A YEAR OF LIFE AT TEMPLE ISRAEL





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Congregation Temple Israel #1 Rabbi Alvan D. Rubin Dr., St. Louis, MO 63141 314-432-8050 www.ti-stl.org



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2021 LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

Louise Losos, President
Robert D. Litz, Immediate Past President
David Chassin, Vice President, Facilities
Neil Marglous, Vice President, Social Action & Membership
Jeremy Shook, Vice President, Legal & Human Resources
Michael Weiss, Vice President, Operations
Sarah Falkoff, Vice President, Education
Brad Arst, Treasurer
Allan Epstein, Assistant Treasurer
Julie Follman, Secretary
Amy Knoblock-Hahn, Assistant Secretary
Jeff Brown, Member at Large
JoAnne Levy, Member at Large

TRUSTEES

Jenny Abeles
Patty Bloom
Burt Bromberg
Jeff Brown
Liz Buchman
Amy Cohen
Carol Cohen
Beth Deutsch
Rob Epstein
Julie Follman
Ed Goldberg
Cathy Goldsticker

Richard Greenberg Sally I. Heller Roy Hendin Wayne Kaufman Benjamin Kozower Amy Knoblock-Hahn Martha Kreipke Amy Lampert Adele Lewis Judy Lewis Matthew Meyers Brian Newman Kathy de la Garza Ortbals Diane Fadem Packman Rachel Protzel Amanda Roodman Steve Rosenblum Darcy Scharff Debbie Schultz Eric Spirtas Michele Steinberg Jeffrey Stern

PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert D. Litz, 2018-19 Dee A. Mogerman, 2014-17 JoAnne Levy, 2011-13 Dr. David L. Weinstein, 2007-10 Neil J. Handelman, 2005-06 Cary J. Mogerman, 2002-04 Daniel J. Schwartz, 1999-2001 Leonard J. Adreon, 1994-95 Ellen Deutsch, 1991-93 Gary A. Follman, 1988-90

RABBIS & TEMPLE STAFF

Amy Feder, Rabbi
Michael Alper, Rabbi
Mark L. Shook, Rabbi Emeritus
Rachel Wallis Andreasson, Executive Director
Leslie Wolf, Director of Family Education
Lesley Goldenberg, Assistant Director of Family
Education
Kim Rivera, Director of Accounting
Erin Wolfman May, Communications Director
Samantha Wendling, Business Improvement &
Communications Manager
Lisa Hirshberg, Manager of Senior Engagement

Martina Stern, Special Events Manager

Debbie Jennings, Catering Manager
Janet Dillon, Accounting Manager
Kim Higginbottom, Family Education
Accounting Manager
Derrick Bryant, Building Supervisor
Lindsay Bess, Administrative Specialist
Sara Jones, Family Education Office
Administrator/Camp Shook Director
Maya Poger, Youth Engagement Coordinator
Yuriy Moskalets, Maintenance
Tim Muszalski, Maintenance
Ken Susman, Maintenance

2022 SLATE OF NOMINEES

OFFICERS

* Incoming Executive Committee member
Louise Losos, President
Robert D. Litz, Immediate Past President
David Chassin, Vice President, Facilities
Neil Marglous, Vice President, Membership
Roy Hendin, Vice President, Governance*
Sarah Falkoff, Vice President, Education

Amy Knoblock-Hahn, Vice President, Social Action Brad Arst, Treasurer Michael Weiss, Assistant Treasurer Phil Horwitz, Secretary* Jeff Brown, Member at Large David Weinstein, Member at Large*

INCOMING TRUSTEES

Serving a first term Korina Gabrielson



Jerry Thomeczek



OUTGOING TRUSTEES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Outgoing Trustees will receive a Citation for Religious Leadership Award

Julie FollmanJudy LewisRichard GreenbergDarcy ScharffCathy GoldstickerJeremy ShookAdele LewisEric Spirtas

Michele Steinberg Jeffrey Stern

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO HONOR TEMPLE LEADERS

CELEBRATE ANY OF OUR INCOMING/OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS WITH A TRIBUTE DONATION IN THEIR HONOR

MAKE A TRIBUTE ONLINE:

Visit our website and make your tribute today: WWW.TI-STL.ORG/ANNUALMEETING

MAKE A TRIBUTE BY MAIL:

Mail in the name of the person you'd like to honor along with a check to Temple Israel at the following address: PO Box 790379, St. Louis, MO 63179-0379

2020 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FROM THE 134TH ANNUAL MEETING OF CONGREGATION TEMPLE ISRAEL DECEMBER 13, 2020

The 134th Annual Meeting of Congregation Temple Israel was held via Zoom, December 13, 2020 at 2:00 pm. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by President Louis Losos.

