shabbat morning Chatzi Kaddish	_____	_____
V'ahavtah	_____	_____
Avot	_____	_____
Gevurot	_____	_____
Kedushah	_____	_____
Yotzer	_____	_____
Shabbat Candle Blessing	_____	_____
Ha'Motzi	_____	_____
Tallit Blessing	_____	_____
Torah Study Blessing	_____	_____

Torah Trope

1<sup>st</sup> aliyah Torah

2<sup>nd</sup> aliyah Torah

3<sup>rd</sup> aliyah Torah

4<sup>th</sup> aliyah Torah

Haftarah Trope

Haftarah Portion

### **D'var Torah**

During your 2 monthly lessons with Rabbi, you will discuss the meaning of your Torah portion. This getting to know your Torah portion and crafting a meaningful message is just as important as your Hebrew proficiency. The rabbi will guide the pace of the D'var Torah process during lessons. Your discussions with the Rabbi during these sessions will form the basis for your *D'var Torah*. The *D'var Torah* generally consists of the following elements:

- 1) Summary of the *Torah* portion
- 2) Overview of some of the Rabbinic Commentary on your portion
- 3) Your thoughts and opinions on these traditional interpretations
- 4) A relevant application of the portion to our lives

The *D'var Torah* is a chance for you to express your own opinion and interpretation of your *Torah* portion, based on what you have learned. Creativity is encouraged, and your personality should come through. The *D'var Torah* is not a thank you speech. It is your responsibility to use it to teach something to the congregation.

### **Materials**

During your first lesson, the Education Director will give you your first assignment, and all of the materials you will need to practice between lessons. You will be given additional materials as you progress in your training, and you must bring all of these to every lesson. Your *Tefillah* packet includes most of the material you will be expected to master.

Along with your emailed updates, you will be sent MP3's of your assignments. You should listen to these while you practice, so that you can sing the melodies for each new Hebrew assignment. You may choose to burn a CD or put the files on an MP3 player. It is your responsibility to practice and master the Hebrew and the melody for each of your assignments. If you have difficulties with any of the files, you must notify us immediately so that you are able to practice effectively between lessons.

After you have mastered most of the material in your *Tefillah* packet, you will receive a booklet containing your *Torah* portion, *Haftarah*, and commentaries to help you write your *D'var Torah*. This should be kept with your other materials and must be brought to all lessons.

You and your family will meet with the Education & Music Director in the last month before your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* to choose melodies and readings for the service. After this meeting, you will get a copy of our congregational *siddur* (prayer book) with cues marked for your service. Bring this *siddur* with you to all of your lessons and, especially, to the service rehearsal the day before your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, and the service itself.

### **Bar/Bat Mitzvah Lessons**

Beginning ten to twelve months prior to the date of your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, you will meet weekly with Stefanie Posner. If you need additional lessons, we will provide them, though if more support is required, we will work on pairing you with a supplementary private tutor. As you progress you will begin to meet with the Rabbi. While most students are able to prepare adequately in the time provided, we understand that not every child learns at the same pace or in the same style. Some students benefit from more frequent lessons or from studying for more than six months. We will do all we can to be sure your child is confident on the day they ascend the *bimah* to lead services. We encourage you to check in with either the Rabbi or the Education Director often to make sure that your child is progressing on schedule. If you feel that your child may need extra time, please contact us to schedule a consultation. Parents are welcome to sit in during lessons unless it becomes distracting to the student. Lesson times are arranged through the Education Director and the Rabbi. Parents must stay at Temple during their child's lesson unless it is during religious school hours.

### **Prerequisites and Expectations**

Most students at Temple Israel study for *Bat* or *Bat Mitzvah* during the seventh grade. This means that before you begin your private weekly lessons with the Education director, you will have completed the Hebrew Curriculum. You will continue to attend Religious School and meet weekly for private lessons. In order to begin your private weekly lessons and to organize these lessons please contact the Education Director.

While there is no formal Hebrew class for the seventh grade you will be expected to practice reading Hebrew regularly, especially if you are not starting your private lessons right away. You should practice 20-30 minutes a day, reviewing everything you learned in your most recent Hebrew class, until your private lessons begin. The Education Director will assess when you are ready for your next step.

If your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* date is scheduled while you are still in the sixth grade, you will continue with your class on Sundays and Wednesdays, in addition to your weekly private lessons. During *Hebrew* lessons, you may, with your teacher's permission, work on your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* assignments rather than the *Hebrew* curriculum.

