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TEMPLE ISRAEL ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, May 23, 2021 10:30 A.M.
Via Zoom

AGENDA

Call to Order - Teresa Brenner

1) D’var Torah - Rabbi Michael Wolk

2) Reading of the minutes from the previous Annual Meeting - Adina Loewensteiner

3) Treasurer’s Report - Tommy Mann

4) Reports of the Professionals - Presented in Annual Report

5) Report of the President - Teresa Brenner

6) Reports of Committee Chairs and Presidents of Affiliated Temple Organizations - Presented in Annual Report

7) Old Business

8) New Business

9) Nominations and Election of Officers and Members of the Board of Trustees - Chair of Nominations Committee: David Rosenthal

10) Adjournment - Teresa Brenner
Dear Temple Israel Family,

On behalf of your Temple Israel officers and Board of Trustees, and along with our professional staff and Clergy, it is my pleasure to present Temple Israel’s Annual Report for 2020-2021/5780-5781.

This year has been a challenging one for us all. It has also been a year filled with hope for our future. We welcomed Senior Rabbi Michael Wolk and his family into our congregational community. Rabbi Wolk and Cantor Shira Lissek provided us with innovative Shabbat and holiday services and simchas, and daily minyan and weekly study sessions, filled with spirituality and warmth. It is through them that our community and connectivity find commonality.

Director of Congregational Education Helene Kornsgold and Youth Director Alan Jonathan, along with our dedicated TIRS educators, created never-been-done-before ways to create Judaica and learn Hebrew for our Temple Israel Religious School students and our youth of all ages.

Our professional staff, assisted by cameras, sound systems and the internet along with plexiglass, enhanced cleanings, and health protocols and procedures, operationally made all of these experiences happen each and every day of the last year.

You, our congregants, were flexible and resilient. We made the best of the circumstances in which we found ourselves. We participated in services, celebrated simchas, and studied with our Rabbis. We welcomed new members and grieved those who we lost. We met in our backyards and at Temple Israel, appropriately masked and distanced. We gave back to our community on Yom Gemilut Hasadim. We waved during drive-by parades and dressed-up for Purim; we ate and sang for our second night Seder; and we picked-up gift bags filled with prayerbooks and Judaica for our Jewish holidays. We nourished our Jewish souls.

All of us – clergy, professional staff, lay leaders, teachers, dedicated volunteers, Torah readers and students of Torah, and congregants of all ages—pulled together in a close community physically distanced and now look forward to resuming in-person services while keeping the best of what we developed this year.

Inside the pages of this Annual Report, you will find highlights of this year we have experienced together. I would like to thank Eliot Meadow, Adina Loewensteiner, and Josh Feldman for their service on our Board of Trustees. We have all benefited from their guidance and dedication. And, now we look forward to our future. We are poised for greatness and growth. See you in shul!

With appreciation and gratitude,

Teresa M. Brenner  
President
What a first year it has been! I had no idea when I first visited Charlotte in late February of 2020 that we would have so few opportunities to see each other in person. Heidi, Klara Rose, Julia, and I are incredibly grateful for the warm welcome that we have received from so many members of the Temple Israel community despite the difficulties imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The drive-by welcome parade was awesome and we continue to meet more of you as we all begin to come out of our covid shells. Since we could not meet at Kiddush on Shabbat, I took it upon myself to meet as many of you as I could on your own home turf and have made many outdoor visits. Even as we transition back into a more normal form of life, please let me know if you would like an outdoor visit at your house.

Of course, we all know how the pandemic made coming together impossible and changed the way we perform our central functions as a synagogue community. I am proud that we were able to transition for a time to fully virtual services and continue to offer services every day of the week. Before last summer, we relied on a single fixed camera in our sanctuary and cantor and I conducted services to an empty room. Thanks to a generous donation from Dr. Milton & Arlene Berkman, the temple was able to install a new camera system and incorporate congregant participation through Zoom. Now our services are watched each week by several hundred households including people from all over the world. On a smaller scale, we maintained our daily minyan through Zoom and even though it was not as communal of an experience, we never missed having 10 for a minyan.

The first congregants that we welcomed back into the sanctuary were Bnei Mitzvah students and their family members. Recognizing how important this day was for our 13-year-olds, we offered them the option of either celebrating through a “Zoom Mitzvah” or coming into the sanctuary with 25 guests. In talking to students and their families, it was moving to see how many of them wanted specifically to chant from a Torah scroll on their big day. Some chose to borrow a Torah scroll to use from their homes and some chose to come in person. We worked with families to make meaningful ceremonies based on whichever option they chose and to make sure that each child received the same training and attention that he or she would have received in a non-Covid year.

The temple also moved our adult education programs online. I’ve enjoyed teaching my weekly Jews and Brews Torah study and look forward to the monthly lunch n’ learns that have attracted up to 70 participants.

While Covid remains a concern, we are slowly returning to the temple building and getting used to seeing each other again. When you are comfortable, please consider signing up for services. For now, mask-wearing will remain a part of synagogue life, but we try to be thankful for every small opportunity we have to celebrate Jewish life together.

I would like to thank our president Teresa Brenner for her calming and comforting leadership during this difficult time. I am also grateful to work on the Bimah with Cantor Shira Lissek. I believe that a strong partnership between rabbi and cantor is an important factor in leading beautiful and meaningful services for the congregation. We have enjoyed the chance to work on our style of services when it was just us physically in the room and are now working on transitioning that style into in-person services. Thank you as well to all the members of the Temple Israel staff for their tireless work to keep the temple running throughout the pandemic. Finally, an enormous thank you to you; the congregants of Temple Israel who had faith in us this year and welcomed us virtually into your homes. Everything that we do in the temple or online is for the purpose of helping you learn from and enjoy your Judaism.

While we end the Passover seder each year with the hope L’Shanah HaBa’ah B’irushalayim or Next year in Jerusalem, I currently end everything I say with L’Shanah HaBa’ah B’Temple Israel. Next year may we be together in Temple Israel.

Rabbi Michael Wolk
REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONALS

The past year has been a very challenging one for Temple Israel. Not only were we operational during the Covid-19 pandemic, we welcomed Senior Rabbi Wolk to the congregation. Our previous Executive Director, Tayuanee Dewberry, departed at the beginning of this month, and I began serving as Interim Executive Director on May 3, 2021.

During the past year, we managed:

• COVID-19 protocols and the synagogue reopening process, making necessary adjustments at each phase, balancing both safety and expectations.

• Installation of our new HD streaming camera system in sanctuary, which greatly enhances the congregant experience from the previous “surveillance camera” presentation.

• Installation of a new cloud-based phone system allowing for more responsive “customer” experience and providing a cost-saving investment.

• Recruitment and placement of A/V Technician for new systems.