The 2020 Annual Report of Congregation Temple Israel was distributed to congregants via the December Dateline and on Congregation Temple Israel's Website. Congregants in attendance were counted, and over 50 people were in attendance, providing a quorum for the Annual Meeting. A motion was made by JoAnne Levy, seconded by Sarah Falkoff, to approve to dispense the minutes of the 133rd Annual Meeting. A vote was taken by poll via Zoom and approved.

President Louise Losos delivered remarks, which can also be found in the 2020 Annual Report: www.ti-stl.org/AnnualReport

Citations for Religious Leadership Awards were acknowledged and were mailed to outgoing Board members: Sheri O'Gorman, Caryn Sandweiss, Andrew Olschansky, Arnold Spirtas, and Susan Tuteur, and to outgoing Officers: Kathy de la Garza Ortbals, Secretary of the Executive Committee for 4 years, who stepped down and returned to the Board of Trustees.

Staff Retirement: JoAnn Stephan, Accounting Manager, retired from her position as Accounting Manager to dedicate more time to pet rescue. We thanked JoAnn for her hard work and dedication, and we wished her well.

President Louise Losos presented the Annual Report, recognized and thanked the Past Presidents, Leslie Wolf who serves as Director of Family Education, Deutsch Early Childhood Center staff who led the changes and transition into operating under COVID-19 guidelines, Lesley Goldberg and our Religious School Teachers for pivoting and creating a wonderful online Religious School experience, and the Finance Committee for their hard work and guidance, as well as all who helped in 2020.

Rob Litz, Immediate Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, thanked Louise Losos for her leadership and the Nominating Committee for their work. Rob Litz presented the Slate of Officers and new Trustees as recommended by the Nominating Committee.

Officers:

Louise Losos, President
Robert D. Litz, Immediate Past President
David Chassin, Vice President, Facilities
Neil Marglous, Vice President, Social Action & Membership
Jeremy Shook, Vice President, Legal & Human Resources
Michael Weiss, Vice President, Operations
Sarah Falkoff, Vice President, Education
Brad Arst, Treasurer
Allan Epstein, Assistant Treasurer
Julie Follman, Secretary
Amy Knoblock-Hahn, Assistant Secretary
Jeff Brown, Member At Large
JoAnne Levy, Member At Large

Nominees were as follows.

First Three-Year Term:

Jenny Abeles, Benjamin Kozower, Brian Newman, Diane Fadem Packman, and Rachel Protzel

Second Three-Year Term:

Liz Buchman, Ed Goldberg, Matthew Meyers, Amanda Roodman, Steve Rosenblum, and Jeffrey Stern

Two-Year Term:

Kathy de la Garza Ortbals and Rob Epstein

Rob Litz entertained a motion to approve this slate of Board of Trustees, so moved by Jeffrey Stern and seconded by Carol Cohen. The Slate of Officers and Trustees has been approved and elected.

Rabbi Amy Feder and Rabbi Michael Alper offered a special blessing for the formal installation of the Board.

Motion to adjourn the 134th Annual Meeting made by Jeffrey Stern, and was seconded by Jan Nykin.

The 134th Annual Meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy de la Garza Ortbals, Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING, 2020



66 Know from where you came, where you are going...?

-Pirkei Avot

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



LOUISE LOSOS
PRESIDENT, 2020-PRESENT
president@ti-stl.org

This past year was one filled with great hope, great frustration, and everything in between. We started 2021 with excitement; news of the effective vaccines had us all scrambling to get on lists and looking to help family and friends gain access to what we believed would not only be lifesaving, but an opportunity to return to a sense of normality. As it turns out, it's not quite what we anticipated, but we've made it work, as so many have. As a Congregation, we have gone from completely virtual, to now, almost completely open, with mask requirements still in place.

While our building was closed, the work of the professional staff and lay leadership never stopped. As you've seen throughout our Temple communications, we have completed Phases 1, 2, 3a, and 3b of the Reimagining Campaign with only a final Phase 3c push to complete the work. Our education building looks amazing, and we look forward to raising the last \$1.6M.

We also entered this past year with an updated mission statement and seven core beliefs that define our Congregation and motivate and inform our decision-making and planning.

