



TEMPLE
BETH EL

OF NORTHERN
WESTCHESTER

בית אל

Membership Information

2023



Temple Beth El's Mission Statement



Temple Beth El is a Reform Jewish congregation that continually renews itself by embracing these eternal values:

Prayer, Avodah

We view prayer as a regular practice of seeking connection with the divine, found both throughout the world around us and in one another. We gather to provide comfort, inspiration, uplift and guidance and believe that our prayer and study must ultimately prompt us into action. Through regular worship, holiday observances and lifecycle events, we root ourselves in the wisdom of Jewish tradition while constantly seeking to renew and reinterpret its lasting message.

Torah Study, Talmud Torah

As Rabbi Louis Finkelstein once taught, "When I pray, I speak to God. When I study, God speaks to me." We view the Torah and the later works of Jewish wisdom as our tradition's attempt to discern the sacred in each moment of our lives. We cherish the opportunity to participate in a 3,000 year old discussion of morality and ethics and eagerly participate in the wrestling first exemplified by our patriarch Jacob, when he was renamed Israel - the one who wrestles with God. Through the study of our sacred texts, we discover how to fashion lives of Jewish meaning in an ever-changing world and root our lives in the wisdom of our ancestors.

Social Justice, Tzedek

Our congregation pursues social justice, striving toward tikkun olam, repair of the world, through deeds of righteousness and loving-kindness. We provide opportunities for our members to act upon our Jewish values, inspiring engagement in social action and social advocacy. We accept as our mission the prophetic challenge to serve as a "light unto the nations", calling for justice and committing ourselves to act as God's hands. Ultimately, we understand that the more we contribute, the more meaning we receive in our lives. Finally, the sacred responsibility to act as stewards of creation compels us to practice Judaism and operate our congregation under sustainable and environmentally friendly standards.

Community, Kehilah

We offer comfort, joy, friendship and support to our members. We appreciate the rich diversity of the Jewish community and welcome all who seek a connection to Jewish Life. We encourage participation of interfaith couples and families as well as people of all backgrounds, ages, financial means, sexual orientations and gender identities. We welcome children and adults with disabilities and their families. We strive to ensure that our programs and facilities are accessible to all and to accommodate special needs. Equally important is our strong commitment to the larger community, both Jewish and non-Jewish, locally, nationally, around the world, and in Israel, which is linked to us through history and faith.

At Beth El we are a community of families and individuals who seek to utilize Jewish tradition to gain meaning, comfort and mission in our lives. As God commands the Israelites in Exodus 25:8:

וַעֲשׂוּ לִי, מִקְדָּשׁ; וְשָׁכַנְתִּי, בְּתוֹכָם

And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell within them

We seek to offer sacred space in which God may be found within and between each and every one of us.

Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester
220 South Bedford Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514
www.bethelnw.org
temple@bethelnw.org
914-238-3928



Dear Potential Member,

Welcome to Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester. As the Senior Rabbi, I am proud to serve this historic and vibrant congregation. Thank you for considering joining me and the many families and congregants who have elected to call Beth El our home.

We are taught that the Torah scroll is unusable if even a single letter is missing. So too, we believe that each and every individual possesses infinite value to the Jewish community. As each of us is created *betselem elohim* – in the image of God, each member of our congregation adds to the sacred nature of our family.

I invite you to contact me at your convenience to meet in person and discuss in further depth how we at Temple Beth El may best support you and your family. Feel free to email me at jjaffe@bethelnw.org in order to set up an appointment, or call me anytime at 914-238-3928 x1310. Otherwise, I welcome you to get to know us through our various worship, study or community engagement opportunities. You can learn more about who we are and what we do via our website or monthly bulletin.

Thank you for exploring Temple Beth El and for considering how our family may best fit yours. Should you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

L'Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Jaffe".

Rabbi Jonathan Jaffe

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Religious School 2023/24

Welcome to Temple Beth El's Religious School. At Temple Beth El we help our students find purpose and meaning through Judaism. We guide our students toward emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual growth as Reform Jews.

