



Congregation Temple Israel

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Mission Statement

Congregation Temple Israel is a caring, inclusive community committed to living Reform Judaism and participating in the sacred destiny of the Jewish people and Israel through education, worship and repair of the world.

The Vision for Congregation Temple Israel

Since its founding in 1886, Temple Israel has been a leading synagogue within Reform Judaism and the Midwestern United States. Our legacy is the product of a deep love of God, Torah and the Jewish people, and of the generosity, commitment, and vision which such love engenders. Continuing our pursuit of excellence and well-being, and building upon our Strategic Plan, the following represents our vision for Congregation Temple Israel as we look to the future.

Our caring shall know no limits.

We aspire to rejoice in each other's triumphs, support each other in their sorrows, and nurture each other on our paths to spirituality and wholeness. We aspire to be a community where strangers become friends and friends become family. As in every family, we aspire for every member to perform deeds of loving-kindness for each other and the community as a whole.

Our inclusiveness shall be unqualified.

We aspire to be an inclusive community in which everyone feels honored and loved for who they are, regardless of interfaith status, sexual orientation, race, age, or gender.

Our Judaism shall be living and nourishing to the soul.

We aspire for Judaism to be relevant, meaningful and central in the lives of our congregants. Therefore, we shall enable and encourage each other to engage fully in study, worship, deeds of loving-kindness, and other primary expressions of living Judaism. As individuals and collectively, we shall support our community of living Judaism with generosity and fullness of heart. Moreover, just as we seek to conduct our personal lives with compassion, integrity, and responsibility, so too shall we conduct the business of the synagogue with compassion, integrity, and fiscal responsibility. In all these ways, we shall lead lives of holiness and fidelity to God and Torah.

Our love of the Jewish people and Israel shall be overflowing.

Recognizing that all Jews are responsible for each other, we aspire to teach and model *Ahavat Yisrael* - love for the Jewish people -- to children and adults alike.

Acknowledging our sacred partnership with one another, we shall pledge our talents and resources to assure the well-being of our synagogue community.

Understanding the miracle that is the State of Israel, we shall rejoice in its existence and draw it near to our hearts through ritual, learning, celebration, and pilgrimages for youth and adults alike.

Appreciating our commitment to Reform Judaism, we shall participate actively in the Reform Movement and build up Reform Judaism in Israel and throughout the world.

Expecting that our Jewish brothers and sisters honor and respect our beliefs and practices, we shall honor and respect theirs as well.

Our education shall prepare and inspire us to engage in living Judaism.

Education being integral to living Jewish lives, we shall commit ourselves to serious Jewish study over the entire course of our lives. As well, we shall aspire to offer abundant and high-quality learning opportunities for our entire community.

Our worship shall bring the Divine Presence into our midst and nourish our souls.

Called to be a holy people, our worship shall enable us to encounter the Divine and create a holy community. Called to love God with all of our heart, soul and might, our worship shall appeal to all aspects of our being -- the spiritual, the emotional, and the intellectual.

Our call to holiness shall animate us to engage in tikkun olam - repair of the world.

Endeavoring to become a light to the nations, we shall answer the prophetic call to social and economic justice, environmental stewardship, understanding through interfaith dialogue, deeds of loving-kindness and peace. Accordingly, we commit the fullness of our hearts, souls, and material resources to the realization of those exalted ideals.

In these ways and more, we shall be *a kehilah kedoshah* - a holy community.

Adopted July 10, 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
December 11, 2009

As my third year of serving as president of our 123 year old Congregation comes to a close, I am better able to appreciate the rich history of our institution, and understand how this has transformed us into the Congregation that we are today.

I am grateful and honored to have been able to lead our Congregation's Board of Trustees and am humbled to be nominated to serve for a 4th and final year, as your president.

Although the journey has not always been easy, and the road often more rugged than hoped for, my job as president has been made easier by the able assistance of an outstanding group of fine men and women who comprise the Executive Committee. Their counsel, advice, wisdom, and the open and honest debate that we have about the Temple have been valuable beyond measure. I would like to thank each of them at this time including: David Chassin (Vice President of Facilities), Yale Hollander (Vice President of Membership), Ken Kraus (Vice President of Strategic Planning), JoAnne Levy (Vice President of Social Responsibility), Larry Linkon (Vice President of Fundraising), Carol Cohen (Secretary, with responsibilities overseeing education), Diana Rothbarth (Assistant Secretary, with an active leadership role in membership and fundraising), Ellen Brin (Treasurer), Michael Weiss (Assistant Treasurer), Cathy Goldsticker (who coordinates and oversees several Special Projects) and Cary Mogergerman (Chair of the Rabbinic Transition Committee).

I would also like to thank our Board of Trustees who have made many courageous decisions concerning our Temple's future and have provided important direction to the Executive Committee concerning operations and management of our Congregation. I also want to thank our many committee chairs for their work and dedication to the Temple, since the committees are where the real work of our Congregation is carried out. Our three rabbis, Rabbi Mark Shook, Rabbi Amy Feder and Rabbi Michael Alper, and our professional staff including: our Executive Director, Eli Montague; our Director of Education, Deborah Morosohk; our DECC Director, Leslie Wolf; our Livnot Campaign Coordinator and staff liaison for fundraising, Carol Wolf Solomon; as well our Membership and Communication Director, Victoria Siegel; also deserve my sincere thanks for all their hard work for our Congregation. Our many conversations and meetings, often at off-hours to accommodate my work schedule, have also been greatly appreciated. I also want to acknowledge the leaders of our youth groups and our many pre-school, religious school and Hebrew school teachers. Lastly, I'd like to say thank-you to our administrative, maintenance and kitchen staffs for all that they do behind the scenes on a daily basis to keep our Temple running smoothly.