• Renegotiation of annual contracts (landscape maintenance, copiers, other business systems, etc.) to decrease those expenses and provide cost savings.

Despite the continuation of COVID, our clergy and professional staff have worked together to provide meaningful and engaging services, programs and events that have enabled our members to stay connected. Our social groups have reimagined themselves with online programs. We are beginning to see light at the end of this long tunnel with a safe return to in-person services. I look forward to working with our talented staff, clergy and lay leaders as we navigate a return to a new normal.

Karen Turk
Interim Executive Director
TREASURER’S REPORT

TEMPLE ISRAEL REVENUE (000s)
FY 2020-2021 ACTUAL + FORECAST (03/31/2021)
TOTAL REVENUE: $2,059,022

- Total Commitments (Donor & Standard): $1,361.6 66%
- Endowment & Spendable Income: $226.1 11%
- Fundraising: $88.6 4%
- PPP Loan: 162.8 8%
- TIRS Tuition: $95.6 5%
- High Holy Days: $27.4 1%
- Programming: $57.2 3%
- Clergy: $5.4 0%
- Other Income: $13.5 1%

TEMPLE ISRAEL EXPENSE (000s)
FY 2020-21 ACTUAL + FORECAST (03/31/2021)
TOTAL EXPENSE: $2,020,052

- Total Commitments (Donor & Standard): $1,416.5 69%
- Endowment & Spendable Income: $305 15%
- Fundraising and General: $96.7 5%
- TIRS Tuition: $68.2 3%
- High Holy Days: $68 3%
- Programming: $74.1 4%
- Kitchen: $9.5 0%
- Line of Credit: 0%
- Other Income: $13.8 1%

TEMPLE ISRAEL REVENUE
FY 2021-2022 BUDGET
TOTAL REVENUE: $2,051,836

- Total Commitments (Donor & Standard): $1,361.6 66%
- Endowment & Spendable Income: $226.1 11%
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- PPP Loan: $162.8 8%
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TEMPLE ISRAEL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

This year we had 102 students in our wonderful religious school. We had the opportunity to welcome five new families and 12 new students into our warm and heimish community.

This year was different than all other years. The school offered families both the option of in person and virtual learning opportunities. The teachers loved seeing their students on a weekly basis, even though they could not be in person with all of them. The learning at TIRS never stopped and the students had a very successful year. The students and teachers deserve a lot of credit for making the best of a difficult year.

There were a few highlights from this year: September 2020 – families picked up supplies to do projects at home related to RH, YK, Sukkot and Simchat Torah; Chanukah 2020 – TIRS PTO delivered Chanukah puzzles to families to enjoy together during the holiday; Purim 2021 – families dressed up and came to the synagogue to pick up a bag full of festive items to celebrate Purim at home.

There were two special in-person programs which were extremely meaningful and celebratory; Kitah Gimel Kabbalat HaSiddur ceremony (the students in 3rd grade received their first siddur) and the Kitah Zayin Special Shabbat celebration (end of the year Shabbat service for the class). These two programs celebrated the students and their accomplishments throughout the year.

Cantor Lissek and Rabbi Kornsgold continue to lead the schools’ weekly Sunday Tefillah/Shira service (though this year it was online) and the students’ knowledge of Shabbat services and their ability to lead services continues to improve.

Looking forward to being together in school next year.

Rabbi Helene Kornsgold
TEMPLE ISRAEL YOUTH GROUPS

Thank you for another successful year!

The mission of Temple Israel’s Youth Department is to empower our 3rd-12th grade students to interlink their home, school, community, and congregation in order to bridge connections to the greater Jewish community, while learning inspired Jewish living through fun and meaningful shared experiences.

Although a large portion of our programming this past year has been exclusively virtual, our youth continue to interact and thrive. Throughout the year, our youth participated in cooking classes, crafts, games, and hang-out sessions in order to maintain their connections with one another.

Our five-person Ir Ha-Malka USY Executive Board, led by President Madison Harr, was hard at work deciding on events, reaching out to other USY Chapters, and finding ways to further enhance our 9th-12th grade growth. Our three-person Kadima Leadership Council, led by President Rupert Pittenger, helped create exciting ideas for programming and learned how to be leaders in our Shul.

The College Outreach Program was also able to provide college students with four care packages this year in gift card form, for Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, Purim, and an end-of-the-year pre-final boost.

Wishing everyone a fun, safe, and healthy summer!

L’Shalom,
Alan Johnathan
HEBREW HIGH

- Temple Israel students at Hebrew High consisted of 13 students in grades 8th-12th
- Temple Israel members made up four teachers on staff at Hebrew High
- Temple Israel had three students taking Hebrew for High School Credit

Due to COVID-19, we had to change our program to be completely virtual. Our main goal was to establish a program that was engaging, met our students’ diverse needs, and fostered a community that excelled online. We wanted to provide a platform that addressed the world around us and explored topics such as racial injustice or the 2020 elections. In addition to our Charlotte teachers and clergy, national experts helped to guide our virtual learning. Classes were split into two learning modules. The first module was called “Limmud,” where students selected one class from a variety of choices. Those choices focused on the topics mentioned earlier, in addition to student favorites such as cooking and art. The second module was called “Kehillah” or “Community Time,” and focused on providing students an opportunity to get to know each other and socialize. Each week students chose from structured activities such as Jewish trivia and scavenger hunts or a special class taught by each clergy from both temples.

Guest Speakers and Special Events

Billy Planer: As part of our systemic racism class, Billy Planer, founder of Etgar 36, spoke to our teens about Jews and Blacks in the Civil Rights Era and Now. Our teens were joined by other teens from Bridgewater, New Jersey, Houston, Texas, Overland Park, Kansas, and West Chester, Pennsylvania.

The Bible Players: The Bible Players used improv and comedy to teach Jewish values to all ages. Students laughed and had a lot of fun while learning important Jewish values.

Pamela Schuller: Pamela Schuller is a hilarious New York City comedian and inclusion advocate. As a teen, Pam had the worst diagnosed case of Tourette Syndrome in the country, a touch of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, and a whole lot of pent-up anger. She spent years depressed, suicidal, and wishing her differences away. Now an internationally known disability and mental health advocate and professional stand-up comedian, Pamela’s stories of growing up in a body she had no control over are engaging, powerful, a little bit heart-wrenching, and unapologetically funny. Pamela doesn’t just “tolerate” what makes her different; she embraces it, loves it, and finds the funny in it... all while challenging her audiences to do the same. This program was co-sponsored by Hebrew High, Temple Israel, Temple Beth El, BBYO and Jewish Family Services of Greater Charlotte.