OUR MISSION

We know that each of us interacts with Judaism, Jewish practices, and Temple in our own ways. For some of us, it's informed by our particular Jewish upbringing and how we were raised. For others, perhaps coming to Judaism later in life or marrying a Jewish partner, or those coming to Reform Judaism from a different branch, or even from a different part of the country or world, your interaction with Judaism is just as unique. Each of us has our own journey within our Judaism, and TI is here for you along yours, so much so that we made it our mission.

Congregation is an inclusive community that supports your unique Jewish journey.

CORE BELIEFS

We've also spent the past 12 months dedicated to using TI's core

beliefs to consider, and reconsider, our work – to determine if an action fits what we believe as a community. Thanks to our Rabbis, professional staff, and lay leadership for steering our organization at every level through the lens of these seven principles that make us who we are.

Community

Everyone who chooses to be in our sacred community has a valued role, and authentic, personal relationships are the basis of a caring community.

Connection

We are connected to one another, to Israel, to the traditions of our past, and to the generations yet to come.

Inclusion

A diverse, inclusive community creates Jewish vibrancy, and we respect where everyone is on their personal path.

Learning

A Jewish education should begin with our youngest children. Lifelong Jewish learning encourages us to live examined lives and wrestle with life's challenges, and Temple Israel is a place to explore difficult questions at any age.

Worship

Worship should be participatory, joyful, musical, and intergenerational.

Repair of the World

It is our responsibility to live Jewishly in ways that change the world for the better.

Change

Being Reform Jews means valuing tradition as we constantly reexamine our faith and practice.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

We also spent a good portion of 2021 building a new Strategic Plan with four main pillars, each focused on key areas that 66 A person who takes a walk of 100 feet and a person who walks 2,000 miles have one major thing in common. They both need to take a first step before they can take a second step. ??

-Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

support our updated mission and core beliefs; Engagement, Philanthropy, Youth Programs, and Deutsch Early Childhood Center families. We know that for a Strategic Plan to be more than just a file on our computers, or a binder on our shelves, it needs to be actionable. And so, to create these workable roadmaps, four task forces with incredible lay leaders at the helm designed the following plans for each pillar.

Engagement

- Updating and refining lay structure for executing engagement work
- Improving new member engagement
- Creating connections outside the Temple walls
- Creating opportunities to come together over shared interests and passions

Philanthropy

- Revitalize our planned giving, The Heritage Society
- Evaluate our event strategy
- Shofar Society engagement
- Focus on cultivation and stewardship

Youth Programs

- Reopen TI's Religious School
- Flexible Hebrew School options
- Hire a vouth professional
- Consistent youth activity calendar
- Build an Education Committee

DECC Families

- Create more opportunities for DECC families to establish personal connections with our Rabbis
- Change our approach to mobilizing volunteers to help connect DECC and TI
- Utilize existing and new data to understand the makeup of the community

In 2021, we've begun to put portions of these plans into action. We've hired a new Youth Engagement Coordinator, created an updated committee structure, connected some of our Temple members to one another, and so much more. In the following pages of this annual report, you'll be able to read more about each pillar's work. If you're interested in participating in any of these pillars, please reach out to Rabbi Amy, or our Executive Director. Rachel Wallis Andreasson.

As we slowly come out of COVID restrictions, and as we gently dip our toes into the waters of "normalcy," I am honored to report that over these past two years we have seen our community grow together, we have used our time well, and we are focused on our future.

Todah rabah to our Rabbis, professional staff, lay leaders, and each member of Temple Israel for making this community feel like family.

L'chaim to 2021 and to a successful year ahead,

Louise Losos

Louis Loss

STRATEGIC PLAN ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT PILLAR

Our Engagement Pillar was tasked with reallocating resources and time to better deliver our passion for increasing engagement among TI members. The group identified four key areas of focus and created an action plan to better build community, from the first TI interaction through long-time membership, by enhancing our connection to one another in and outside of the Temple walls and providing a clear path to meaningful and accessible leadership opportunities.

ACTION PLAN

Updating and refining our lay structure for executing engagement work

Committee involvement is a valuable form of engagement and relationship-building. Though staff help to implement our mission, it's the vision and leadership of our Temple members that really shape the congregation's future. To create access points to leadership, we have:

Grouped committees into two categories – Mission-Based and Operational – to more clearly define their work and offer a broad array of opportunities for those with particular skill sets or the passion to create, contribute, and serve.