On the next page you will find a copy of the current Temple Israel Block Family Religious School Policies, which outlines all of the requirements of our school and *B'nei Mitzvah*. In order to begin your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* training, we expect that you will have fulfilled all of your obligations up to this point, and that you will continue to do so. Your decision to celebrate your *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* indicates your commitment to lifelong Jewish learning, and, to this end, you will be expected to continue your education through



our Teen Program, PARTY, and remain active in our congregation throughout High School, and to stay involved in the Jewish community wherever life takes you in the future. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Rabbi.

**Policies for Temple Israel Block Family Religious School**

Approved by Temple Israel Board of Trustees July 24, 2007

The goal of the Block Family Religious School is to assist the children of Temple Israel in becoming educated Jews. To accomplish this, a child must experience a combination of formal and informal education. The best way for a child to become a mature Jew is for the child and family to actively participate in all aspects of congregational life. Therefore, the Board of Trustees of Temple Israel and the Block Family Religious School Committee have established the following policies:

1. Youth attendance at religious school:
  - a. Students should begin attending Religious school in kindergarten and continue through 10th grade confirmation. In order to be accepted into *B'nei Mitzvah* training the student must begin Religious School no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Students are encouraged to attend Pre Kindergarten and post confirmation classes.
  - b. Students are expected to arrive on time. Should a student arrive tardy three times to Religious School, the parents will be notified by telephone.
  - c. In order for a student to receive credit for a particular school year, a student must attend at least 75% of the designated school sessions as listed in the year's official school calendar.
2. Parent attendance at Family Education days:
  - a. Family Education days are a regular part of the educational curriculum at the Block Family Religious School of Temple Israel.
  - b. At least one parent is expected to attend with their student during these family education sessions. (approximately 3 per year)
  - c. If you are unable to attend, please send a designated adult to participate with your child.
3. Youth attendance at religious services:
  - a. Students are expected to attend religious services a minimum number of times each year based upon their grade in religious school. The following is the minimum expected schedule:
    - i. Pre-K and Kindergarten: Tot *Shabbat* as often as possible
    - ii. Grades 1-2: 6 services per year
    - iii. Grades 3-5: 9 services per year
    - iv. Grades 6-10: 12 services per year
  - b. Both holiday and *Shabbat* services are counted towards the totals.
  - c. Students are expected to attend and participate in grade level sponsored *Shabbat* services.
4. Youth behavior at religious school:

- a. Students are expected to act and dress in a respectful and considerate manner at all times with regard to themselves, their classmates and other students, and all teachers and administrators.
5. If the student and family does not fulfill the above expectations, the Rabbi reserves the right to postpone or cancel training for *Bar / Bat Mitzvah* and/or Confirmation.

## **A Guide for *Bar / Bat Mitzvah* Parents at Temple Israel**

### **Requirements:**

#### **Children**

All of the requirements for children are outlined in this booklet. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Rabbi.

#### **Family**

The family must be full members in “good standing” of Temple Israel. To be in good standing requires that all dues, capital needs, religious school and any other account charges are paid in full and current. If you have questions or concerns about your standing, please contact Lisa Slaton, Temple Administrator.

#### ***Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Fee**

The current *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* fee is \$700.00. This fee includes tutoring by our staff, piano accompanist, and singer for the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* worship service. This fee is due thirty days prior to the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*. For additional instrumentalists such as cello and guitar, or the Temple band, please consult Stefanie Posner. Additional fees will apply.

#### **Meeting with Temple Administrator**

Two months preceding the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*, parents will need to arrange a date and time to meet with the Temple Administrator to discuss the logistics of the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*. Details of this meeting include the items and policies in this guidebook.

#### **Communication and Announcement of *Bar/Bat Mitzvah***

##### **Newsletter**

A short biography, including a description of your child’s *Mitzvah* project, and a picture are due to Stefanie Posner, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the *Bat/Bar Mitzvah*.

##### **Worship Service Leaflet**

##### **Friday Night Worship Service**

Candle lighting - please choose a person from your family to light and bless the *Shabbat* candles at the Friday evening service. This person will be listed in the service leaflet, and must be Jewish. Non-Jewish family members may be included and honored in many ways during the *Shabbat* Morning service. The *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* student will lead the congregation in the *Shabbat* Evening *Kiddush*.