Grades will meet on the following days and times:

- Preschool – Grade 3: Sundays 9:00 – 11:00 am
- Grade 4: Sundays 9:00 – 11:00am and Tuesdays 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- Grades 5 & 6: Mondays and Thursdays 3:45 – 5:45 pm
- Grade 7 - 12: Mondays 6:15 – 8:15 pm



Temple Beth El Religious School's Mission Statement: (Adopted June 8, 2017)

Temple Beth El's Religious School stands as an inclusive and welcoming environment that represents the heart of our synagogue. We strive to help our students build a strong Jewish identity and to foster a connection to God, the Temple Beth El community and to Am Yisrael, the Jewish people.

We view Jewish education as a life-long journey. To that end, our curriculum encompasses Jewish history and culture, Torah, appreciation for Israel and Jewish values. We teach prayer Hebrew and liturgy with the goal of enabling our students to participate in religious services anywhere in the world and to prepare them for all their life cycle events, from consecration through their bar/bat mitzvah and later, confirmation.

We utilize traditional and innovative teaching methods including text-based learning, music, art, small group projects, guest speakers, field trips and experiential education. We view our parents as our students' primary educators and therefore seek to engage them as active participants through family education, Shabbat and holiday observances, as well as volunteer opportunities.

Our goal is to help our students cultivate a love of Jewish learning, an understanding of our shared heritage, and to become the next generation of Jewish leaders.



Youth Programs

The Temple Beth El Youth Program strives to create a warm and inspiring atmosphere that will help the participants foster a sense of Jewish community and identity.

Youth Activities – Kindergarten through 6th Graders

Temple Beth El's Youth Activities Committee is designed to promote a strong sense of community within Temple Beth El for our kindergartners through 6th graders. The Committee's primary objective is to encourage our children to want to be involved in their Jewish community at a young age. We are achieving this goal by offering a wide variety of social and community-based activities for children within this age group. The activities offered to our kindergartners through 6th graders include art, athletic programs, cooking, and so much more. Through these activities, the Youth Activities Committee provides Beth El's younger students an opportunity to gain team-building skills, build friendships, and fully understand and appreciate the value of being part of a Jewish community.

BESTY – Friendship, Leadership & More – 9th through 12th Graders

BESTY (Beth El Senior Teen Youth) offers an opportunity for Beth El teens to build friendships, develop lifelong Reform Jewish identities, and leadership skills through community building, worship, social action, and experiential youth-lead Jewish educational programming. The group is led by its board and president. They receive help and guidance from our Youth Coordinator, Joni Kellogg and are under the supervision of Rabbi Maura Linzer. Activities include dinner outings, a variety of social justice activities, events in New York City, the annual Purim Carnival, as well as regional and national NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth) events with other students from around the New York metro region.

Parent Power

While these programs cater to the youth of our congregation, the Youth Program relies upon support of adult members to sustain its infrastructure and help continue its development. Our Youth Activities Committee members enable youth programming to thrive in the synagogue by advocating for youth issues, chaperoning youth events, and shaping the vision and policies of the Youth Program. Members of the Youth Activities Committee bring with them their previous experiences with youth group activities, connections with outside organizations, programs which can benefit our youth, and a strong desire to develop a successful program for the next generation.



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2023-2024

TEMPLE BETH EL OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER

Chappaqua, New York 10514

Telephone: (914) 238-3928

www.bethelnw.org

Senior Rabbi Jonathan Jaffe
Cantor Elizabeth Sternlieb
Rabbi-Educator Maura Linzer
Scholar-in-Residence, Rabbi Norman Cohen
Executive Director, Gennifer Kelly
Early Childhood Director, Hope Blauner

OFFICERS

President	Marc Fried
Executive Vice President	Stephanie Saltzman
Vice President	Lisa Crandall
Vice President	Meryl Lefkowitz
Vice President	Sarah Lieb
Vice President	Kelly Aidekman
Treasurer	Jennifer Pariser
Assistant Treasurer	Amanda Garfinkle
Secretary	Debbie Rebell