Set a process for recruitment to inspire members to share their talents and passions, as well as a process for succession planning to create opportunities for those who want to take on new leadership roles.

Identified a clear reporting structure so that our Board, committee members, and staff can cohesively plan for the year to come as a larger team.

Find out more about our Mission-Based and Operational committees at **www.ti-stl.org/Committees**.

Improving new member engagement

It can feel intimidating to join a new community, and we want to ensure that our prospective and newer members feel as welcome and comfortable as those who already consider TI their spiritual home. To ensure that we are connecting with everyone from their first interactions, we have:

Formed a group of "TI Ambassadors" who will connect with prospective and new members so that everyone who chooses to explore membership at TI has new friends supporting their journey.

Interested in becoming at TI Ambassador, reach out to Rabbi Amy at **afeder@ti-stl.org**.

Creating connections outside of the Temple walls

Many TI members live right around the corner from one

another, some of whom we may already know and others who we haven't yet met. Though TI is our community's center for Jewish life, we often don't have the chance to connect outside of Temple, which is where many of our most authentic and personal relationships are formed. To connect us all and build relationships outside of TI, we have:

Created groups of 10-15 Temple members who live within the same neighborhoods so that we can share community and connection with those who live close-by. Whether to share a Shabbat dinner, take a walk on a sunny day, or join each other for services or programs at TI, having connection and friendship with fellow Temple-goers right by home creates a deeper connection to the larger community.

Someone from your very own community will be reaching out in the year to come to say hello!

Creating opportunities to come together over shared interests and passions

Love fishing at Creve Coeur Lake with the family on Shabbat mornings? Frequenting sushi spots around town? Studying the commentary of the Talmud and in need of a few - or many - other opinions? We know that so many of our members are looking for like-minded new friends or other families to connect with who share our passions, life stage, or common interests. To facilitate these connections, we have:

Identified a few TI members to start Chavurahs, which are groups of families or individuals who get together on a regular basis to celebrate Jewish life and/or connect to enjoy shared interests.

Created Jewish resources, such as a Shabbat dinner toolkit, to help base a first Chavurah meeting around our shared passion for celebration.

If you're interested in joining or forming a Chavurah, reach out to Rabbi Amy at **afeder@ti-stl.org.**

The Engagement Committee's work in 2022 will focus on building these programs and opportunities.

Engagement Pillar Task Force

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Lederman and Michael Weiss.

Committee: Burt Bromberg, Jeff Brown, David Chassin, Carol Cohen, Kathy de la Garza Ortbals, Martha Kreipke, Benjamin Kozower, Amy Lampert, and Dee Mogerman

Staff Liaisons: Rabbi Amy Feder and Erin Wolfman May



PHILANTHROPY PILLAR

Our Philanthropy Pillar was tasked to increase our cultivation efforts with our members to encourage greater philanthropic support for the congregation. Temple Israel has been in existence since 1886 and the only way it has been able to grow, prosper, and live out its mission is through the generosity and support of its membership. Giving comes from the heart and from those who feel most engaged, and so we've identified several key activities to help reach this goal.

ACTION PLAN

Revitalize our Planned Giving program, The Heritage Society

Some of the most financially impactful endowments have been left as a bequest to the Congregation. Those same endowments are what helps sustain us today. Our plan is to celebrate the historical planned gifts and to encourage our members to let us know if TI is already included in their will so we can celebrate those individuals, too.

For more information on this program go to: www.ti-stl.org/HeritageSociety

Co-Chairs: Liz Kaplan Goldenberg and Steven Rosenblum

Staff Liaison: Lisa Hirshberg

Evaluate our event strategy

We are always giving our members an opportunity to give back to our community in a way that is meaningful for them while also realizing that it can feel like a lot of "asks". We want to put more focus on our fundraising objectives and create more proactive communication so that members can align their philanthropic giving towards a program or activity that is closest to his/her passion.

Co-Chairs: Cindy Frank **Staff Liaison:** Martina Stern

The Shofar Society engagement

One of the ways that we can give tzedakah and help Temple Israel is by being a member of our Shofar Society. In 1946, TI became one of the first Congregations in the country to eliminate the minimum dues policy, and this means that we never turn anyone away from membership due to financial reasons. To support this philosophy, the Shofar Society was formed in 1989 and honors its members who volunteered to give at a level above standard support. The focus of this initiative is to encourage other members to join Shofar Society and show our appreciation by hosting meaningful events throughout the year to increase community engagement.