Parent Workshop with Jewish Family Services of Greater Charlotte: Jewish Family Services’ licensed clinicians shared their knowledge and expertise about common teen stressors, like being isolated from their peers, having so much family time and instancing learning! There was a Q&A with the JFS therapists following their presentation.

Hebrew High Maccabiah Games

We decided that for the last night of Hebrew High, we would have an in person Maccabiah Games...an end of year celebration of Hebrew High’s determination, creativity, amazing teachers, and incredible students! (we did have a virtual option if teens were not ready to be in person). 43 students participated in the games and were divided up into color groups: red, blue, green, and purple. The teens had a blast participating in a scavenger hunt, relay races and other games. It was so wonderful to see the teens laugh and be together. Being in person was the best way to end the year.

Here are some examples of Limmud and Kehillah Classes:

MitzVote – Get Your Voices Heard! - Rob Sisson: It is a heated political season: left, right, liberal, conservative, Yesh Atid-Telem, Likud, Democrat, Republican. Yes, we are in the middle of an election here in America. But the political scene in Israel is just as heated. This class will look at the importance of not only voting in elections, but making your voice heard and being involved! We will look at what it means to be left or right, and how we all fit together. So, whether you are putting your support behind a Biden-Harris ticket, Trump-Pence ticket, or are focused on Netanyahu and the Israeli political system, please sign-up! This class will offer an open space to study how political parties in our country and Israel view their role in shaping their respective countries. All views are welcome! As Jews we have a responsibility to be involved!

Streaming Judaism - Mrs. Amy Montoni: Streaming Judaism is a way to view their role in shaping their respective countries. All views are welcome! As Jews we have a responsibility to be involved!

You can find Jewish values and Jewish connections in some of the strangest places. In this class, we will explore how Judaism looks in TV series episodes, from comedy to drama, and some a mixture of both. Do you sometimes feel marginalized in your school or neighborhood? Some of these Jewish TV characters do, too. Do you wish you could explain more about your heritage? The episodes you watch will show you how others have done it, too. Do you sometimes wonder how to interpret our Jewish obligations in this modern world? Take a journey with us to see how
script writers, producers, and actors help us grapple with these everyday questions and concerns.

**Be the Difference: Racism and What I Can Do to Change It:** Taught by: Various teachers and Local/National Experts. The reality and effects of racism in the United States are rooted in the very foundations of our country. Systemic racism has a long and complicated history. Its legacy continues to influence literally every part of our lives, and yet we do not learn about it in school or discuss it openly with others.

This course is a way to do both of those things and begin the process of change. During these classes, students will engage with the messy evolution of racism from slavery to mass incarceration. They will explore the deep connection between the Jewish community and Civil Rights Movement. They will critically examine Charlotte’s history of racial inequity and why it hurts all of us. Most importantly, students will learn how they can become active agents for change in their circles of influence as we move to build a more equitable society.

**Chillin’ with Clergy – Rotation of clergy from Temple Beth El and Temple Israel:** Each clergy from Temple Beth El and Temple Israel will take a week to teach a Kehillah class. Come hang out with your clergy team and have fun!

**From 12 Tribes To 3 – Alan Johnathan:** Ever wonder about what happened after our time wandering the desert? Join us as we follow the twelve tribes crossing the Jordan River to the first diaspora using videos, Jewish texts, and discussion.

**B’yachad (together) with Daria Lapidot Boaz, Anya Dippold and Talia Levine (three amazing teens!)**
Join us to learn more about Israel and Antisemitism as we explore Israel’s rich and diverse culture and learn about the struggle of being Jewish in America.

**News and Schmooze with Jenn Sawyer:** In this class, everyone will be given a chance to discuss and share their own ideas about current events in the US and Israel. If you have a particular news article you’d like to share (on politics, science, whatever) bring it, otherwise just bring yourself. Come, join your friends for lively discussions and interesting insights!

**Mind + Body = Attitude with Loriann DeVito from Jewish Family Services:** Relaxation skills are an important part of a healthy routine. Sometimes during stressful times, we forget to use this simple yet effective skill. Please join us for a class about learning how to relax your mind and body to better equip you to deal with life’s stressors!

*Megan Harkavy*
TORAH ON TAP

It’s been a wild year for all and Torah on Tap, Temple Israel’s auxiliary group focused especially on building community for Jewish young professionals in their 20’s and 30’s in Charlotte! We created and held many (mostly virtual) programs and events that included everything from learning with the rabbis to mixing spirits with one of Charlotte’s local bartenders. Our list of most notable events includes:

• Quarantine Craft Corner - An evening of fun art projects with friends on Zoom
• Jew Year’s Social Trivia Night - A Rosh Hashanah event in partnership with three other young professional groups in Charlotte
• Learning Session with Rabbi Wolk – A lively conversation with Rabbi Wolk about the Jewish history of bourbon
• Zoom Family Feud – A game night based on the famous game show
• Cocktail Concoctions – A mixology class with Stefan from Charlotte’s Classic Cocktail Lounge: Dot Dot Dot
• Cooking Class with Meshugganah – A lesson on cooking Jewish food with a southern twist from Rob Clement of Meshugganah CLT

At the end of March, we were finally able to come back together, distanced but in person, for Pre-Passover Pastries in the Park.

Torah on Tap of Temple Israel is committed to creating a welcoming environment in which young adults can explore their ever-growing Jewish identities and engage in vibrant Jewish life.

Amy Fine, President

TEMPLE ISRAEL SOCIAL CLUB

Temple Israel Social Club has 125 members. The Club welcomes all Jewish adults 55 and older from Charlotte and the surrounding areas. The Social Club holds a variety of activities for its members during most months of the year. This organization offers an opportunity to make new friends with existing members. New members of Temple Israel are called and invited to attend events. Members receive monthly flyers, and articles appear regularly in Temple Israel’s Kol Yisrael, Weekly e-Blasts, and Shabbat Announcements.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-2021

This has been an unusual year for everyone because of Covid-19. The Board of the Social Club had to learn to communicate with each other via Zoom. “Social” became seeing each other on a screen, and having to be creative in program planning. Nevertheless, we had some very successful programs.

The Social Club is very grateful to Ariel DiDonato and Melissa Lefko, the “Zoom Masters,” for making every program a smooth event.

• “L’Chaim to Welcome the New Year 5781” as well as our new Rabbi Michael Wolk started off the New Year. Rabbi gave us a High Holiday message and we drank a L’Chaim from our homes together. Author and photographer Christopher Lawing gave an illustrated talk on “Charlotte Signs.”

• Annual Jewish Holiday Celebrations: “Sukkot of the Arts” zoom program began at Rabbi Wolk’s Family Sukkah with Rabbi leading the Brochas and Commentary; music performance by Ali and Gene Kavadlo from their home; Art critic and Writer talked from his home about “The Performing Arts in Charlotte—Past, Present and Future.” For Hanukkah, we ate Latkes at home and zoomed the sing-a-long of Hanukkah Music and candle lighting with Cantor Emeritus Elias Roochvarg.