TRUSTEES

Term Expires 2024

Evan Cohen
Gary Munowitz
Stacey Pfeffer
Melissa Singer
Stacey Stambleck
Diane Thaler

Term Expires 2025

Vanessa Baker
Gregg Diller
Janet Levy
Jill Liebman
Alyssa White

Term Expires 2026

Larry Block
Pam Goldfarb
Norma Klein
Pam Klein
Alice Kraus
Laura Milano
Debbie Samberg

Immediate Past President

Rhonda Regan

PAST PRESIDENTS – CURRENT HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Stephen Adler - Richard Albert - Stanley Amberg - Lisa Davis - Melvin Ehrlich
Barry Meisel - Gloria Meisel – William Pollak - Amy Robin – David Ruzow

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220 South Bedford Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514

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temple@bethelnw.org

914-238-3928



Temple Beth El's Clergy & Staff

We can't wait to meet you!

Our doors are always open; please feel free to contact us:



Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Jonathan Jaffe
914-238-3928 ext. 1311
JJaffe@bethelnw.org



Assistant Rabbi
Rabbi Leora Londy
914-238-3928 ext. 1312
LLondy@bethelnw.org



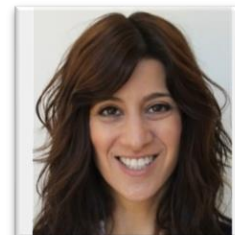
Associate Rabbi Educator
Religious School Director
Maura H. Linzer
914-238-5641
MLinzer@bethelnw.org



Cantor Elizabeth Sternlieb
914-238-3928 ext. 1316
ESternlieb@bethelnw.org



Executive Director
Gennifer Kelly
914-238-3928 ext. 1321
GKelly@bethelnw.org



Early Childhood Center Director
Hope Blauner
914-238-5735
HBlauner@bethelnw.org

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Joining Temple Beth El

So, you have now reviewed our packet of materials, possibly come to a service or two, perhaps met with the clergy, maybe heard about our Religious School, and now you are ready to become a member.

Yeah! Here is what we are asking you to do:

1. Print out the next few pages which include the following:
 - a. Membership application – so we may get to know more about you and your family
 - b. Our commitment form - this form outlines all our fees.
2. Fill out all the printed forms and mail them back to the temple office with a check. Once we have your paperwork we will email you a welcome letter and any school registration materials.

Should you have any questions, please contact:
Gennifer Kelly, Executive Director, at (914) 238-3928 x1321

[Click here to print a PDF version of the necessary forms](#)



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ID # _____

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Temple Beth El! May this be the beginning of a long and joyful membership in our congregation. In order to proceed, please complete all the information that is asked for in this form. Your responses will help us foster and maintain an environment that provides you with rich opportunities for worship, education and participation in our community. All information that you share with us is confidential.

Instructions (please print or type):

1. If application is for an Individual or Single Parent, please complete Member A information only
2. If application is for a household of two Adults with or without children, please complete Member A information for one adult, and Member B information for the other.

Member A	Member B
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Last Name	Last Name
First Name Preferred/Nickname	First Name Preferred/Nickname
Date of Birth	Date of Birth
E-Mail Address	E-Mail Address
Cell Phone	Cell Phone
Occupation	Occupation
Title	Title
Firm Name	Firm Name
Address/City/State/Zip	Address/City/State/Zip
Business Telephone	Business Telephone

DATE OF MARRIAGE (If applicable): _____

Address Information	
For husband and wife memberships, mail will be addressed to "Jane & John Member" unless requested otherwise. Please address our mail as follows:	
Residence Street & Apartment # (All mail will be sent to residence unless requested otherwise)	
City/State/Zip	Phone
Billing (if different) Street & Apartment #	