Co-Chairs: Amy Knoblock-Hahn & Robert Hahn and

Claire Schenk & Richard Greenberg **Staff Liaison:** Martina Stern

Focus on cultivation and stewardship

To ensure we have processes in place that thank and recognize those who give to TI, we aim to cast the net wide so each person in our community has an opportunity to give in a way that is meaningful and impactful. We're creating ways to reach out members that ensures that TI has the right tools and resources to do proper follow-up. A key initiative will be to focus on endowments, both how we encourage future gifts, and how we thank and inform families who have created an endowment.

Co-Chairs: Bobby Sanderson and Robin Feder **Staff Liaison:** Rachel Wallis Andreasson

To be involved in any of these key activities, or to find out more, please contact Rachel Wallis Andreasson, Executive Director, at:

randreasson@ti-stl.org

Philanthropy Pillar Task Force

Co-Chairs: Bobby Sanderson and Ron Van Fleet

Committee: Patty Bloom, Liz Buchman, Robin Feder, Korina Gabrielson, Liz Kaplan Goldenberg, Jordan Mandel,

Steve Rosenblum, Jeffrey Stern

Staff Liaisons: Martina Stern and Rachel Wallis Andreasson



DEUTSCH EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER FAMILIES PILLAR

Our DECC Families Pillar was tasked with capitalizing on our renovation, create greater integration among our preschool families and the larger TI community. The group identified four key areas of focus and created an action plan to better utilize our congregational resources and improve the connections between our Temple and DECC.

ACTION PLAN

Create more opportunities for DECC families to establish personal connections with our Rabbis

Building relationships with the Rabbis is a critical component of helping DECC students and families feel that they have a place at TI beyond the school setting. We plan to increase opportunities for students to connect with the Rabbis by having consistent, frequent chances for casual interaction during carpool and on Friday morning Shabbat, when parents are often in the building.

We also recognize that in non-COVID times, Tot Shabbats are our prime opportunity for gathering, yet the Rabbis often need to leave early to run Shabbat services, leaving little time for schmoozing. We plan to work with the Worship Experience Committee to adjust service times on Tot Shabbat evenings, so there is increased time for relationship building.

Change our approach to mobilizing volunteers to help connect DECC and TI

DECC parents are a wonderful resource for volunteers in the school, yet our approach has not always been feasible for dual-career families. In the past ten years, as our school has expanded, and increased flexibility, the number of dual-career families has increased as well, and many would like to be included. To be inclusive and benefit from the skills and generosity of DECC parents, we plan to schedule meetings for times beyond the typical workday and continue the use of Zoom.

We also want to create new pathways to allow parent voices to be heard, including restructuring the Parent Board, and evaluating the creation of a committee on young family engagement.

Utilize existing and new data to understand the makeup of the community

Our new database, Shulcloud, allows us to explore new ways of looking at data about our students. The more we know about our current families, the better we can serve their needs, but so too, we should be cognizant of why families chose DECC in the first place, or why they might leave. Tracking data

regarding valuable information, such as whether families are members, Jewish-unaffiliated, Jewish-affiliated elsewhere, or non-Jewish, helps us better know our community. We also plan to explore existing and new opportunities to gather and track retention at TI including surveys and exit interviews to see how we might continue to improve.

Many of our opportunities for community building at DECC have been limited because of COVID. However, when public health permits, we plan to host a "grand opening" for DECC and TI families to see the new facility.

DECC's committee's work in 2022 will focus on building these programs and opportunities.

DECC Families Pillar Task Force

Co-Chairs: Beth Deutsch and Julie Sandler

Committee: Sara Bernstein, Sarah Falkoff, Elizabeth Lieberman,

Brian Newman, Becky Pearson, and Janie Spirtas **Staff Liaisons:** Lesley Goldenberg and Leslie Wolf



TOT SHABBATS

Preschool-age focused Shabbat services held prior to regular Shabbat services periodically throughout the year; children and their families enjoy music and time with the Rabbis followed by dinner



YOUTH PROGRAMS PILLAR

Our Youth Programs Pillar was tasked with developing and launching transformative youth programs for children in elementary, middle, and high school that enhance our value proposition to families.

ACTION PLAN

Reopening Religious School

After a difficult year of youth programming and education due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our initial goals were based on getting school up and running. By August 2021, we hoped to open Temple Israel Religious School in person on Sundays for K-10, with appropriate COVID protocols in place, and were highly successful in bringing students back. We also incorporated virtual elements to be inclusive to those families who felt most comfortable not always being in the building.