• On Kristallnacht, November 9, we viewed a documentary film of Irving Bienstock’s childhood in Nazi Germany. LJCC staff showed the film and led a question period with Mr. Bienstock speaking to the audience.

• Paid-up Membership Luncheon was held in March with box-lunches donated to members by Irving Bienstock in memory of his beloved wife, Lillian, of blessed memory. Speaker was Kevin Soden, M.D. speaking about, “Covid-19 Vaccinations and Pandemic Update.”

Membership dues in Social Club are $20 per person per calendar year. For information about joining the Social Club or future programs, please contact one of the Club’s Co-Presidents: Ruth Goldberg, 704-366-8903, or Irving Bienstock, 704-542-0094.
SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE

Performing Acts of Loving Kindness, Together!

Our vision for Social Action is to live Jewish Values as we help those in need. The Temple Israel Community has been very busy addressing critical needs in the Jewish and broader Charlotte Community, as well as Jews in Israel. We thank everyone who participates in Social Action programs and those who provide donations and financial support.

We encourage everyone to get involved in TI Social Action Programs, you will be glad you did.

Jonathan & Tess Berger – Co-Chairs,
Temple Israel Social Action
704-995-1732 or Email: jbergertisa@gmail.com

Roof Above (Men’s Shelter of Charlotte) and Tent City Charlotte

Temple Israel supports the mission to end homelessness in Charlotte by providing those in need with meals along with warm clothing and toiletries.

In 2020 we provided 800 healthy, delicious meals to those in need at the Shelter and Tent City. We also donated 400 Winter Coats, 100 Sweatshirts, 300 Hats, 400 Gloves, Tents and toiletries to those in need at the Shelter and Tent City. And thanks to the generosity of many, we raised over $4,000 in donations to fund these initiatives.

Mark your calendars!

We will be cooking a healthy, delicious, dinner at Temple Israel, and serving the dinner to 150+ Men in need at the Shelter on:
Sunday, November 21, 2021 (Sunday before Thanksgiving)
Friday, December 24, 2021 (Christmas Eve)

We will also bring gifts of warm clothes and toiletries for each shelter guest these days. To volunteer to help cook/serve please contact: Jonathan Berger at 704-995-1732 or jbergertisa@gmail.com

Yom Gemilut Hasadim
A Day Performing Acts of Loving Kindness

On Sunday January 17, 2021, The Temple Israel Community joined forces to help others. Adults, Youth and Families got involved (Virtually) and made a difference in our community. By participating in Mitzvah projects on MLK Day, we shared in Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).

There were many Mitzvah Projects underway that day – all of them focused on making a positive impact to the lives of those in need. Thank You to our YGH Team Leaders, attendees, and to everyone who made a donation to help fund these programs. Everyone’s support was so greatly appreciated!

Here is a list of Mitzvah Projects that were held during the day:

Operation Sandwich, blankets for Animal Shelter, blankets for Women’s Shelter, Clothing Drive for women in need (WoTI), Jewish Family Services, ZAB’s Place, Shalom Green, dog treats for Stand For Animals, and the Rose Room Gift Shop - with strong participation by the TI Religious School.

Mark Your Calendars!
Yom Gemilut Hasadim - Sunday, January 16, 2022
Get Rewarded – Become a Volunteer at Huntingtowne Farms Elementary

As we approach the next school year, volunteers are lining up their activities with teachers and children for the 2021-2022 school year. Many more opportunities for us to help students and the school have presented themselves including – Tutoring, Mentoring, Holiday Celebrations, Teacher Support / Appreciation and Donations of School Supplies.

Thank You to our HFES Volunteers and TI Congregants who invested their valuable time, and made donations, to support this initiative. Everyone’s support is so greatly appreciated!

If you’re interested in getting involved, contact Linda Levy (704-366-6362 or levyollie@aol.com) to make a difference in these children’s lives, there are many fulfilling ways to do so.

Note: Donations to the “Temple Israel Fox Fund” support our volunteer efforts at HFES.

Blessings in a Backpack

Blessings in a Backpack is an organization whose mission is to provide food for Elementary Education Students who may otherwise have little or no food to eat on weekends during the school year. Volunteers from Temple Israel provide food to children in need at our partnership school, Huntingtowne Farms Elementary School, throughout the school year.

To get involved in this wonderful program, please contact: Debbie Porter at porterdeb@yahoo.com

Food Drives For JFS

In the past year we did many food drives for JFS, including Yom Kippur, Purim, and Men’s Club events.

Every Year, as we begin our annual fast on Yom Kippur (our choice), we provide food for those in need who experience hunger far too often (not their choice) due to financial challenges.

You can join us in performing an important Mitzvah in 2021 by bringing donations of food items and/or Walmart gift cards to Temple Israel prior to our Kol Nidre Service. The donations will be given to the Jewish Family Services Food Pantry and to children in need at Huntingtowne Farms Elementary School (HFES).

Note: A JFS food donation box is located in the lobby of the LJCC year-round providing our members the opportunity to donate food to those in need throughout the entire Jewish community.

Freedom School

Temple Israel provides classrooms and funds to support the Freedom School every summer. In addition, TI Members volunteer their time to make this summer experience rewarding for the students.

If you are interested in making a financial donation to support Temple Israel Social Programs in Honor or in Memory of someone you love, please direct your Temple Israel donation to the “Temple Israel Social Action Fund”. Thank you!

“If I am not for myself, then who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now, when?” — Hillel
MEN’S CLUB

Your 110+ member Men’s Club had a fantastic, award-winning year! We were recognized by the International Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs (fjmc.org) with a Quality Club award and several Torch Awards for outstanding programs. What really made this past year stand out however weren’t the programs and activities. We excelled because of our focus on giving the Men of Temple Israel opportunities to build stronger relationships in a Jewish context. We still aren’t sure if we succeeded despite Covid or because of it! We had a transitional Board of Trustees with older, more experienced leaders mentoring younger men who were our age when many of us first got involved.