##### **Saturday Morning Worship Service**

*Aliyot to Torah:* It is standard to have between 2 and 6 *aliyot* (one is reserved for the b'nei mitzvah student) that you may assign as honors to family members, congregants, or friends. Please consult with the Rabbi to find out the exact number for your child's *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*. They will be listed in the service leaflet. Both English and Hebrew names are needed. You may want to copy the Torah Blessings with transliteration, found on page 10 of this handbook, for those who will be called up for an *aliyah*. You can also get a copy electronically upon request. Other honors include opening and closing the ark, lifting and dressing the *Torah*. Only English names are needed for these honors. The Rabbi can answer any questions you have about assigning honors. The final *aliyah* and the *Haftarah* blessings are customarily reserved for the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* student. Please fill out and return the form on page 20 of this handbook to Stefanie Posner no later than noon on the Friday one week before the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.

### Blessing before the reading of the Torah

Bar'chu et Adonai ham'vorach

בְּרַכּוּ אֶת-יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ !

Baruch Adonai ham'vorach l'olam va-ed.

בָּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד !

Praise be the One to whom our praise is due.

Praised be the One to whom our praise is due now and forever.

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

asher bachar banu mikol ha-amim

אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר-בָּנוּ מִכָּל-הָעַמִּים

v'natan lanu et Torato.

וְנָתַן-לָנוּ אֶת-תּוֹרָתוֹ.

Baruch atah Adonai, notein ha-Torah.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

We praise You Adonai our God, sovereign of the universe: who has chosen us from among the peoples by giving us this Torah. We praise You, O God, giver of the Torah.

### Blessing after the reading of Torah

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-  
olam

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

asher natan lanu Torat emet

אֲשֶׁר נָתַן-לָנוּ תּוֹרַת אֱמֶת

v'chayei olam nata b'tocheinu.

וְחַיֵּי עוֹלָם נִטַּע בְּתוֹכֵנוּ.

Baruch atah Adonai, notein ha-Torah.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

We praise You, Adonai our God, sovereign of the universe: You have given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life. We praise You, O God, giver of the Torah.

### ***Oneg Information***

The family of the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* student sponsor the *Oneg* held on the Friday before the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.

- Choices:
1. Bring the food and supplies (enough for 50 persons). Staff fee is \$50.
  2. The Temple can provide food, staff and supplies for the *Oneg* for 50 persons. *Oneg* cost is \$150. Staff will set-up the room and tables. Regular and Decaf coffee provided. Food staff will platter all desserts and food and get everything ready, including paper products.
  3. Bring the food, supplies and handle set up and cleanup of *Oneg*. No staff present. No fee.

Please see the attached Food and Catering policies contained in this booklet.

Optional items:            Flowers or plants for the bimah. These must be arranged on your own. Please coordinate delivery of flowers or plants with Lisa Slaton.

### ***Kiddush Lunch Information***

The family of the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* student sponsors the *Kiddush Lunch* on the day of the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*. Please add an additional 15-20 persons to your list. These people include Board members and representatives from Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Junior and Senior youth group and others who will present items to the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* student. In addition, some congregation members will also be present.

- Choices:
1. Bring the food / desserts, and supplies. Staff to set up and clean up, \$75. Custodial Staff will set-up the room and tables. A staff person will set out the platters of food and refill foods when needed. For additional Food preparation such as chopping, heating and mixing, there will be an additional \$50 charge. Any lunch in excess of 60 people or which uses china plates and silverware will require additional food staff. The charge is \$15.00 per hour, with a minimum of 5 hours.

2. Hire a caterer for the *Kiddush* Lunch, provide supplies and cover all set up and clean up. No fee.

3. If your family plans to have a party immediately following services at Temple Israel, all Shabbat attendees must be included and a modified rental fee will apply of \$100 plus \$100 over the initial hour.

\*Decorations are the responsibility of the b'nei mitzvah family to put up and take down unless organized via the caterer/party planner.

Configuration of the room will be arranged by the parents with the aid of the Temple Administrator.

The following items are available for room set-up:

14 round tables which seat 8 persons each = 112 persons

Approximately 12 banquet tables which seat 10 persons each = 120 persons

200 chairs

### **China or Paper plates**

If you or a caterer are providing food, you will need to provide paper products and utensils

China – The temple provides the china, regular silverware, etc. (see extra staff note)

Linens /  
Table Coverings

You may have the caterer provide linens / table coverings

or you may purchase linens / table coverings of your choice

Note: Round tables are 83 inches in diameter. Banquet tables are 8 feet long.