Flexible Hebrew School

Last year confirmed a suspicion we've had for years, that small Hebrew groups were more effective for learning. Beginning in August, we also opened a Hebrew program on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays with small groups, and it has already proven successful in meeting the needs of parents and students.

Youth Professional

A critical part of our plans depended on being able to hire a youth professional, a role that had been difficult to fill. We are thrilled to announce that Maya Poger began as our full-time Youth Engagement Coordinator in October 2021, and has already connected with students and their families, as well as hosted a TIFTY kickoff event for teens.

Education Committee

We plan to create an Education Committee, including members that represent the invested constituencies, to be a support to teachers and staff, provide necessary information for parents and students, and serve as a volunteer base for educational programming.

The Youth Engagement Committee's work in 2022 will focus on building these programs and opportunities.

Youth Programs Pillar Task Force

Co-Chairs: Amy Cohen and Jerry Thomeczek

Committee: Jenny Abeles, Claudia Hall, Ruth Block, Rachel Protzel, Debbie Schultz, Michele Steinberg, and Amy Weinhaus **Staff Liaisons:** Rabbi Michael Alper and Lesley Goldenberg



66 As a young child, I was extremely proud of my faith; I wanted to share every aspect of it with all of my friends and classmates. Today, I'm excited to instill that pride in the youth of our community so that they, too, can use it to spread love and peace in the world.

Maya Poger, Youth Engagement Coordinator

mpoger@ti-stl.org | 314-432-8076

TIFTY

First TIFTY Youth Group event of the year planned by Maya called Skits & S'mores had a great turnout