New initiatives, programs and activities included:

• Pre-High Holidays Golf Outing with Golf Ball Tashlich Ceremony;
• HeBreows Coffee Club to give young dads a place to gather for a free cup of coffee during religious school;
• “I Toot for TIRS” included co-sponsoring gifts of kosher shofarot to our religious school families as well as fun how-to videos;
• A hybrid remote and in-person bourbon tasting, led by Rabbi Wolk, Dan Ruda, and Michael Koss enjoyed both online and at several homes in small, outdoor groups;
• A Grill & Chill cookout in the TI parking lot with corn hole, music, and a very successful clothing drive. We even added an impromptu auction to raise big money for TI Social Action initiatives;
• An in-person World Wide Wrap for tefillin when most other clubs were remote only;
• A fun online movie review conversation night led by Perry Tannenbaum;
• A gathering to clean up Temple Israel by power-washing our sign and sidewalks and trimming a lot of overgrown limbs. While we were at it, we collected more than 600 pairs of socks for our neighbors in need;
• An incredible Men’s Club Shabbat highlighting warm, deep teaching by our members Rabbi Wolk, Brian Ablitz, and Dan Biber;
• The creation of Shabbat Gift Bags with challah, candles, pie, and Havdallah kits that we delivered them to more than 110 members - Because we didn’t have a kiddush to sponsor;
• A rekindling of our tradition of distributing special Yom HaShoah memorial candles to our Men’s Club members (hopefully we can return soon to a full congregational distribution);
• Our first Men’s Club Shabbat Havdallah, where members and their families gathered with their new candles and spice bags, followed by snacks and a L’Chaim or four;
• A programming year that concluded with a with a Lag B’Omer bonfire and steak dinner with teaching, traditional bows and arrows (with rubber tips), and great fun, food, and friendship;
• New leadership in place—this alone puts us in the top echelon of Men’s Clubs around the world!

The best part of all the activity and success by far have been the new friendships made and the old ones strengthened, all in a Jewish context. Our Jewish values give life to everything we did this past year, which helped make our success even sweeter! Please join us for an even better 5782!

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Eisner, Immediate Past President
WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

Despite this challenging year, the Women of Temple Israel (WoTI) stayed true to our mission to foster inter-generational friendships and promote Jewish values and traditions while promoting the mission of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

WoTI determined that the safety of our members was paramount, so throughout the year, programming was offered virtually only. We brought fun and education into the homes of women. We understood that throughout our community, women – mothers, caretakers, homeschoolers and working professionals - were especially impacted by the pandemic. Women needed connection and entertainment, so we opened our programs up to all women, not just WoTI members. And we offered most programs at no cost. WoTI actively sought ways to stay in touch, create ways to be together, and offer value to all women in our Jewish community. Throughout the year, we personally reached out to our most vulnerable members and those living alone, with phone calls and visits.

As a result, WoTI membership stayed strong with 165 members. 109 individuals participated in at least one of our signature Nosh events and 41 individuals took part in Rosh Chodesh discussions! Planning and executing these programs were not easy, and it required special vision and dedication. Our WoTI Leadership Team approached the challenges by creating innovative solutions. We made enhancements to our programming and organization that we will take forward when we are able to meet in person. Thank you to our nearly fifty WoTI members who actively led and worked on the Finance, Membership, Programming, Rosh Chodesh, Social Action, and Torah Fund committees throughout the year! Thank you to Ariel DiDonato, former TI Director of Events and Programming, for her support and counsel.

Karen Knoble
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Shalom! It has been a very challenging year, but Temple Israel has been so lucky to welcome in new families this year. Since July 1, 2020, we have welcomed 22 new families into our congregation.

- We are very diverse in our congregational make up. We continue to be unique among house of worship of all faiths in that while most congregations are aging, ours continues to remain young with the average age of 44.

- Temple Israel has 529 Family Units comprising of 1,459 individuals ranging in age from a couple of weeks old to 99 years young.

In this unprecedented year, we have created ways to connect via zoom, streaming services, dynamic programming and conveying our need for relationships, even if we aren’t able to be in each other’s physical presence. I am so happy that the warmth of our congregation and the relationships between members and community members has continued to grow.

I continue to be very happy that I continue to serve the congregation as the Membership Director. Temple Israel continues to be a leader in the community and beautiful Kehillah, and I am so thrilled that we are able to be back in person together.

Welcoming our Newest Members
David Abramovitz & Alexis Kropp-Abramovitz (Maxwell)
Jason & Yvonne Ackerman
Dr. David & Commissioner Leigh Altman (Gil, Elias and Sam)
Tony Bates & Stephanie Robertson
Aaron & Shannon Berger (Aiden Berger)

Jeffrey & Myra Brinn
Pat Burnham
Natalie Farber
Michal & Dawn Gold
Eleonora Gorelik
Donna & Burton Greenspon
Igal & Marta Grumberg (Eytan and Polly)
Howard & Paula Ross
Marc & Jodi Schilian (Amelia and Hanna)
Chip Wallach & Rabbi Judith Schindler
Steve & Emily Snyder (Zachary and Bea)
Kathie Stevenson
Maxx Evan Tannenbaum
Michale Thalberg
Yakov Torchinsky & Anna Braverman
Debbie & Rory Vitale
Cantor Morris & Geraldine Wolk
Hannah Woociker

Celebrating Temple Israel’s Youngest Members
Abraham Menashe Pittenger 07/17/2020 – parents, Bobby & Jodi Pittenger
Alexzander Reifkind 10/31/2020 - parents, Rachel Zander & Ian Reifkind
Owen Novick 3/18/2021 – parents, Amy Mann-Novick & Evan Novick
Daniel Green 4/15/2021 – parents, Rebecca & Drew Green
Evelyn Rose Roth 5/3/2021 – parents, Robin & Brian Roth
Temple Israel Legacy Society

Jewish tradition teaches that one of our key duties is to make the world a better place for future generations. When you create your Jewish Legacy, you reflect what is most important and meaningful to you and help ensure our community's Jewish future will be bright. Will you join the 116 families who have made a legacy gift? It's much easier than you think! If you are interested in joining these Legacy Donors, please contact Erin Goldstein in the temple office.

Thank you to the following people who have included Temple Israel in their estate plans:

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<th>Anonymous (5)</th>
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This list is not all inclusive. We know there are members who have included Temple Israel in their estate plans but have chosen not to make their plans public at this time. We thank them as well!

Create Your Jewish Legacy is an initiative of the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community (FCJC) to build a strong, vibrant community with bequests for permanent endowments. It promotes the message that all of us, regardless of age, wealth, or affiliation, have the ability to make a difference for future Jewish generations.

Our Legacy Shabbat is a special service to honor the individuals and families who have created a legacy gift and named Temple Israel as a beneficiary. These individuals are honored in the Book of Life Society with other members of our Jewish community for their gifts to support the future.
Teresa Brenner - President

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

Because it has been and would continue to be an honor and a privilege to do so. I have been a member of Temple Israel my entire Jewish life, which started 30 years ago when I was 27. We have celebrated many “life cycle” events at Temple Israel with our synagogue family—our wedding, a baby naming, a bris, our children’s B’nai Mitzvah and confirmation. Our children attended CJP, TIRS, Hebrew High, and Camp Mindy. It is my obligation to be of service to Temple Israel, which has given so much to my family, to help ensure that Temple Israel will survive and prosper for the current and future generations of Jewish families in our greater Charlotte community.

