

Sara Feldenkris (Joey Cohen)

Suburban Temple-Kol Ami is special to me because it has been a safe and welcoming space for my family for 40 plus years.

I loved Mitzvah Day and have fond memories of my Bubbe joining and working on projects together.

I joined Suburban Temple-Kol Ami with my husband when we moved back to Cleveland because it felt like we never left. Rabbi Vann has been a constant presence at our family simchas, and we couldn't ask for a better Rabbi!



Nancy & Howard Feldenkris



Suburban Temple-Kol Ami is a welcoming community that accepts interfaith families with open arms. It has helped to educate our children and grandchildren and give them a positive Jewish identity. I feel proud of my Judaism. I am proud of my children's Jewishness and for being involved.

We have been here over the course of three Rabbi's, multiple education director's and Linda Wolfe, who has helped my children through their B'nai Mitzvot. Rabbi Oppenheimer married my wife and I; Rabbi Bram did all my children's B'nai Mitzvot and Rabbi Vann has married all my children.

ST-KA is LGBTQ+ accepting and my kids are comfortable here. The services are traditional, and I love Our Tent, Rabbi's, and educators.

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2023-24 Suburban Temple-Kol Ami Stories

The Feldenkris Family



SUBURBAN TEMPLE
KOL AMI 75
1948 VOICE OF MY PEOPLE 2023



“Suburban Temple—Kol Ami Stories” has been our annual campaign theme for a few years. We are so pleased to continue sharing stories of members who help make ST-KA the amazing community it is today.

This pamphlet shares the impact that ST-KA has had on Nancy and Howard Feldenkris, their children, and their children’s families. We hope you enjoy getting to know them.

Gifts to the 2023-24 ST-KA annual campaign are a crucial component of our annual operating budget.

Please give generously. Thank you.

Abby Feldenkris Lovell (Tyler Lovell)

Suburban Temple-Kol Ami is the temple I grew up in and every single room has a special memory connected to it.

I continued my membership at Suburban Temple-Kol Ami because it provided a creative and philanthropic outlet that I couldn’t find in a professional setting. I began volunteering with amazing students in early childhood, served on a committee to help develop Our Tent and got the opportunity to teach my own class!

After having two kids, I no longer have the time to teach, but still enjoy going to Our Tent Sunday mornings and Rise and Shine Shabbat on Saturdays.

Being a member today is about providing my kids with the foundation to not only build but be proud of their own Jewish identity. Modeling Jewish values for my boys inspires me to be a better Jew. Going to temple weekly allows for more organic conversations about being kind and helping those in need.



Adam Feldenkris (Pedro Gerum)



There are so many things that make Suburban Temple special to me, but among them are my family’s history in the congregation, our Rabbi’s, and the way they empower me to come as I am to Judaism versus taking a more prescriptive approach.

The inclusivity championed at all levels of the temple, our beautiful historic building, gardens, and artwork. Trying to grasp the sacrifices that my ancestors made for millennia, just to remain Jewish is vertiginous to me. The idea of being a link in this multi-thousand-year-long chain is inspiring.

I got married to my husband, Pedro, in the ST-KA sanctuary. Having that moment in a space layered with so much personal history for me, was pure magic.

The desire to pass the torch to the next generation is a major driving force for me to belong to ST-KA. My husband and I have talked at length and agreed on the importance of having a spiritual home, and we wouldn’t want to call that home anywhere else but Suburban Temple-Kol Ami.