This past year at Temple Israel has been both challenging and fulfilling at the same time. We are preparing to say goodbye to Rabbi Shook who has announced his plan to retire on July 1, 2010. Although, he will remain in St. Louis and continue to serve our Congregation as our Rabbi Emeritus, change in senior leadership is always challenging. I anticipate that the Rabbinic Transition Committee will be completing their search and will be forthcoming with a recommendation to the Board of Trustees for Rabbi Shook's successor in the very near future. The recommendation of our next Senior Rabbi, if agreed to by the Board of Trustees, will then need ratification by the entire congregation at a special congregational meeting. Cary Mogergerman, a past president of our Congregation, is chairing the Rabbinic Transition Committee, while Past President Gary Follman, along with past Board members Joyce Follman, Judy Levy, and current Board member Dr. Jerry Levy, are co-chairing the planning committee for Rabbi Shook's celebration weekend scheduled for June 4 – June 6.

This past year, we said goodbye to Gloria Lieberman as the Director of the Deutsch Early Childhood Center. Gloria ably led the school for 17 years, helping to create not only a warm and nurturing environment for our children but a first class pre-kindergarten program that has served as a model for many other pre-schools in the area. Under Gloria's leadership, the DECC was reaccredited by the State of Missouri in March of 2009 and received glowing reviews from the state reviewers as well.

As we said goodbye to Gloria and wished her well in her future endeavors, we also said hello to Leslie Wolf who came to us from the Ladue Early Childhood Center. Under Leslie's leadership, the DECC has already seen some wonderful additions to the school and we anticipate a growth in enrollment in the near future as well.

With the departure of our Cantor this last year, we have experienced changes in our style of worship. As a "Friday night regular", I can vouch for the fact that we have moved to a more participatory style of music and worship. Hearing the Congregation sing as a community is powerful and moving. Rabbi Feder's beautiful voice; the Jewish folk band, HaShemesh, that joins us monthly for Shabbat services; as well as our monthly Shabbat B'Shir and Kabbalat Shabbat services, have also provided beautiful participatory musical experiences to our worship services over the last year.

Our Facilities Planning Committee, chaired by David Rosenberg, oversaw the completion of the new roof around the lower portion of the main building and sanctuary, which was completed earlier this year. We continue to raise money for the replacement of the upper roof over the sanctuary and social hall at this time, as well as the roof over the education building. Although the fundraising, called our Hineni initiative, is going slower than desired, this effort is critical to keep our building dry, and we are committed to raising the funds to complete the new roofs. We hope that our campaign will regain momentum in the months ahead as the economy continues to rebound, and we hope that our campaign will build on the excitement and momentum of naming Rabbi Shook's successor.

Religious School parents, under the leadership of Susan Goldberg, took our building campaign to heart and organized and initiated a grass-roots campaign among religious school parents to raise money for the roof over the religious school building. Their initiative, appropriately named "Raise the Roof", is now under way. Vice President for Fundraising Larry Linkon and staff member Carol Solomon have been intimately involved in all of these fundraising activities and their leadership and guidance are sincerely appreciated.

Our Tikkun Olam Committee, chaired by Judy Jacks and Pamela Dern, planned many activities throughout the year, providing more congregants an opportunity to be involved in Tikkun Olam (repair of the world).

In addition, over the past year, we have had many successful community building and educational events at the Temple. Perhaps the highlight of them all was the Belgian dinner and lecture in June by our congregant, Ambassador Sam Fox, titled "Sam Fox Unplugged and Off the Record".

We have also had many successful fundraising events including our annual golf outing, chaired this year by Rob Epstein, Jim Eiseman, and Bradley Sachs; and the congregant's dinner and social gala known as "Satire Night Live" featuring the Courthouse Steps, a group of singing attorneys who poke fun at national and local events. My many thanks to Judy Lewis and Diana Rothbarth for organizing and chairing this event.

Drs. Keith and Hui Hua Bernstein chaired our first ever Temple Israel wine tasting event with much hard work also invested by Cathy Rothstein, Adam Wallis and Diana Rothbarth.

Despite all of these efforts and activities, increasing our revenues remains one of our greatest challenges in the years ahead. This is no different than what most other congregations, both locally and nationally, are experiencing at this time. I believe that we are currently laying the groundwork with both new membership, and retention of membership initiatives, as well as additional fundraising, and a more appropriate dues structure and policy, for a successful future as we prepare to transition to a new Senior Rabbi.

In closing, I would like to say a special thanks to all of you who have given voluntarily of your time and expertise to Temple Israel this past year. We are fortunate to have such a diversity of talented and committed congregants who make the work we do not only easier but more enjoyable. With your talents and efforts, and the leadership of our Board of Trustees, coupled with our dedicated rabbinic and professional staff, I believe that our future will continue to get brighter in the years ahead.

David L. Weinstein, M.D.
President of the Board of Trustees

RABBI SHOOK's MESSAGE

Dear Members of congregation Temple Israel:

Each week brings minor and major reminders of my pending retirement. This is my last Annual Report as your Senior Rabbi.

It is all my fault. I brought the idea of an Annual Report to our president many years ago. A written Annual Report to the congregation began in the 1990's as a way to shorten the Annual Meeting. Our constitution required a presentation by every committee chair on the work of their committee. If a written report were provided, this would streamline the number of presentations at a public meeting.

Given the Law of Unintended Consequences, our Annual Report accomplished much more than a shorter Annual Meeting. It became a vehicle for keeping the entire congregation informed of our programs, not just the attendees at the meeting itself. It has also become a marker of where we failed and where we accomplished. It became a valuable planning tool and source of information. Most importantly, the Annual Report was a very visible reminder of just how many great things Temple Israel accomplishes each year and the large number of members who give freely of their time to serve on and do the work of its committees.

This Annual Report is no exception. Despite our financial setbacks, we have endured and strengthened the congregation for its future success. Our work is never finished, but it would be a huge mistake to imagine that we do not affect lives in very important ways. As always, I ask you to take the time. Read the report. Become knowledgeable in the work of our Temple community.