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel (please include key accomplishments or deliverables). [e.g. Chaired Kitchen Committee and established new catering policies]

• President, Temple Israel and Board of Trustees, elected position (one-year term; eligible for re-election)
• First Vice President, Board of Trustees, Temple Israel, elected position, serving under David Rosenthal
• Treasurer, Board of Trustees, Temple Israel, elected position, served under David Rosenthal
• Board of Trustees, Temple Israel (as President, Temple Israel Sisterhood), served under Barry Bobrow
• Chairperson of Nominating Committee of Board of Trustees, Temple Israel (twice): Successfully completed slates of officers and directors during the Bobrow/Sheffer Presidencies Revised process, with an ad hoc committee, for Annual Meeting
• President, Temple Israel Sisterhood: Successfully increased membership over 100%, increased programming and participation, received the Emerald Award from Women’s League (personally awarded the Light of Torah Award)
• Social Action Chair, Temple Israel Sisterhood: Successfully held High Holy Days collection of new tennis shoes for children at Huntingtowne Farms Elementary School
• Torah Fund Chair, Temple Israel Sisterhood (more than three years): Successfully met fundraising goal set by Women’s League, which increased each year
• Sisterhood Shabbat Chair, Temple Israel Sisterhood: Successful participation in Friday Night and Saturday Services by women in the congregation

List of other Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs held in other Jewish or community organizations:

• Board Member, Jewish Family Services
• Strategic Planning Committee and Finance Committee, Women’s Impact Fund

• Chairperson, Vice Chair, Board Member, Right Moves for Youth, a partnership with CMS to help middle school and high school students become successful in school and life
• Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Director, Corporate Counsel Section, NC Bar Association
• Chairperson, Board Member, Founding Board Member, Citizen Lawyers Committee, NC Bar Association
• Board Member, Secretary, Association of Corporate Counsel (Greater Charlotte Chapter)
• Chairperson, Banking Law Committee, Business Law Section, NC Bar Association
• Chairperson, Law Firm Division, United Way (Charlotte)
• Founding Member, Parent Diversity Council, Charlotte Country Day School
• Founding Board Member, NC LEAP, a pro bono initiative for corporate lawyers (now a part of NCBA)
• Founding Board Member, Hispanic/Latino Outreach Task Force, an alliance for pro bono legal services among Bank of America, Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont and Moore and Van Allen

Relevant Professional/Business Background:

Teresa Brenner serves as the Lead Independent Director of Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc. (NYSE: HASI), a leading investor in climate change solutions. Ms. Brenner also serves as Chairperson of the Nominating, Governance and Corporate Responsibility Committee and as a member of the Compensation Committee. She is a lawyer with experience in highly regulated industries, corporate governance, and finance. She is a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors and a member in good standing of the North Carolina State Bar.

Ms. Brenner served as an independent director on the Board of Directors of Residential Capital, LLC (restructured from GMAC Mortgage), which was the fifth largest servicer of residential mortgage loans in the U.S. and a leading mortgage loan originator, during its reorganization in 2013. While in bankruptcy, Residential Capital originated in excess of $30 billion in new mortgage loans and was a recognized leader in loan modifications. When its bankruptcy plan was confirmed, Residential Capital had preserved assets in excess of $4.5 billion for its creditors and 3,750 of 3,900 U.S. jobs for its employees.

Ms. Brenner retired from Bank of America Corporation in 2012 having served most recently as a Managing Director and Associate General Counsel. During her 20 years with the company, she worked with the Board of Directors, Board committees, and executive officers in the areas of corporate governance, corporate strategy, mergers and acquisitions, corporate debt and
equity offerings in excess of $1 trillion, principal and equity investing, crisis management, corporate communications, and investor and shareholder relations.

Ms. Brenner began her legal career as an associate attorney with Smith Helms Mullis & Moore. She received her JD cum laude from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1987, where she was an Editor of the Law Review and a Carswell Scholar, and her BA in history magna cum laude and with honors from Alma College in 1984, where she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.

Amy Udoff – 1st Vice President

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

I am so excited to serve on the Temple Israel Board! Temple Israel is so special to me. My great-grandfather, Harry Roth, was one of the founding members of Hebrew United Brotherhood, which became Temple Israel. My great-grandparents were one of the first documented Jewish weddings in Charlotte. On their 50th wedding anniversary, Temple Israel presented them with a wine glass that I used at my wedding under the chuppah at Temple Israel. My mother had her Bat Mitzvah at Temple Israel, my parents were married there and were the first presidents of the Temple Israel Young Couple’s club! I was born in Charlotte and then had my baby naming at the temple. I started and continue my Jewish Studies at Temple Israel with attendance at Hebrew School, Junior Congregation, and Sunday school. I had my Bat Mitzvah with Rabbi Ezring and Cantor Roochvarg, and later was Confirmed and attended Hebrew High School. Rabbi Ezring and Cantor Roochvarg left a very meaningful impression on me as they guided me through my studies to my Bar Mitzvah and onto my confirmation at Temple Israel.

I returned to Temple Israel to introduce them both to my (now) husband, Ross.

Rabbi Ezring and Cantor Roochvarg created a beautiful wedding ceremony on the bema of Temple Israel. A year or so later, my daughter, Olivia (2), had her baby naming and then my son, Jacob (1) had his bris on a Shabbat morning at Temple Israel with Rabbi Ezring and Cantor Roochvarg, officiating. We are so proud to call Temple Israel our synagogue home.

I can’t tell you how special this temple is to my family and me. I look forward to being a part of Temple Israel’s continued growth and to tell the temple’s story to others and how it is a welcoming community for them and their families. It plays such a huge importance in my family’s life. I know my children will one day stand on the same bema that my grandparents and my parents have stood on for so many special events and that means everything!

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs held at Temple Israel:

• Temple Israel Executive Director Search Committee (20/21)

Nikki Sacks – 2nd Vice President

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

Being a part of an engaged and vibrant Jewish community is incredibly important to me. I grew up with that, having gone to a Jewish Day School, traveled to Israel many times including a semester there in college, and was very involved in a Jewish youth group. I want my family, and especially my children, to feel a connection to a synagogue, as a place that they want to go regularly, where we feel we are a part of a community, have friends, and can get knowledge and inspiration. I want to do what I can to help ensure that this community exists and is thriving, for selfish reasons for my family, and also for the benefit of the broader community. I am encouraged by the direction that Temple Israel is going, and want to become more involved and contribute more.

