

Temple Shalom

One family, many connections

June 8, 2020

Dear Friends,

In 2017, Temple Shalom took a brave step forward into the 21st century with the L'Shalom voluntary pledge system. This model aligned us with our Jewish values and strengthened our sense of One Family. L'Shalom draws inspiration from Torah, where we read that the Israelites overwhelmed Moses with their generosity when asked to make gifts from their hearts for the Mishkan, the mobile worship center. We, too, are in awe of your response to this approach. Our membership has grown by more than 250 households since the start of L'Shalom! We met our goals each year for the funds necessary to sustain our congregation, fulfill the needs of members, provide a Jewish education for the future generations, and further enhance the relational nature of our Temple. This year, we added Rabbi Ariel Boxman to our clergy team to further enhance our youth and adult education programs, as well as to meet our growing lifecycle needs. Our impact goes beyond our congregation – we are thrilled by our partnership with Federation to create a campus for Jewish life.

The Spring of 2020 brought an experience that no one anticipated. Concerned for the health and safety of our One Family in the era of COVID-19, we transitioned in March from a physical community to a synagogue without walls. Our virtual community blossomed with hundreds watching Shabbat services, participating in classes, attending concerts, and staying connected online. This success was made possible by the ongoing generosity of our congregation. At the same time, we recognize that some members now face new financial challenges. Our clergy continues to provide assistance and comfort to those in need.

We believe in the power of our One Family, and that we are stronger together. Our L'Shalom pledge program continues this year. Recognizing the rising costs of security, safety and cleaning, as well as the rising needs of our now 780 household congregation, the recommended sustaining level will increase this year to \$1,250 per adult (\$2,500 for a household with two adults). This amount was carefully determined by the Temple finance committee, and then reviewed by the Temple Shalom Board of Trustees.

As a vital part of our Temple Shalom family, we gratefully thank you in advance for your ongoing investment of your time, talent and resources in Temple Shalom. We ask that your pledge reflect what your heart feels and what you can afford. Know that any amount that you pledge above the sustaining amount will be recognized as a contribution to Above & Beyond.

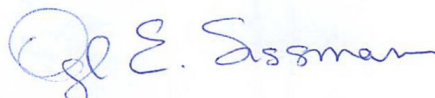
Enclosed are your L'Shalom pledge form and a reply envelope. Please review the enclosed materials. If you have questions or need further clarification, contact Deborah Fidel, Executive Director, at 239-455-3030. We ask that you return your pledge form by July 15, 2020. As we have done in prior years, if we do not hear from you by June 30th, we will assume that you are making your pledge at the sustaining level.

We look forward to your active engagement in Temple Shalom's One Family for years to come.

L'Shalom,



Rabbi Adam F. Miller



Daryl Sissman, President



Deborah R. Fidel, Executive Director

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2020-2021 L'Shalom Pledge

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please make any necessary updates to the information above.

- We are pleased to make a *L'Shalom* pledge for 2020-2021 at the sustaining level of \$2,500 (two or more adult household).
- I am pleased to make a *L'Shalom* pledge for 2020-2021 at the sustaining level of \$1,250 (single adult household).
- I/We are pleased to make a *L'Shalom* pledge for 2020-2021 in the amount of \$ _____.

Amounts pledged above the sustaining amount will be contributed to Above & Beyond.

Signature(s)

Date

Please return your signed pledge card in the envelope provided by Wednesday, July 15, 2020.
If we do not hear from you by July 15 we will assume that you are making your pledge at the sustaining level.

Tear off the section below and retain for your records.

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Temple  Shalom

Fiscal year 2020-2021 *L'Shalom* Pledge

I/We pledged \$ _____ to help sustain Temple Shalom, fulfill the needs of members and further enhance the relational nature of the Temple Shalom One Family.