We move on. Thank you for all of your support these past 22 years.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Mark L. Shook

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

Temple Israel's Education programs strive to provide an understanding of Reform Judaism and instill pride in our Jewish heritage. Our programs seek to engage our community, promoting an enduring relationship with God and the Jewish people through worship, Torah study, and the performance of acts of loving kindness. We encourage individuals to develop their unique Jewish identities through lifelong learning.

In 2009 the Adult Education Committee, under the new leadership of Jennifer Hartranft, continued to work with the Director of Education to review and make recommendations concerning all the Adult Education programs of our congregation.

In addition to several returning offerings, the committee added a movie and discussion to the line up. Several people enjoyed viewing *The Band's Visit*, a highly acclaimed Israeli film and engaged in a terrific discussion led by committee members.

Programming for the 2009-2010 academic year is in full swing with the following programs:

- **Shabbat Morning Bible Study** – The rabbis lead study of various texts at 9:45 a.m., prior to Saturday services.
- **Hebrew Classes** – Debbie Morosohk conducts two classes, Modern Hebrew and Biblical Hebrew.
- **Sunday Series** – Our rabbis each conduct a three-week course that meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 11:15 a.m. Rabbi Alper presented courses on Reform Zionism; Rabbi Shook will be presenting courses on Prophets and Rabbi Feder will be presenting courses dealing with Jewish views of Jesus.
- **Tuesday Institute** – On the first Tuesday of each month from November through March, attendees are treated to a coffee reception from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. and then adjourn for a class. Topics this year center on a holiday for each session and activities include text, study and cooking.

In an effort to recognize our adult Jewish students, the committee has started a “Chai-er Learning” program which recognizes all congregants who attend any of our courses throughout the year, with special recognition to those who attend over 18 hours of programming during the academic year. At Shabbat services on June 5th, we honored 51 participants in our classes and an additional 18 people who had participated in 18 or more hours.

Jennifer Hartranft, Chair

Committee Members: Jessica Billhymer, Sarijane Freiman, Susan Fry, Jim Goldwasser, Mary Joftus, Karen Knopf, Bob Schnurman, Michael Steinberg, Steve Turner



BOY SCOUT TROOP 11

Now in its 90th year, one of the oldest continuously active Boy Scout Troops in the St. Louis area, Troop 11 continues to provide a variety of activities for boys 11 to 18 on a year round schedule. While camping continues to be the principal focus, the Scouts also participate in service projects and community activities in conformance with Scouting's objectives of citizenship and character building.

The troop experienced continued growth in membership during 2009 with the number of registered Scouts reaching 34. With the quality program presented by Temple Israel's Troop 11, membership in the troop has become most desirable. Although Troop 11 is the only troop in the Greater St. Louis Area Council that is sponsored by a Jewish institution, we are proud of the diversity in the Scouts, with boys of several other faiths: Catholic, Protestant, Buddhist and Moslem. The compatibility and friendship that pervades throughout all activities is truly demonstrative of the tenets of Scouting. Some of the boys have special dietary requirements, and have been duly accommodated at Camp Pultman and the two summer camps.

Service projects carried out this year included decorating veterans' graves with American flags at New Mount Sinai Cemetery on Memorial Day, Scouting for Food, and assisting Temple Israel's mammoth Thanksgiving Dinner.

In addition to its monthly camping trip to Camp Pultman at the Edison Retreat Center, the Troop attended Camp Joy near Carlyle, Illinois for a full week. 15 Scouts and 5 adults also attended a camp at Camp Alexander, Colorado, which was arranged by Rick Fox. They also participated in the District Camporee at Beaumont Reservation in April. Several members of the Troop were honored by election into the Order of the Arrow (St. Louis Council) and advancement in the Tribe of Mannaseh (Okaw Valley Council).

Venture Crew 2011 had a successful year, continuing its program of recreational and social activities pursuant to the plan of Venturing, a scouting program for boys and girls ages 14 to 21. Twenty-four Venturers had a great week at S-F in June of this year. Also, the Crew participated with the Troop in several service projects including Scouting for Food and the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Temple.

Troop 11 meets every Tuesday evening 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm in the Beaumont Youth Lounge, and the troop camps one weekend every month at Camp Pultman. We would welcome a visit by any boy of Scout age to a meeting or a camping trip.

Sandy Silverstein, Scoutmaster Emeritus
Marvin Goldfarb, Committee Chairman
Joel Schwartz, Scoutmaster
Mike Hampton, Co-Scoutmaster



DEUTSCH EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER and CAMP SHOOK COMMITTEE

The DECC and Camp Shook Committee was created by the Board of Trustees in the spring of 2007 to oversee the Deutsch Early Childhood Center and Shook Summer Camps. The purpose of this committee is to work with the DECC Director and the Director of Education to set policy for and promote the preschool and camps of Temple Israel. This leaves the DECC Parent Committee free to focus on their primary roles of fundraising, running programs such as the library program, social programming, and volunteering as room parents. As of June 2009, this committee will also include the Mark and Carol Shook Camps program.

Mission Statement:

The Deutsch Early Childhood Center of Congregation Temple Israel builds relationships that foster each child's social, emotional, intellectual and physical growth in a safe and nurturing Jewish community.

On July 1, 2009, a new director, Leslie Wolf, was hired to replace Gloria Lieberman-Kaufman. The majority of this year was spent on the hiring of a new director, helping and supporting the outgoing and incoming directors, and preparing the staff and students for the transition. Although DECC is still struggling to increase enrollment, the change in leadership and direction of the school will hopefully bring about positive change.