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs held at Temple Israel:

• Temple Israel Executive Committee, 2nd Vice President (current)
• Temple Israel Executive Committee, Treasurer (2019/2020)
• Various committees for WoTI

Additional Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs held in other Jewish or community organizations:

• Charlotte Jewish Preschool, PTO Treasurer when my children attended
• Charlotte Jewish Preschool, various committees
• Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Leadership Committee for Moms in Training
Tommy Mann – Treasurer

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

Temple Israel has been home to my family for 5 generations and I care very deeply about the future success of our congregation. I’m proud of the tremendous strides we made during a very unprecedented and uncertain fiscal year 20-21, and I believe that strong leadership is required to sustain and grow our community. I’ve enjoyed my time serving as your Treasurer and look forward to continuing my service to Temple Israel. I did my undergraduate at UNC Chapel Hill and received my MBA from University of Virginia, Darden Graduate School of Business.

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel

• Temple Israel Executive Committee (Treasurer): 2020-2021
• Temple Israel Board of Trustees: 2019-2021
• Temple Israel Religious School Advisory Committee Member: 2019-2020

Additional leadership positions held include:

• Leadership Montgomery: Board of Trustees (Maryland)
• Leadership Montgomery: Investment Committee Chair (Maryland)
• Urban Land Institute: Young Leaders Programs Committee (Washington, DC)

Relevant Professional/Business Background:

• Development Director; ATCO Properties & Management (2017-present)
• Director, Multifamily Development; Kettler (2016-2017)
• Director, Mixed-Use Development; Federal Realty Investment Trust (2010-2016)
• Consultant; Accenture (2003-2007)

Stephanie Meadow - Secretary

Stephanie has led an active life in the Conservative Movement and is looking forward to continuing to assist where she can. She moved to Charlotte in 2018 from Central Connecticut, where she was an involved leader at Congregation Adath Israel in Middletown, CT. She completed a successful term as Co-President. She also served on the Ritual and Education committees, as well as Chair of the Personnel Committee. Stephanie was responsible for helping design and maintain content on CAI’s website, and continues to publish the weekly digital newsletter. Stephanie was heavily involved with fundraising activities, including running the gift shop and their Scrip program. She was also involved with programming, helping plan and run multiple events including Community Seders. She always enjoyed helping plan honors for the High Holidays and being a greeter for High Holiday services.

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel

• Temple Israel Executive Committee (1st VP)
• Temple Israel Executive Director Search (Co-Chair)
• WoTI Finance Committee (Member)
• WoTI Gift Shop/The Rose Room - Launched the move for the to go online during the pandemic.

Additional Relevant Professional/Business Background:

• Solomon Schechter, West Hartford, CT - Pre-school teacher, 2nd grade math teacher, and worked in the office.
• JT Connect - the Community Hebrew High program of Greater Hartford - Office Manager for two years
• Camp Ramah in New England f0 worked for 14 years in multiple roles, including Rosh Sport and Rosh Outdoor Adventure. She worked as the Dining Hall Manager for 2 summers. Currently serve on the Site Planning committee.

Stephanie is married to her husband, Eliot, and together they hope to be actively involved with synagogue life. They have two children who both graduated from Schechter.

Thomas “Tom” Bock - Board Member

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

I would like to once again serve on the Temple Israel Board because we all have a duty to serve, to make our community better and stronger for our children and for us. I am a finance professional and am aiming to provide depth to the Board in that area.

I have previously served on the Temple Israel Board and on the Rabbi Search Committee. I have been on the Finance Committee for several years and recently have joined the temple’s Men’s Club.

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel

• Temple Israel Board of Trustees
• Temple Israel Finance Committee

Additional leadership positions held include:

• CJP Board and Finance Committee (3- years)

Eric Cohen - Board Member

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

I would like to continue to serve Temple Israel in this role for 2 key reasons. The first is to continue to represent and provide a voice for the young professional demographic that is essential for the longevity and growth of Temple Israel. The second is I believe a niche area that I can add a lot of value to is assisting with our youth department. I was extremely active growing up in youth group events and USY growing up and I want to bring the knowledge I learned from that to help develop our youth groups here.
List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel

• Temple Israel Board of Trustees
  o Provided input on key hires (Rabbi and Executive Director) from a young professional prospective
  o Ensured that the young professional demographic had a liaison and champion amongst the board

• Torah on Tap - President for 2 years
  o Grew organization reputation amongst the synagogue as a strong and growing group
  o Showed continual increased attendance throughout my tenure
  o General board member for 2 years

Relevant Professional/Business Background:
• Financial Analyst at Bank of America

Stephen Moore - Board Member

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

I want to continue engaging Temple Israel members in relevant, meaningful ways. Encourage and participate in the forward movement of the synagogue. Continue as an advocate for processes and systems in place and responsible governance/oversight

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel

• Temple Israel Board of Trustees (3-years)
• Temple Israel Men’s Club Board of Directors (3-years)
• Temple Israel Men’s Club Treasurer (1-year)
• Temple Israel Kiddush Committee
• Temple Israel Nominating Committee, Chair

Additional leadership positions held include:
• Temple Beth El, Akron, OH – Board of Directors (6-years)

Relevant Professional/Business Background:
• Hospitality professional for 30+ years with fiscal accountability, team-building responsibilities and operational successes, both short-term and forward thinking/long-term

Furthermore, I have a substantial technology background as the 16-year owner of a technology company, and I would like to offer my subject matter expertise in a way that can improve the technology operation of Temple Israel in meaningful and constructive ways.

List the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel

• Chair of communications at Men’s Club.
  - Took ownership of all technology and communications tools and processes associated with the Men’s Club.
  - Maintained content on the Men’s Club web page on templeisraelnc.org
  - Established a standard email communication process that included:
    o Intake of member data.
    o Creation of various email communication templates
    o Execution of email communications throughout the 2020-2021 Men’s Club year
  - Managing, growing and maintaining Men’s Club social media presence, more doubling followers since my start.
  - Advising on and assisting in the organization of numerous responsible in-person virtual Men’s Club events
  - Offered numerous technology related suggestions to Temple Israel in order to enhance its technology/virtual efforts.

Additional Leadership positions I have held:

• Long Island University Alumni - Former chair of the career advancement committee of the association – current board member.
• Long Island University College of Management - Current board member
• Career Mentor with Hiring Our Heroes: Assist transitioning armed service veterans into civilian life through resume/cover letter reviews, interview coaching, and career exploration.

Erik Wind – Board Member

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

Since moving to the Charlotte area in 2018, I’ve found a home in Temple Israel. Most synagogues in my experience have very poor new member outreach and fail at welcoming and integrating new members. The community at Temple Israel has done a much better job at this than others, and I would like to give back; helping to ensure that other members of the community feel welcome here.