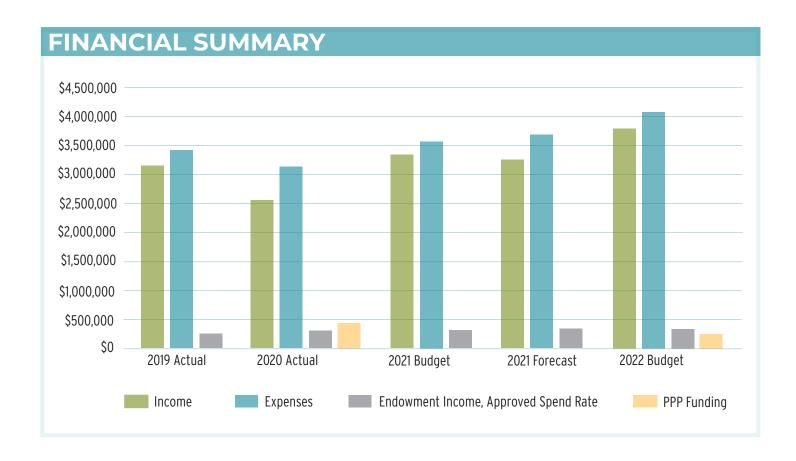




FINANCE & INVESTMENT

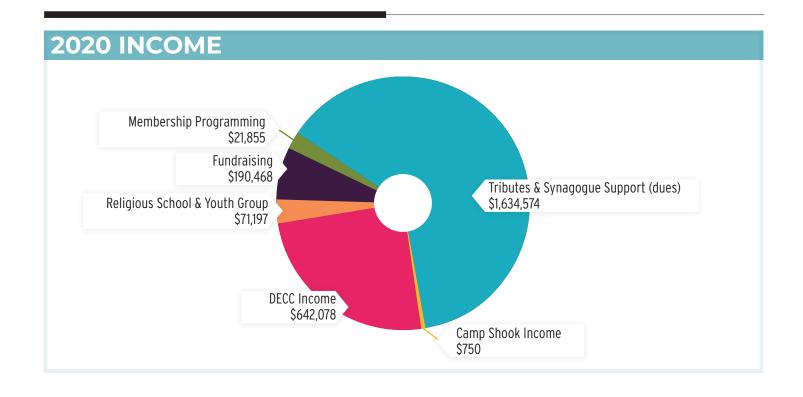
2020-22 BUDGET OVERVIEW

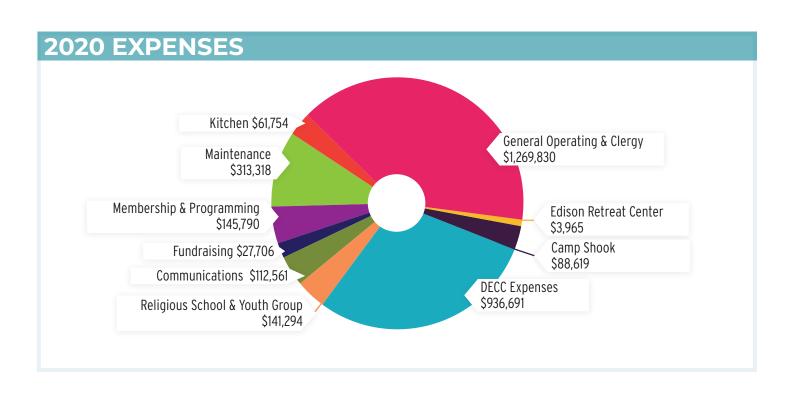
Congregation Temple Israel operates on a calendar year, and it is the Board's fiduciary responsibility to pass a balanced budget each year. Due to COVID-19, there was a two-year audit for 2019 and 2020 conducted in 2021. In 2020 and 2021, Temple Israel qualified for PPP (Payroll Protection Program) funds. In 2020, the amount received was 100% forgiven by the SBA (Small Business Association). The Board of Trustees will decide what forgiveness to apply for from 2021 PPP funds in the first part of 2022. The 2022 Budget was approved by the Board on October 26, 2021.



Due to the significant changes caused by COVID-19 for 2021 financials, we chose to highlight the breakdown of the 2020 Actual. See the pie charts on the adjacent page for a breakdown.

We are greatly appreciative of the time spent by our Treasurer, Brad Arst, the Chair of our Finance Committee, Allan Epstein, as well as our Finance Committee for their guidance and expertise.





2021 HIGHLIGHTS

A love letter to our Temple Israel community:

To the 949 individuals and families who make up TI's membership and school, **you are the true highlight of 2021!** Thank you for always sticking together through the toughest, and most joyous, of times. We are grateful for your friendship, your support, and the vibrant and welcoming community that each of you play an integral role in creating for us all.

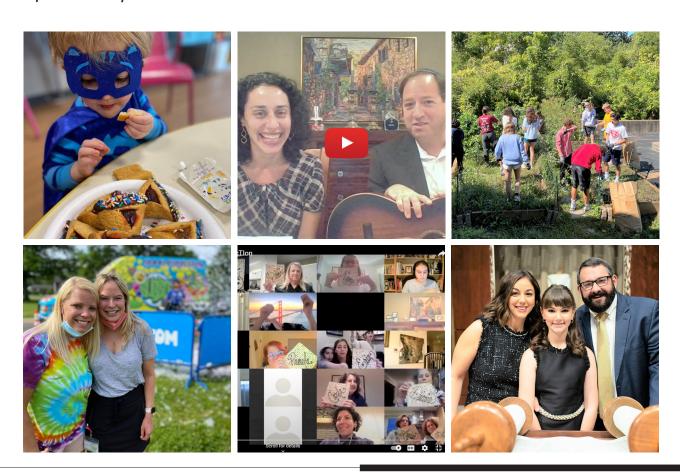
This year, you've shown up, both on Zoom and social media, as well as in person for worship, for learning and events, to celebrate simchas, and to mourn those we've lost over the past 12 months. You've been here for committee meetings and to plan for Tl's future. You've trusted us to keep your children and grandchildren safe and healthy as they've attended Preschool and Religious School during a pandemic and have been understanding and incredibly supportive through some of the most difficult decisions we've ever had to make as a synagogue. And when we needed you most, whether to support other Temple members who were struggling or to help us meet our fundraising goals, you've continued to go above and beyond.

As we look forward to a bright and healthy year ahead, we know that there is nothing we can't accomplish or overcome together. Temple Israel is more than just the name of the place where we choose to explore our Judaism, it's an extension of our family. You belong at TI, and we belong to you.

We are here for you, now and always, and there are so many ways in which you can get involved again, or for the very first time, as our doors open back up to full capacity over the coming months. Reach out to our Rabbis for a chat, connect with other members in person or on TI's social media, check out the upcoming events on our website calendar, volunteer in any capacity that interests you, or hop on one of our many committees that run the business or fulfill our mission.