In addition to the change of leadership, the DECC committee, along with the DECC director, Director of Education, and the DECC Parents' Committee, has accomplished the following:

1. The Deutsch Early Childhood Center now offers before and after care programs to accommodate parents that need a more flexible schedule. Care is available 7:00-9:00am and 2:45-6:00pm if needed. Parents must sign up in advance.
2. DECC continues to promote our Project Construct curriculum to the parents and staff while also educating them about it.
3. Afternoon programs were restructured to be available to all ages (2day thru preK). The sign up process and pricing structure were also simplified. The afternoon programs are still offered to families outside our school community.
4. DECC and Camp Shook Committee Guidelines were created and written for the committees to help and support the DECC and Camp Shook directors.
5. We are proud that DECC uses email and the website as a daily communication tool.
6. The new director has already begun conducting evaluations for the staff and implementing appropriate changes. The DECC committee supports the idea of providing feedback to continue to improve and grow our program.
7. DECC had a new kind of Open House this year. Leslie organized a parents' only evening that introduced her, her philosophy and style of learning, gave an overview of Project Construct, and promoted community within our preschool families. The evening was a huge success with almost 100% participation.
8. The purchase of the Dial 3 Screening was approved and has already been administered to the first group of students. The screening enables DECC to more accurately assess the strengths and weaknesses of our students and helps us to individualize our programs. The remaining eligible students will be screened in the upcoming months.

9. The Parents' Committee created and administered a parent survey that gives honest and candid feedback about the school's programming and overall satisfaction. In the future, the DECC committee will oversee the survey process instead of the parents' committee.
10. Due to the low number of older campers, the committee decided not to offer a camp for these older, school aged children in 2010. At this time, we decided to focus on the preschool camp and continue to improve and increase enrollment for this target age group.

Jennifer Deutsch (jendeutsch@sbcglobal.net), Chair
Carol Cohen, Liaison from Executive Committee

Committee Members: Anita Kraus, Art Lewis, Mindi Loebner, Leslie Melnick, Diana Rothbarth, Julie Sandler, Emily Wallis, Kim Wallis

Staff Members: Leslie Wolf, DECC Director; Debbie Morosohk, Director of Education; Rabbi Mark Shook, Rabbi Amy Feder, Rabbi Michael Alper



DEUTSCH EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Deutsch Early Childhood Center Parents' Committee (DECC) has been very busy since the summer. We held our first meeting the week before school began and secured many enthusiastic volunteers to head up our various sub-committees. This year we have combined several committees to better suit the number of parents involved. The sub-committees include: fundraising, social outreach (now combined with social action), caring (now includes new parent liaison), room parents, library (now includes book fair), communication, and teacher appreciation.

The fundraising committee is in the process of planning a spring 5K race and ½ mile family fun run/walk fundraiser. We are very excited about trying something new to enhance our DECC community as well as bring the surrounding community to our grounds. Our sub-committees will continue to keep busy with special events and highlights throughout the year. The Caring Committee continues to support our families in times of need with tributes, meals, cards, etc. for DECC staff and families. The social outreach committee has extended our tzedakah themes throughout the semester. One project this semester was having the children create mezuzot with the traveler's prayer for soldiers overseas. We had our first of three Mom's Nights Out at a local health club for a fitness class followed by dinner. Last year we hosted a special outdoor Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, and planted a tree to honor Gloria and our beloved DECC staff. This year we will return to a simpler affair, while still giving our special teachers and staff the thanks and recognition that they so deserve.

The year began with a new sense of hope as Leslie Wolf came in as the new director. She worked hard all summer long and met all of our parents before the first day of school. We had a play date on the playground, an informational parents' meeting at school, and interactive parent/child conferences so our children would feel at home with their new classrooms. All of these events were well attended and our returning families and new families alike were pleased to hear about all of the exciting things Leslie had planned for the school year.

This year, our Open House served as the kickoff for our Scholastic book fair, and Patty Steinbach read stories to the kids while the parents shopped the fair. Parents and kids explored the classrooms together and mingled with the teachers. The turnout was great and everyone loved the new format for the Open House. Our next community building event will be a family night held after Winter Break.

Our Extended Day program is now open to our younger children. We have several parents utilizing the program for even our youngest 2 day kids. Our children continue to thrive in the specialized afternoon classes including science, cooking, sports and games, computers and art. In December, we will be offering a third Kid's Morning Out on Fridays to meet the needs of our 2 day parents. Parents continue to be thrilled with the flexibility of our program and the changes that Leslie has implemented so far.

The school year is off to great start and the addition of new families is very promising. School tours are increasing as people in the Jewish Community and beyond take notice of the improvements and additions to DECC. Our current families are committed and loyal, and the happiness of our children and parents is evident. The Parents' Committee looks forward to an exciting future with lots of growth for DECC.

Committee Chairs: Kim Wallis and Julie Sandler, Co-chairs

Current Members: Joy Bassett, Nina Bastow, Robyn Blatt, Jodi Blucher, Marni Deutsch, Julie Elledge, Kendra Epstein, Jody Franey, Abby Goldberg, Simcha Lourie, Jenny Present, Laura Reichman, Cheri Rich, Kristi Runyan, Angela Sandler, Kathy Shultz, Jamie Steinbach, Michele Steinberg, Emily Wallis, Alana Umansky, Janine Zeldin



FACILITIES COMMITTEE

This year the major area we have repaired is the lower roof area. This was replaced and redesigned so that the water would drain away from the building and down new downspouts around the perimeter. David Rosenberg supervised the overall project, and I think everyone would agree that the new downspouts have been well hidden by the new columns built and covered with brick to match the existing building.

Over the high holidays, I was sitting at the ticket table and another long-term member was lowering their child from the shelf above the short wall along the exterior covered area surrounding the sanctuary. I said to him I remember when we could walk further on there, and he did not even realize the column which blocked his child was new. This is a tribute to the quality of the improvement that it is not apparent.

Many times these major improvements involve the infrastructure of our buildings and are not visible. Here we were lucky and used funds from the Lindner Fund and the money did not have to be raised. Other needed improvements such as the other roofs are needed as well. Certainly everyone notices the leaks we have inside the Gall Sanctuary and the Isserman Auditorium. We cannot let these problems persist without risking our underlying structure.