Optional Items:

Decorations for the Lunch – Items must be arranged by the family.

### **Food and Catering Information**

Please see policies on pages 14 and 15 of this guidebook.

### **Room Rental for Special Occasion (e.g. *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* party)**

Please see policies on page 17. Members may rent the social hall or the multipurpose room for a party or special occasion. Fees begin at \$150.

### **Board of Trustees**

It is with pleasure that a member of the Board of Trustees attends the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* ceremony and presents your child with a certificate. Please see the form on pages 21, so that you may choose someone special from the Board of Trustees. This needs to be filled out and returned to Stefanie Posner when your child begins his or her private lessons, so that his or her *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Certificate will be completed in time to present at the service.

## **Food Policy**

### **TEMPLE ISRAEL TALLAHASSEE FOOD POLICY- INTRODUCTION**

*Adopted October 22, 2013*

Temple Israel does not maintain a kosher kitchen but does maintain certain food policies that vary depending upon the type of event being held in the Temple. These policies apply throughout the building and not just in the Ruby Diamond Social Hall or the gym. For those Jewish events that are more ritual in nature, are part of the holiday cycle of Jewish life, or that are held primarily for Temple members, Temple Israel observes what we have labeled a “Congregational Events Food Policy.” Events of this nature include, but are not limited to: Onegs, Kiddush luncheons, Shabbaton, Break the Fast, Chanukah party, Sukkot meals, Simchat Torah, Class Shabbat Services, TASTY events, Shabbat dinners, Winter Camp meals, Camp Shalom meals, Tu B’shevat seder, Purim events, Pesach sederot, Yom Hashoah, Yom Ha’atzma’ut, Lag Ba’Omer, Shavuot-Tikkun, Havdalah events, Tish B’Av.

Events in which food is served and for which Temple facilities are used primarily for private, commercial, recreational events or that are more generally directed to the broader public as opposed to mostly Temple members will be subject to less restrictive food requirements but will still be respectful of certain basic food tenets in the Torah. We have labeled this policy “Other Events Food Policy.” These events may or may not be “Jewish.” Examples of events of this nature include, but are not limited to: the Jewish Food & Cultural Festival, B’nei Mitzvah evening parties, wedding receptions and secular events.

At events in which the “Other Events Food Policy” is used, the sponsor is welcome to use all or part of the Ritual Events Food Policy if desired.

For small gatherings such as brown bag lunch meetings, attendees are urged to be respectful of the provisions of the “Other Events Food Policy” although the participants are welcome to use additional limitations if they choose.

If it is not clear which policy should be used for a particular event, the decision will be made by the Rabbi or his designee.

No one on the Temple Israel staff or Board is designated as the “food police.” No one should ever be publicly singled out because a policy is not strictly followed. Instead, if a dish or practice is observed that does not follow a Temple Israel policy, it should be brought to the attention of the Rabbi to address as he deems appropriate.

## Congregational Events Food Policy

Caterers providing catering services, congregants providing food and / or beverage(s), and others providing food and/or beverages at Temple Israel must abide by the following:

1. The following foods will be permitted on Temple Israel property:
  - a. Meat from the following mammals: beef, lamb, goat, venison and bison;
  - b. Meat from the following fowl: chicken, duck, turkey, goose, quail, dove;
  - c. All fish with fins and scales **except**: catfish and shark;
  - d. All fruits, vegetables (including all types of potatoes), rice and other grains.
  
2. The following foods will **not be permitted on any congregational property**:
  - a. Pork, pork derivatives, any product made with lard;
  - b. All shellfish, including but not limited to: shrimp, scallops, crab, clams, and mussels.
  
3. At any event at which food and / or beverage is to be served, either meat / fowl, **OR** dairy may be served, but **not both** at the same time. If meat / fowl is to be served, side dishes must be prepared without dairy products such as butter, milk and / or cream. Meat / fowl must also not be prepared using butter, milk and/ or cream, or other dairy products. If meat/fowl is to be served, desserts that are or include dairy products may be served following the clearing of the meat/fowl course. Fish and vegetables are parve and may be served with either meat/fowl or dairy.
  
4. In addition to the foregoing guidelines, no baked products containing flour or leavening of any kind, are permitted on Temple Israel grounds during Passover, and matzah must be only those produced specifically for Pesach and clearly marked as such.