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Children - Please complete as it applies to each of your children residing with you				
	1st Child	2nd Child	3rd Child	4th Child
Last Name				
First Name				
Nickname				
Hebrew Name				
Birth date	Date_____	Date_____	Date_____	Date_____
Age	Age_____	Age_____	Age_____	Age_____
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other
School Grade, Fall '23				
Secular School Name				
Early Childhood Center of Temple Beth El	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending <input type="checkbox"/> Has attended <input type="checkbox"/> Will not attend <input type="checkbox"/> Send information	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending <input type="checkbox"/> Has attended <input type="checkbox"/> Will not attend <input type="checkbox"/> Send information	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending <input type="checkbox"/> Has attended <input type="checkbox"/> Will not attend <input type="checkbox"/> Send information	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending <input type="checkbox"/> Has attended <input type="checkbox"/> Will not attend <input type="checkbox"/> Send information
Temple Beth El Religious School	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending as non-member <input type="checkbox"/> Will attend this yr <input type="checkbox"/> Send information	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending as non-member <input type="checkbox"/> Will attend this yr <input type="checkbox"/> Send information	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending as non-member <input type="checkbox"/> Will attend this yr <input type="checkbox"/> Send information	<input type="checkbox"/> Now attending as non-member <input type="checkbox"/> Will attend this yr <input type="checkbox"/> Send information
Has become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:
Has participated in confirmation (10 th grade)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Expect to in the year:
Youth Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Put on Mailing List	<input type="checkbox"/> Put on Mailing List	<input type="checkbox"/> Put on Mailing List	<input type="checkbox"/> Put on Mailing List
Post High School - Living at Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
College Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Other People in Your Household			
Name			
Age			
Relationship			

Adult Children (18 years or older) Not Residing With You			
First & Last Name			
Birth Date			
Spouse's Name			
Address			
Children			
-Name & Birth Date			

Activities in which you are interested in volunteering or in which you would like to participate					
Check to indicate interest	Member A	Member B		Member A	Member B
Adult B'nei Mitzvah			Investment Advisory Committee		
Adult Choir			Youth Activities Com. (Grades K-6)		
Adult Education Programs			Nursery School Committee		
Annual Fundraiser			Religious School Committee		
Caring Community Committee*			Social Action Programs		
Children's Choir			Social Justice Programs		
College Committee			Social Engagement Programs		
Communications Committee			Ushering, Shabbat		
Finance Committee			Ushering, High Holy Days		
House Committee (capital projects & interior design)					
*Caring Community Programs (assistance such as meals, transportation, shopping, visitation, etc.)					

Professional Background, Skills, Talents & Organizational Affiliations	
Please describe your professional skills, talents, and involvement in Jewish and Community organizations.	
Member A Background and Skills	Member B Background and Skills
Member A Jewish and Community organizations	Member B Jewish and Community organizations

Household Information		
Please complete the information below to assist us in learning more about you and developing programs.		
Our (my) household consists of (check all that apply):	Yes	No
Single adult	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two parents with child(ren) living at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two parents with child(ren) not living at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single parent with child(ren) living at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single parent with child(ren) not living at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Everyone in our household is Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We are an interfaith family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Miscellaneous Information	
How did you hear about Temple Beth El?	
Name of previous Congregation affiliation:	
City/State:	Year left: Any outstanding financial obligation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Yahrzeit Record

Please list the names of loved ones for whom you wish Yahrzeit notices sent, and indicate whether you wish to observe the secular or Hebrew date. Annually we will send you reminder letters and read names of loved ones at services.

Name of Deceased	Relationship	To Member A or B?	Secular Date	Hebrew Date

Building Fund

Temple membership is the right of every Jewish family, regardless of ability to pay. And, temple membership is also a responsibility of every Jewish family. As you are aware, you are making a commitment when you join a congregation. One of your obligations is financial. In addition to annual dues and any applicable Religious School fees, each member makes a pledge to our Building Fund.

Our temple was built to accommodate existing and future members, with the cost to be shared by present and future participants. In order to provide for our future, the congregation has established a Building Fund requirement for each new family. This commitment is \$7,000, payable over seven years at \$1,000 per year (should the member decide to pay the Building Fund requirement in a lump sum, payment of \$6,500 will satisfy the obligation). It is also provided that no one will be excluded from membership because of inability to pay. The principle remains: "From each according to his or her ability."