*please see the last page for the final bio (Michael Eisner - Board Member)
Temple Israel Annual Meeting
May 31, 2020 • Temple Israel of Charlotte via Zoom

Meeting Called to Order - David Rosenthal
Meeting was called to order by President David Rosenthal at 10:32am on May 31st, 2020, the 124th annual meeting of Temple Israel. David briefly reviewed the NC Governor’s Executive Order authorizing virtual meetings for non-profit organizations due to COVID-19.

David called upon the Secretary Adina Loewensteiner or her designee to verify that we had a quorum. It was reported that 85 family units were attending in person or by proxy and that a quorum, constituting 29 family units, was achieved.

D’var Torah-Cantor Lissak
Rabbi Siegel was unable to attend this morning due to health issues. Cantor Lissak delivered the D’var. She thanked David for his leadership and thanked everyone for being able to make the annual meeting.

Parsha Beha’alotekha-meaning when you step up. Aaron commanded to raise light. Torch is reignited to light the way into the future. The more people you light, the more light there is. Just because one person has light, it doesn’t diminish when others have/share that light. She/ We should be excited for the future and new leadership. Sacred moment, we sing the she’echiyanu prayer to sanctify this meeting.

David Rosenthal made a motion to reorder the agenda to address the nominations for the officers and board of trustees. Motion Passed

Nomination and Election of Officers and Members of the Board of Trustees
David asked Stephen Moore, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to deliver his report.

Stephen introduced his committee members: Jonathan Berger, Milton Berkman, Eric Cohen, Josh Feldman, Craig Madens, Marc Titlebaum, Amy Udolf, Sandro Nascimento, and Robert Sisson.

They nominated Exec Board: Teresa Brenner-President, Eliot Meadow-1st VP, Nikki Saks-2nd VP, Tommy Mann-Treasurer, Adina Loewensteiner-Secretary. David Rosenthal serves as Immediate Past President.

Board of Trustees-2 year term-expiring 2022: Brian Ablitz, Melanie Brown, Dr. Elissa Levine, and Justin Levine.

Mark Farbman nominated himself to stand for election as President.

David granted both Teresa and Mark up to 10 min each to give a speech as to why they each want to be president of TI. Both candidates spoke.

Biographies were sent out for each candidate before the annual meeting. Please see attached.

The congregants voted and elected all officers and trustees running unopposed, and voted and elected Teresa Brenner as President.

Treasurer’s Report-Nikki Saks
David recognized Nikki Saks-Treasure to provide a summary of the financials of TI.

TI is in good shape. $80,000 off in commitments, but that money is due in this summer and being moved to next year’s budget.

Programming and fundraising came in above budget due to the Cantor’s Winter Cantorial Concert.

Endowment was drawn down the correct amount recommended by the Foundation for the Carolinas. We have $4.3m in our endowment.

Expenses were under budget due to staffing as we did not hire an ED nor a full-time accounting manager for a few months.

We are anticipating challenges this year due to the Coronavirus. We did apply for and receive a $150,000 PPE loan in April, which should convert to a grant.

We also applied for and received $15,000 from the Jewish Charlotte Emergency Response Fund.

The budget for the upcoming fiscal year is based on no increase to the standard annual commitment levels. We also added new donor membership levels. We anticipate increased operational expenses, due to Covid-related enhanced cleaning and social distancing.
Uncertainty about the income and expense levels for this upcoming year due to the current situation. All Audit Financials are available to any congregate. Budget is in the black for the first time in a very long time. We believe we are well positioned to deal with unknowns.

**Report of the Professionals - Erin Goldstein**

David called on Erin Goldstein. Erin thanked those attending and directed them to former Executive Director Glenda Bernhardt’s written remarks delivered when she departed. Erin then shared a slide show of events and happenings from the year. Erin referred to the electronic version of the previously emailed Annual Report.

**Report from the Past President-David Rosenthal**

David thanked everyone who encouraged him to take the President position. Also thanked those who he was surrounded by both on the Executive Board and Board of Trustees who are leaving at the end of their terms and those from the community. David informed everyone that Tuyuanee Dewberry was starting as our new Executive Director on 6/1, thanked Dan Ruda and Stephanie Meadow and noted he was looking forward to Rabbi Wolk starting on 7/1. He thanked the Rabbi search committee co-Chaired by Amy Udolf and Gary Michel. He thanked Rabbi Sigal and all the Clergy for all their hard work and for making everything seem seamless in having to go virtual, both with services and religious school. He noted that Hannah and Franklin Kannutz relocated to Columbus, OH and thanked them. He thanked Milton and Arline Berkman for their support and many contributions, especially to the sound system. He also thanked Rabbi Howard Siegel for his leadership during this year of transition. He also thanked Rabbi Sigal and all the Clergy for all their hard work and for making everything seem seamless in having to go virtual, both with services and religious school. He noted that Hannah and Franklin Kannutz relocated to Columbus, OH and thanked them. He thanked Milton and Arline Berkman for their support and many contributions, especially to the sound system. He also thanked Rabbi Howard Siegel for his leadership during this year of transition. He also thanked Rabbi Howard Siegel for his leadership during this year of transition.

He quoted Audrey Maddens - “We genuinely have a remarkable kehillah and community at Temple Israel. It wouldn’t be possible without our inspired talented leadership team and congregational family partnering and living out our shared vision and mission.”

**Hineni** - Here I am - G-d tasks us in the life of creation and we are honored to enhance the life of others. Treat your neighbor like you would want to be treated. I will continue to work with the team put in place and to serve TI’s mission.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**From our new president - Teresa Brenner**

David recognized Teresa, who noted she had shared her vision for Temple Israel earlier in the meeting, and wanted to use this time to thank David for his many years of service, relentless focus on excellence and his commitment to USCJ. She also thanked his wife Karen, as a volunteer commitment is truly a family commitment. A brick was purchased in the garden with his name and Presidency noted and, presented him with a white tallit to wear during High Holiday Services and remember he was symbolically wrapped-in our gratitude.

David entertained a motion and a second for adjournment, both of which were received, and the meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.
Michael Eisner - Board Member

Why I want to serve Temple Israel in this role:

I believe Temple Israel can best fulfill our mission by focusing on providing members opportunities to find deeper meaning and make stronger connections in a Jewish context. Providing this perspective along with my historical knowledge of the organization developed over the past 27 years may also be of value to the organization.

Please list the Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at Temple Israel (please include key accomplishments or deliverables). [e.g. Chaired Kitchen Committee and established new catering policies]

- TI Executive Committee, Secretary (2-years)
- Men’s Club Board President
- Men’s Club Board Member

List other Offices, Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs you have held at other Jewish or community organizations

- Chair, HaShofar e-newsletter for the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs (2-years)

Relevant Professional/Business Background:

I own and manage a small business dedicated to helping manufacturers define, focus on, and achieve operational excellence. I would like to help my spiritual home with a similar effort.