We have a new Superintendent for our facility, David Mills, who has been doing a great job. Over the last year we have also created better drainage around the playground and pavilion at the Carol and Mark Shook Camp and resurfaced the interior of the pool. These projects were paid for from a bequest for the benefit of our summer camps. Most of the rest of our repairs have been more routine maintenance and replacements required to keep our aging physical plant operational.

We are hoping to repair our freight elevator soon, and more importantly the other roof areas which have all reached beyond their normal service life.

Ted Greenberg, Chairperson

Committee Members: David Chassin, Ron Chatmon, Melvin Greene, Ed Levinson, Eli Montague, Sandy Silverstein, Eric Spirtas, Stephen Wolf



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Given the challenging economic climate throughout 2009, the Fundraising Committee focused on creating opportunities for “fun-raising” and building a sense of community among congregants. Several new fundraising events were introduced to provide congregants with opportunities to socialize and have fun while at the same time providing much needed support for Temple programs and activities.

The first new event came in February, when Temple Israel hosted its inaugural Trivia Night. This very successful event was chaired by Amy Cohen and raised more than \$4,000 for the Temple.

In May, congregants were treated to Fruit of the Vine, an evening of wine tasting, gourmet hors d’oeuvres, and great mood music provided by Ben Mogerma and his jazz ensemble. Six different wine wholesalers provided samples of a wide variety of fine wines from around the world. More than 100 people attended this popular event chaired by Drs. Keith and Hui Hua Bernstein. Net proceeds from admission fees and wine sales at the event totaled more than \$2,900.

The biggest fundraisers of the year were our 5th Annual Temple Israel Golf Tournament and our Satire NiteLive Gala dinner and auction. A crowd of more than 240 attended SatireNite Live, which featured entertainment by the Courthouse Steps, and 62 golfers competed in the golf tournament the following morning. These two events raised a combined total of more than \$60,000 to support our Temple’s programs for children, teens and adults. The phenomenal success of this weekend was a direct result of the enormous effort put forth by our event chairs and committee members. The Satire NiteLive Committee was led by Judy Lewis and Diana Rothbarth. Co-chairs of the Golf Committee were Jim Eiseman, Rob Epstein and Bradley Sachs.

In 2009 we continued to look for ways to improve participation in our ongoing Scrip Program. This program is a true win-win for our members and the Temple. Congregants simply do their regular shopping at stores such as Dierbergs, Whole Foods and St. Louis Bread Company using prepaid gift cards purchased from the Temple, and Temple Israel earns 5% on all purchases. Schnucks also donates to the temple based on a percentage of what members purchase when using their eScrip card at the checkout.

Other ongoing ways the Temple raises funds are through the sale of “leaves” on our *Eyts Simcha* (Celebration Tree) in honor of special occasions and family milestones such as birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, B’nai Mitzvah, etc. Leaves cost only \$200.00 and can be reserved in advance. Through the establishment of new Perpetual Memorial and Wall of Honor Memorial dedications (\$500 and \$5,000 respectively), ongoing funds are raised when members memorialize their loved ones.

Larry Linkon, Vice President – Fundraising

Trivia Night Committee: Amy Cohen, Chair; Sheryl Breadman, Brent Comensky, Nancy Kodner, Art and Judy Lewis, Larry Linkon, Beth Miller, Eli Montague, Jan Nykin, Michael and Michele Steinberg, Gary Taryle, Jim Thomeczek, Adam Wallis

Wine Tasting Committee: Keith and Hui Hua Drs., Co-Chairs; Liz and Larry Linkon, Diana Rothbarth, Cathy Rothstein

Satire NiteLive Committee: Judy Lewis and Diana Rothbarth, Co-Chairs; Amy Cohen, Carol Cohen, Pamela Dern, Emily Evans Kline, Pepe Finn, Annette Fudemberg, Stephanie Greenberg, Natalie Handelman, Shari Hollander, Shep Hyken, Judy Jacks, Nancy Kodner, Liz Linkon, Loren Ludmerer, Shelley Marglous, Joy Melman, Beth Miller, Joan Moscovitz, Cathy Rothstein

Golf Tournament Committee: Jim Eiseman, Rob Epstein and Bradley Sachs, Co-Chairs; Ron Chod, Ron Falkoff, David Golde, Bryson Hartranft, Jeffrey Korn, Art Lewis, Judy Lewis, Larry Linkon, Cary Mogerman, Eli Montague, Bruce Morosohk, Les Nackman, Mitchell Platin, Steve Rosenblum, Craig Roth, Adam Sachs, Avery Seidel, David Weinstein



HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Human Resources Committee was created based on an initiative in the 2005 Strategic Plan. Our Committee's goals and objectives include oversight, developing and implementing strategy, plans and programs to attract, motivate, develop and retain the best people to further Congregation Temple Israel's mission. Sound, consistently applied human resources practices helps to reduce the risk of employment litigation and costs and protect our reputation in the community.

Accomplishments:

- ✓ In 2008, job descriptions for every position were created in conjunction with the organizational chart and presented to the Board in February 2009.
- ✓ The Employee Handbook was updated to reflect current benefits, policies and practices and was presented to the Board in May 2009. Copies were then distributed to all employees.
- ✓ A labor audit to ensure that each position is properly classified as exempt or non-exempt status in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act.

In Progress:

- ✓ A continuation of the labor audit process to review the record keeping practices as it relates to employee files.
- ✓ Creation of a Supervisor Hiring Guidebook which will contain instructions on how to orientate a new employee, job descriptions for that department, a copy of the Employee Handbook, forms for the new hire to complete and instructions on where to distribute them.
- ✓ Creation of a New Hire Guidebook that provides an orientation overview, a map of the building, a one page overview of Congregation Temple Israel's history and culture, a copy of the organizational chart and telephone directory, a copy of the Employee Handbook and any relevant new hire forms to complete.