For families whose head of household is under age 28, payment of the Building Fund is deferred until after three (3) years of membership or age 30, whichever is sooner.

For those families that qualify for our one-year membership incentive program (whose children are not in the B'nei Mitzvah prep. years) the building fund can be deferred until either their child reaches the 3rd Grade or after three (3) years of membership, whichever is sooner.

Application Signature

Temple Beth El may use photographs or video of participants, with or without a name, for such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content. You may withhold your permission for such use by contacting Leslie Aufieri at communications@bethelnw.org

I (we) hereby submit our application to become a member(s) of Temple Beth El. My (our) Membership Commitment Form indicating my/our dues and related fees for the year are attached. I (we) agree to abide by the By-laws, rules and regulations of the congregation.

Member A Signature

Member B Signature

Date

Date

New Member Commitment Form 2023-2024

Name: _____ Address: _____

As a member of Temple Beth El you make supporting the Jewish community one of the priorities in your life. Your membership dues allow us to provide a variety of services 365 days a year for any and all who need it. Each year the temple calculates a Sustaining Level of membership dues based on the support needed to run our programs and services. Some of our members are unable to pay the Sustaining Level due to personal circumstances, and it is our long-standing tradition to have a flexible dues plan that ensures that no one will be turned away based on what they can pay. Your honest reflection, self-assessment, and generosity help to provide for our community.

Membership Dues – the Sustaining Level of Dues is \$4,190 \$ _____

Security Fee – Helps cover the increasing costs of enhanced security. \$ _____ 295.00

Building Fund (to maintain our building) - The Building Fund requirement is \$1,000 per year for seven years or \$6,500 total if paid in full in the first year. \$ _____

Religious School - Please indicate below the grades for which you will be registering your children and calculate total school fees. Our enrollment form will be emailed to you once your membership is processed.

Tuition:	# of	Fee per	Total
Grade(s)	Children	Child	Fees
Kindergarten	_____	\$ 1,060	_____
1	_____	\$ 1,252	_____
2	_____	\$ 1,363	_____
3	_____	\$ 1,475	_____
4, 5 and 6	_____	\$ 2,170	_____
7	_____	\$ 2,282	_____
8, 9 and 10	_____	\$ 1,091	_____
11 and 12	_____	\$ 417	_____

\$ _____

Bar & Bat Mitzvah* - B'nei Mitzvah dates are assigned in the 4th Grade year (or thereafter). There is a b'nei mitzvah fee that will be billed at the time the date is confirmed. The fee ranges from \$2675 - \$3675 depending on year and time of service. The B'nei Mitzvah fee is due 18 months prior to the service. In July prior to your child's bar/bat mitzvah each family is billed about \$1000 to sponsor the Friday evening Oneg Shabbat reception, the flowers on the bimah for the weekend and cover Saturday's security.

Confirmation

Our 10th Grade students are taught by our Senior Rabbi and go on several field trips including a weekend to Washington, D.C. In order to cover the cost of these trips, fees will be collected with RSVPs.

TOTAL 2023/2024 Commitment \$ _____

***** PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE ALONG WITH YOUR FIRST PAYMENT *****

Please indicate your payment option:

- ☐ Pay the entire 2023/2024 Commitment
☐ Pay in installments: half now with the remaining balance monthly until January 15, 2024*

*monthly statements will be emailed until all balances are paid in full

*PLEASE NOTE: In the year of your child's bar/bat mitzvah, your annual commitment and fees are due in full 90 days prior to the simcha.

Signature: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____
(please print or type name)

NOTICE: Your 2023 tax statement will include only the deductible portion of payments received this calendar year. Payments are applied in the following order: RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FEES (including B'NEI MITZVAH FEES & CONFIRMATION FEE), MEMBERSHIP DUES, and then BUILDING FUND.