Wherever you are along your Jewish journey, we are filled with gratitude and pride that you choose to share your Judaism here with us. Love,

Your Temple Israel family





THE SHOFAR SOCIETY



The following members of our Rabbis' Circle and Shofar Society voluntarily contribute at levels that exceed standard dues. **Their generous gifts represent 48% of our annual revenue from synagogue support**, helping us to bridge the gap between dues income and operating expenses and enabling us to welcome all who seek to join our congregation, regardless of their financial means.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our Rabbis' Circle and Shofar Society members for their generosity. If you would like to join the Rabbis' Circle or Shofar Society, please contact Rachel Wallis Andreasson, Executive Director, at **randreasson@ti-stl.org** or **314-548-9743**.

(*) Denotes new members of the Rabbis' Circle or the Shofar Society

(**) Denotes moving up a level

RABBIS' CIRCLE

HILLEL

Sam & Marilyn Fox Irving & Sue Levy

AKIBA

Thomas & Rachel Andreasson
June R. Bierman
Harold & Elaine Blatt
Gene & Lee Deutsch
Jack & Ellen Deutsch
Jeremy & Marni Deutsch
Jonathan & Jennifer Deutsch**
Hope Edison

Allan & Susie Epstein
Earl & Essie Kessler
Howard Lesser
Judy Levy
Michael & Lecie Lowenbaum
Cary & Dee Mogerman
Jay & Heather Padratzik
Mark & Jen Rubenstein

Daniel & Joanne Schwartz Adam & Emily Wallis Jason Wallis Lynn Wallis Howard & Bonnie Weiss Vivian Zwick

SHOFAR SOCIETY

TEKIAH GEDOLAH

Gordon & Terry Bloomberg David & Beth Deutsch** Susan Goldberg Mort Green

TERUAH

Leonard & Audrey Adreon Donald Blum Eric & Elaine Bly Bob & Ellen Brin Fred & Barbara Flegel** Ed & Dorette Goldberg Joe Goldberg Alice Handelman Norman & Barbara Hausfater Nancy Kalishman Gary & Fran Lazaroff

Kenneth & Helen Goldstein Neil & Natalie Handelman Connie Levy Mont & Karen Levy Larry & Liz Linkon Neil & Ricki Marglous Joy Melman Larry & Patty Malashock Noma Simon & Bob Stone Michael Weiss**

Steve & Leslie Melnick Bruce & Caryn Sandweiss Arnie & Sandra Spirtas Chad & Sarah Wallis** Lenny & Marty Weinstock Barbara Wielansky

SHEVARIM

David & Martha Aronson Keith & Hui Hua Bernstein

Marcia Bernstein Susan Bernstein Jim & Robin Blatt Ivan & Linda Blumoff Jeffrey & Katie Brodsky Ed & Carol Cohen Pamela Dern

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And in the year ahead, we will continue to be

HERE FOR YOU, TOO.

L'chaim to 2022!

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WE ARE SO CLOSE TO OUR GOAL TO FINISH THE EDUCATION CENTER RENOVATION!

The Tilles Foundation

As our teachers stand at the school entrance, warmly welcoming students eager and excited to begin their Preschool or Religious School studies in our newly renovated, safe, and secure building, we know that our children may never know everything that went into making this beautiful space. They don't know how much tremendous generosity it took - almost entirely from people they may never even meet - but the investment our donors have made will impact the lives of generations of students, making our congregation, and our greater community, a place filled with mensches who will pass down our Jewish tradition.

We are closer than ever to our fundraising goal, and in these final months, we ask for your support in any amount that feels right to you to finish the school!

Learn more, download the brochure, or join the campaign at: www.ti-stl.org/Reimagining







ABOUT US

MISSION

CONGREGATION TEMPLE ISRAEL is an inclusive community that supports your unique Jewish journey.

CORE BELIEFS

COMMUNITY

We believe that everyone who chooses to be in our sacred community has a valued role.

We believe that authentic, personal relationships are the basis of a caring community.

CONNECTION

We believe that we are connected to one another, to Israel, to the traditions of our past, and to the generations yet to come.

INCLUSION

We believe that a diverse, inclusive community creates Jewish vibrancy, and we respect where everyone is on their personal path.

LEARNING

We believe that a Jewish education should begin with our youngest children.

We believe that lifelong Jewish learning encourages us to live examined lives and wrestle with life's challenges, and that Temple Israel is a place to explore difficult questions at any age.

WORSHIP

We believe that worship should be participatory, joyful, musical, and intergenerational.

REPAIR OF THE WORLD

We believe that it is our responsibility to live Jewishly in ways that change the world for the better.

CHANGE

We believe that being Reform Jews means valuing tradition as we constantly reexamine our faith and practice.