Future Projects:

- ✓ Performance Management System for all employees

Rachel Andreasson, Chair

Committee Members, Susan Frager, Martha Kreipke, Eli Montague, Jeremy Shook
Board Liaison, Ken Kraus



INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The Investment Committee is responsible for the oversight and management of the invested assets of the various endowments and other funds. The Committee reports to the Board of Trustees regarding investment performance, asset balances and other matters related to investment results.

The Committee, in overseeing the investment assets, attempts to maximize the investment return of those assets, given the relative risk deemed to be appropriate. The Committee follows the Temple's Statement of Investment Policy Guidelines and Objectives. Accordingly, the investment funds continue to be allocated among several asset classes, including large, mid and small cap equities as well as international equities and bonds. Such an allocation reduces volatility and, therefore, risk.

The endowment consists of both unrestricted and restricted funds. Each year, the committee recommends to the Board what portion of these funds shall be allocated to the General Fund and other specific purposes. For 2010, the Committee voted to approve a one percent spending rate for the restricted funds and zero % for the unrestricted funds. This was based solely on the Temple's program needs while giving the investments of the restricted and unrestricted funds a chance to recover from prior years' losses. The rate of return on all the invested funds, for the period January 1 through September 30, 2009 is 9.8%. The total value of the investments at September 30, 2009 was approximately \$4,488,156.

Cathy B. Goldsticker, Chair

Committee Members: Arthur Auer, Dr. Keith Bernstein, Ellen Brin, Jack Deutsch, Doris Fishman, Gary Follman, Milton Fry, David Grand, Ted Greenberg, Neil Handelman, Isaac Kleshchelski, Irv Levy, Lou Loebner, Albert Melman, Eli Montague, Joshua Reichman, Rabbi Mark Shook, David Weiss, Michael Weiss



ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

During 2009, our seventh year of existence, the Israel Engagement Committee (formerly the Israel Support Committee) continued our efforts to engage the congregation with Israel.

On March 20, 2009 the Committee, in conjunction with the Bayit Israeli at Temple Israel (Israeli House), conducted our third annual "Mini-Israeli Film Festival". Two wonderful Israeli films were shown to more than 80 attendees. The event was very well received. Between the afternoon and evening films, Israeli food was enjoyed by the theatergoers. Both the Bayit Israeli and the Israel Engagement Committee were very pleased with the success of the film fest evening and look forward to presenting this Mini Israeli Film Festival for many years.

The Committee assisted with the Friday night Israel Shabbat service on April 24, 2009. Several Committee members participated in the service and assisted with the Israeli oneg afterwards. In addition, Committee members worked with the community wide Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) celebration held at the JCC.

The Committee continued to submit "Israel Facts" for the Friday night service leaflets, and co-sponsored a film at the 2009 St. Louis Jewish Film Festival.

The goal of the Israel Engagement Committee is to help connect the congregation with Israel. The Committee continued its efforts to follow the Vision for Temple Israel, which includes,

“Understanding the miracle that is the State of Israel, we shall rejoice in its existence and draw it near to our hearts through ritual, learning, celebration, and pilgrimages for youth and adults alike.”

The committee members are enthusiastic and hard-working toward this goal. Members of the committee also attended various other local Jewish Community Israel related activities and events.

Jerry and Linda Koenig served as Co-chairs during the past seven years and were outstanding leaders.

Rob Litz was appointed the Chair for 2009-2010.

Committee Members: Patty Bloom, Pam Brinkmeyer, Jody Chassin, Amy Cohen, Jennifer Culp, Pamela Dern, Carol Gusdorf, Neil Handelman, Earl and Esther Kessler, Jerry and Linda Koenig, Jodi Leise, Dr. Jerry Levy, JoAnne Levy, Judith Levy, Cary Mogerman, Dee Mogerman, Donald Mogerman, Debbie Morosohk, Mary Oetker, Aaron Scharff, Bob Schnurman, Audrey Shanfeld, Adam Wallis, Linda Waniewski, Rabbi Amy Feder and Rabbi Michael Alper (staff liaisons)



KAHN FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

The Nathan Kahn - Ernestine Kahn - Charles Kahn Foundation, an endowed fund of Temple Israel, was established through the generosity of Lina Kahn for the purpose of improving the quality of life for senior citizens. From the first grants awarded in 1992 to the present, the Foundation has distributed over \$2,330,000 to agencies and organizations for services and projects benefiting the elderly. Funding is provided from the earnings on invested funds.

Grant requests are received from many agencies in the Jewish community as well as the general community and are reviewed by the committee twice each year for funding. Proposals range from programs that are religious, social, educational and recreational to those concerned with the health and wellness of our senior citizens. Several Temple Israel's programs have been underwritten by the Kahn Fund, as well.

Due to the downturn in the economy and the effect on our investments, we were unable to [provide funding](#) to any programs this past year. We hope to again be able to support appropriate projects in the future.

Linda Kraus, Chair

Committee Members: Randy Arst, Doris Fishman, JoAnne Levy, Cary Mogerman, Eli Montague, Rabbi Mark Shook, Dr. David Weinstein, Bea Young



LIVNOT CAMPAIGN

The challenging economy continued to impact our *LIVNOT: To Build Campaign* for the Future of Temple Israel in 2009. Even so, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of more than 200 congregants, we

have managed to surpass the \$5 million mark in pledges and gifts to date, the largest amount raised in the history of Temple Israel!

In April, Campaign leadership decided to re-focus the campaign and concentrate first on addressing immediate urgent facility priorities. It was determined that the most urgent need is to replace the roof over the Gall Family Sanctuary and Isserman Auditorium and the roof over the education building. Thus the Hineni initiative was launched to raise \$2.5 million in cash to repair the roofs and another \$1 million to replenish the earnings lost by the Temple's endowment last year due to the economy.