Questions regarding dishes that are in keeping with this policy should be directed to the Rabbi.

## Other Events Food Policy

In keeping with basic tenets from the Torah, caterers providing catering services, congregants providing food and / or beverage(s), and others providing food and/or beverages at Temple Israel are asked to abide by the following:

1. The following foods will not be permitted on any congregational property:
  - a. Pork, pork derivatives, any product made with lard;

- b. All shellfish, including but not limited to: shrimp, scallops, crab, clams, and mussels.
2. Dishes in which dairy and meat are cooked together should not be served. For example, a meat and cheese lasagna, beef stroganoff or chicken parmesan should not be served. However, this does not preclude the serving of meat and dairy products at the same event nor does it prevent anyone from mixing meat and dairy products on their plate. For example, a deli tray with roast beef, turkey and cheese on the same platter is allowable. A person can take a hamburger and add cheese without violating this policy. Serving prime rib at the same event with mashed potatoes made with dairy is acceptable.

Questions regarding dishes that are in keeping with this policy should be directed to the Rabbi.

Caterers providing catering services or congregants providing food and / or beverage(s) must abide by the following:

1. The following foods will be permitted on Temple Israel property:
  - a. Meat from the following mammals: beef, lamb and goat;
  - b. Meat from the following fowl: chicken, duck, turkey, goose, quail, dove
  - c. All fish with fins and scales **except:** catfish and shark;
  - d. All fruits, vegetables (including all types of potatoes), rice and other grains.
2. The following foods will **not be permitted on any congregational property:**
  - a. Pork, pork derivatives, any product made with lard;
  - b. All shellfish, including but not limited to: shrimp, scallops, crab, clams, and mussels.
3. At any event at which food and / or beverage is to be served, either meat / fowl, **OR** dairy / fish / vegetable may be served, but **not both**. i.e. If meat / fowl is to be served, side dishes must be prepared without dairy products such as butter, milk and / or cream. Meat / fowl must also not be prepared using butter, milk and / or cream, or other dairy products.
4. No meat and / or fowl may be served at **Kiddush Lunch**. Kiddush Lunch menus must be comprised of dairy, vegetables, fish, grains or a combination of the same.
5. In addition to the foregoing guidelines, no baked products containing flour or leavening of any kind, are permitted on Temple Israel grounds during



Passover, and matzah must be only those produced specifically for Pesach and clearly marked as such.

### **Catering Policy**

The Board of Trustees catering policy provides congregants with flexibility of choice. This policy will permit any caterer to provide services at Temple Israel so long as the caterer executes a contract whereby it agrees to remit a facilities use fee equivalent to twenty percent (20%) of the gross catering contract amount and the caterer agrees to abide by the food policies established by Temple Israel.

The contract to be executed by the caterer and Temple Israel will contemplate payment of the facilities use fee within fifteen (15) days of the catered event and a copy of the contract between the congregant and the caterer must be submitted with payment, for cross referencing purposes. Any caterer that does not comply with the contract will be prohibited from catering any other event at Temple Israel until such time as the contract is fully complied with. A catering contract is available from the Temple Administrator.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail Lisa Slaton at [admin@templeisraelth.org](mailto:admin@templeisraelth.org).

### **The Spinning Dreidel**

The Spinning Dreidel stocks many items that you will find helpful in planning your Bar/Bat Mitzvah. These items include planning books, such as "Putting God on the Guest List" and "Bar/Bat Mitzvah Basics" a practical family guide to coming of age together, in addition to albums, tallitot, kippot, and tallit clips. The Spinning Dreidel also offers a gift registry for your special occasion, and we encourage you to bring your child in and complete the registry form. Gift Certificates can also be purchased.

***Bar/Bat Mitzvah Party***  
**and/or**  
**Room Rental Information**

This is a totally optional event. For rental information refer to the Temple Israel facilities policy below.

