

B”H

Temple Sholom of Pompano Beach
132 SE 11th Ave.
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Dear Friend of Temple Sholom,

We are very pleased and honored to write you regarding membership in our congregation, which has existed since the late 1950s. Our temple is big enough to offer world-class programs, yet small enough to be a *K’hal Kodesh*—a Community of Holiness. And that is why we are writing you.

Our goal and vision for Temple Sholom is based on the Covenant which God made with our ancestors Abraham and Sarah, generations ago. Jews make very poor hermits; that is why we choose to band together in synagogues. We may belong to health clubs or buyers’ clubs, for example; these are transactional, meaning that we utilize our hard-earned money in order to receive a product or service.

Synagogues are different. When Ezekiel founded the first synagogue in Babylonia about 2600 years ago, he wished to create a building where Jews could gather and offer prayers in place of the sacrifices they had made in the then-destroyed Holy Temple. Certainly, our synagogue does the same: our cantor lifts his sweet and melodious voice in prayer at every Shabbat and holiday service, and our rabbi is quick to explain the meaning of the prayers we utter, as well as offer an appropriate *d’var Torah*—sermon.

A synagogue, in order to fulfill its original and time-honored purpose of providing a spiritual home for Jews, must offer regularly-scheduled religious services. Our congregation features perhaps the only daily minyan-service in the area, and is convenient for anyone needing to say the Mourner’s Kaddish, or simply join in communal worship. We are happy to supply both *tallit*—prayer shawl—and *tefillin*—phylacteries. We are also, of course, entirely and proudly egalitarian, with a strong outreach to our gay fellow Jews.

We also offer discussion groups of many kinds, from Current Events to Jewish Spirituality. We are adult-oriented, meaning that our services and groups are geared for people who have a certain amount of life experience and may wish to share it. Our services are both lively and spirited, with lots of congregational participation. If you wish to fulfill your life’s dream of reading or chanting a haftorah—Prophetic Portion—on Shabbat, we will be happy to assist you and offer guidance. The same applies to other parts of the service, as well.

And, of course, we end every service with cake and a schmooze in our spacious Social Hall, where we enjoy communal meals several times a year.

As we stated above, our congregation is far from being a “transactional community” of the sort to which you may belong, elsewhere. We are spiritual and educational, and we are

always happy to make new friends, while keeping the old. We do hope that you will consider favorably our request for your donation, and look forward to greeting you as a friend of Temple Sholom.

Wishing you and yours a most Happy and Healthy New Year 5780,

Rabbi David Hartley Mark
Spiritual Leader

Cantor Javier Smolarz
Prayer Leader

Rita Fleming-Klein
President