In September, a group of religious school parents came forward to support the Hineni initiative by launching a grassroots effort to raise \$355,000 – the amount needed to replace the roof over the school building. This effort is the brainchild of Susan Goldberg, who is joined by a steering committee that includes Beth Deutsch, Jennifer Deutsch, Stephanie Greenberg, and Laura and Josh Reichman. Their “Raise the Roof” effort was introduced to parents at the opening assembly on the first day of religious school. To build community and enthusiasm among religious school parents, an open house was held in November at the home of David and Beth Deutsch. The event attracted more than 70 parents.

In the final months of 2009, the Livnot Campaign leadership is working hard to encourage Board members and Campaign volunteers to contact every member household and seek their participation in the Hineni initiative to address urgent roof repairs and replenish the loss in our endowment funds.

Larry Linkon, Vice President - Fundraising
Livnot Campaign Chair



MEMBERSHIP DUES REVIEW COMMITTEE

Your new Membership Dues Review Committee is hard at work with clear direction. Our assignment is to manage the Temple's membership dues process to include members' inquiries and implementation of the fair procedures authorized by our Board of Trustees. Our ultimate goal is to make sure all members who are capable pay their fair share of dues support, while being sensitive to those who are truly in need of concessions. Those requests will be handled in a confidential and expeditious manner.

There are many new initiatives being launched by this committee to ensure there is a responsible process for dues support. We are providing members with more direction including specific choices for dues submission including the preferred methods of debit or credit card and precise dates to make payments (2/15) or alternate arrangements. On Sundays, when Religious School is in session, our committee members will be available to meet with you in a comfortable and confidential setting to answer any questions you might have about dues.

Rest assured, your committee is dedicated and will accept our responsibility to implement a fair process to our members.

Cathy Goldsticker, Chair

Committee Members: Amy Cohen, Carol Cohen, Carla Feuer, Cathy Goldsticker, Ted Greenberg, Earl Kessler, Lee Kline, Nancy Kodner, Eli Montague, Diana Rothbarth, Victoria Siegel, Adam Wallis



NEW MT. SINAI CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

New Mt. Sinai Cemetery, located at 8430 Gravois Road in Affton, is St. Louis' oldest and largest Jewish cemetery. The cemetery is situated on 52 acres of beautiful green space. Over 10,900 people call New Mt. Sinai their eternal home, resting in single graves, family lots, and our beautiful Community Mausoleum. New Mt. Sinai has served the needs of the St. Louis Jewish community for over 150 years, and we have space available for another 300 years. New Mt. Sinai Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We are the only Jewish cemetery in this area with that distinction.

Our cemetery is co-owned by B'nai El Congregation, Congregation Shaare Emeth, and Temple Israel. Members of our temple are entitled to significant discounts on pre-need sales of property. New Mt. Sinai offers burial or entombment of cremated remains, and we also permit non-Jewish family members to be buried at the cemetery. Our Community Mausoleum features the beautiful stained glass panel entitled "Window of Truth", designed by the celebrated artist Sol Nodel. New Mt. Sinai is the only Jewish cemetery in St. Louis to offer public mausoleum space.

2009 has been another exciting year at New Mt. Sinai: we offered "Spring Planting" day again at the cemetery in the spring, and many young people came out and participated. During the summer, we also conducted a bus tour of the cemetery for members of the three owner congregations. We had a full bus, and everyone attending the tour enjoyed St. Louis County Parks & Recreation's Historian, Esley Hamilton. Esley has been very helpful in spreading New Mt. Sinai's history throughout the community, and he is very knowledgeable about the cemetery. In September, we held our annual Memorial Service in the mausoleum. Rabbi Susan Talve of Central Reform Congregation was kind enough to lead the service, and we featured chanted musical selections by the cemetery's Executive Director, Dan Brodsky, as well as Linda Blumenthal. Instrumental music featured musicians from the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra.

On a sad note, New Mt. Sinai was the site in May for the burial of Lt. Roslyn Littman Schulte. "Roz"'s family are members of Temple Israel; she was buried with full military honors at the cemetery on Memorial Day. The cemetery staff handled the large and complicated funeral with dignity and professionalism.

Temple Israel's members of the association's Board are: Robert Epstein, Neil Handelman, Louis Loebner, Norman Roth, Randall Scherk, and Sanford Silverstein. Mr. Loebner is the current Treasurer of the Association and Mr. Roth is the current Secretary. In addition, Temple Israel has three Life Members on the Board: Robert Meyer, Robert Wegusen, and myself. Life Members are former Presidents of the Board. I am proud to serve not only on the Board of the cemetery, but to be the Chairperson of the Temple Israel committee that oversees the operation of the cemetery.

If you wish to tour the cemetery, or to discuss purchasing property at New Mt. Sinai, please contact the cemetery's Executive Director, Daniel Brodsky at 314-353-2540 (office) or 314-504-3302 (cell). You may also email: danielbrodsky@sbcglobal.net

William Eiseman, Jr., Life Member



PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Our Committee's mission is to enhance the Temple's ability to communicate with its members, the area Jewish community and the general community at large. Last year, the committee recommended that all efforts be directed towards revising our Web site. In response to their direction, the past year was

spent developing a creative strategy for the Web site (adopted by the board June 2009), conducting a search for vendors both from within our Temple family and others which at the time of this report continues to take place. Funding has been graciously donated by two anonymous Temple members. In addition to a new look, the Web site will have several helpful features for our members and others to use such as the ability to pay online for Continuing Synagogue Support and tributes as well as purchase scrip. Visitors to the Web site also will be able to register for programs, view our events calendar and receive event reminders via e-mails, and more.

In addition to working on the Web site, we are exploring different ways to promote, within and outside the Temple Israel family, the exciting new changes and programs happening at Temple Israel.