**TEMPLE ISRAEL FACILITIES USE POLICY**

(Approved by the Board of Trustees June 25, 2003)

- 1) The facilities of the Temple are available primarily for use by members and their families: then for affiliated member organizations of the Temple to serve their spiritual, educational, community, and social needs: and then to other persons for commercial or other uses consistent with this policy but with the specific prior approval of the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee.
- 2) The Sanctuary may be used only for Jewish religious services and functions, for religion school functions, and for meetings of the congregation and its auxiliaries. Other Jewish life cycle events may be held in the Sanctuary in accordance with the policy of Life Cycle Events and Religious School for non-members adopted by the Board on June 25, 2003. Upon approval of the Board of Trustees, educational and/or cultural activities may also be held in the Sanctuary. All uses of the Sanctuary must be conducted in a manner that reflects the sanctity of the environment and a respect for the purposes for which the Sanctuary was established. The Ruby Diamond Social Hall becomes part of the Sanctuary when the accordion doors are open. When the accordion doors are open, the above statement of policy pertaining to the Sanctuary applies also to the Ruby Diamond Social Hall.
- 3) A custodial employee of the Temple will be present before, during, and/or after any facilities use, as directed by the Temple Administrator.
- 4) Application for the use of the facilities shall be made reasonably in advance of the event on a form provided by the Temple Administrator. Payment of fees and charges must be received by the Temple Administrator at least ten days in advance of the event.
- 5) The Kitchen Policy (posted in the kitchen), the Catering Policy (available from the Temple Administrator), and the non-member use policy approved by the Board of Trustees on June 25, 2003 are all fully applicable to all facilities uses.
- 6) Musical events, events having a musical component, and the services of professional musicians must be arranged for and paid for directly by the event's sponsor.
- 7) The Temple Administrator may require any facilities user to produce proof of appropriate and adequate insurance coverage, and provide and pay for premises security personnel, for any event depending on the circumstances.

- 8) The facilities of the Temple will be used so as to conform with the dignity, propriety, spirit and atmosphere of a house of worship. The Temple Administrator may require any person to leave the premises because of unseemly conduct or non-compliance with these rules.
- 9) The use of the name of the Temple in any literature or publicity of any organization is not permitted without prior written approval of the Temple Administrator, other than to identify the location of a function.
- 10) The rearrangement of furniture, fixtures, and equipment of the Temple, other than tables and chairs, will be made. No Temple property may be removed from the Temple site at any time.
- 11) An individual or organization using the Temple's facilities assumes the sole risk for any of the user's property stored or used on the Temple's premises. The Temple and its employees have no liability for loss or damage to a user's private property.
- 12) No smoking is permitted in or about the Temple (including the Temple playground area) at any time.
- 13) The Board of Trustees may require a formal contract with a facility user whose rental or use extends over multiple occasions. Examples are Temple Israel Pre-school, Camp Shalom, a church conducting worship, et cetera.

Room and Facility Use: Rental Rates as of 2021

An additional room cleaning fee of \$150 is charged for all room rentals.

Social Hall

Packages Member Rate/Non-Member Rate

4 hours \$700/\$850

Additional hours over 4 hours \$100 per hour/\$150 per hour

Additional Spaces Available

Space Member Rate/Non-Member Rate/Capacity

Sanctuary: \$150/\$200/250

Courtyard: \$50/\$75/30

Gymnasium: \$150/\$200/150

Education Wing (5 classrooms): \$200/\$250/10-20

All rental prices are hourly rates and are contingent upon availability and appropriateness of use. If multiple spaces are contracted for use we will work with you to create a package that fits your needs.

There are additional meeting spaces available. Please inquire about additional options.

\*Additional cleaning fees may be assessed. These will be specified in the rental contract.

Dear *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Parent:

*Mazel tov* on the upcoming *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* of your child. Temple leadership wants to do everything possible to make it a meaningful and special *simcha* for your family.

As you may know, our custom is that a presentation is made by a Board member during the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* service on behalf of the congregation. That presentation includes a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* certificate, a gift certificate for use on a future trip to Israel, and some remarks.

Because different *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* families may have close relationships with different Board members, our policy calls for the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* family to select the Board member they would like to make the presentation. A list of Board members is attached. Please select a first, second, and third choice, in the event that one or more of your choices is not available. If you do not feel comfortable selecting, a Board member will be randomly assigned.

Thanks for your help and much *mazel tov* on the upcoming *simcha*.

*B'shalom,*

Mark Burk  
President

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## TEMPLE ISRAEL

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Child Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Bar/Bat Mitzvah: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose the Board of Trustees member you would like to sit on the bimah:

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Second Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Third Choice

**Please return to:**

Stefanie Posner

Temple Israel 2215 Mahan Drive Tallahassee, FL 32308

Email: [educator@templeisraelth.org](mailto:educator@templeisraelth.org) Fax 850-656-9604 Phone 850-877-3517, ext. 4