We also welcomed Victoria Siegel, Temple Israel's new Director of Membership and Communication who brings much experience to the position.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Feuer, Chair

Committee Members: Patty Bloom, Jessica Brown Billhymer, Marcia Figus, David Golde, Stephanie Greenberg, Alice Handelman, Emily Evans Kline, Cathy Rothstein, Bobby Sanderson, Ron Scharff, Merrill Strauss, Joan Taryle, Victoria Siegel and Eli Montague



RABBI MARK AND CAROL SHOOK CAMP OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

The Rabbi Mark and Carol Shook Camp had another successful season. Children aged 1 ½ to 10 had a great summer playing, singing, swimming and enjoying all summer offers.

Our staff, including DECC teachers and college-age head counselors teamed with high school counselors to provide an active, safe, fun-filled eight-week camp program. Our beautiful in-ground Sam and Ida Silk Pool was once again overseen by certified lifeguards and served as the centerpiece for the camp program. Campers were grouped by age and skill-level for swim lessons taught by our Certified Water Safety Instructor. Camp days were filled with exciting activities including creative art projects, stimulating outdoor excursions, lots of special visitors, daily singing with our talented song leader, learning about science and nature, participating in group games, beginning team sports and movement, drama, cooking, gardening, and weekly all-camp Shabbat lunches. Our oldest campers had tons of fun at their overnight (Shabbaton). All of our campers enrolled at the Rabbi Mark and Carol Shook Camp enjoyed a summer filled with fun, meaningful experiences and special friends.

Anita Kraus, Rabbi Mark and Carol Shook Camp Co-Director

Karen Lucy, Rabbi Mark and Carol Shook Camp Co-Director



RABBINIC TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Our congregation has been fortunate to enjoy a continuity of religious leadership since we were established in 1886. Rabbi Shook is but the sixth Rabbi of Temple Israel in our history! Nevertheless, the Temple's *Strategic Plan* contemplated that we would one day need to identify and engage a successor

to Rabbi Shook. Now that Rabbi Shook has announced his intention to retire in the summer of 2010 after a rabbinate of thirty-eight years, the time for transition is upon us.

Since December 2008, the Rabbinic Transition committee has developed the criteria for our new senior rabbi, the process we would pursue in searching for this person, and held two open congregational meetings to discuss it with the membership of the congregation. As we said during these open meetings held last summer, the process for searching for a new spiritual leader is governed by rules of the Rabbinical Placement Commission, a joint commission representing the Union for Reform Judaism, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and the Central Conference of American Rabbis. The Placement Commission has its own set of guidelines and procedures for conducting a national search for a rabbi in the reform movement, and is represented in this process by its Director of Placement.

As a member of the Union for Reform Judaism, our congregation is required to participate in the process managed by the Placement Commission. In doing so, we have been conducting a national search under the guidance of the Placement Director. This fall, we received a group of applications from the Commission from all over the country. Prior to receiving them, the applications were reviewed by the Placement Director to confirm that each applicant is qualified to enter placement. Each approved applicant is allowed to have his or her application considered by our Committee. Each has submitted a substantial quantity of written material for our consideration, as well as a list of references. The Rabbinic Transition Committee has reviewed the applications and the materials and references, and conducted telephonic interviews with each candidate.

So far, three of the candidates have been invited to St. Louis to visit the campus of Temple Israel for a personal interview. Others may follow. These visits have occurred through November and December, and have proven invaluable in helping to refine our search by allowing us to identify key additional qualities we hope will be personified by our next senior rabbi. The information gleaned from these meetings has also proven to us that the challenges presently faced by Temple Israel are in no way unique to our congregation.

At some point in this process, it is our hope that we will have identified someone we feel will be the ideal successor to Rabbi Shook. That candidate will be presented to the Board of Trustees for a recommendation to the congregation that the candidate be engaged as the next Senior Rabbi of Temple Israel. The Board of Trustees has asked us to conclude this process by the end of the calendar year, and we hope to be able to do so within the time specified by the Board. All would agree, however, that our first priority should be the future of Temple Israel, and if we cannot find the right person by the end of the year, we intend to advise the Board of these circumstances and hope to extend our search. We will be certain to keep the congregation apprised of our findings, and of the status of our efforts.

Cary J. Mogeran, Chair

Committee Members: Jonathan Bloom, Ellen Deutsch, Jeff Fox, Natalie Handelman, Yale Hollander, Karen Knopf, Ken Kraus, Larry Linkon, Sarah Falkoff, Carol Rubin, Karen Smoller, Lynn Wallis, Dr. David Weinstein



SHOFAR SOCIETY

Members of Temple Israel's Shofar Society represent 248 families and individuals whose annual voluntary giving contributes over forty percent of our annual dues revenue. Everyone in Temple Israel's family is most grateful for the generosity that our Shofar Society members show year in and year out.

Our Shofar Society levels of giving for 2010 have risen, along with the level of our standard dues level. They are: Tekiah \$2,350 - \$2,599, Shevarim \$2,600 - \$3,149, Teruah \$3,150 - \$3,699, Tekiah Gedolah \$3,700 - \$4,999.

For 2010, four new levels have been added, to be called, the Rabbis' Circle. They are: Rabbi Akiba \$5,000 - \$9,999 (formerly known as the Patron level), Hillel \$10,000 - \$17,999, Rashi \$18,000 - \$24,999 and Maimonides \$25,000 and above.

Shofar Society members' names are prominently displayed at the main entrance to Temple Israel in the Kreigshaber Foyer. A listing of our members as of September, 2008 follows. We would like to encourage all our Temple Israel members to hear the call of the Shofar and join the Shofar Society or Rabbis' Circle. I want to thank and acknowledge my fellow Shofar Society committee members.

Avery Seidel, Chair

Committee members: Robert Goldsticker, Neil Handelman, Mary Joftus, Larry Linkon, Cary Mogerman, Eli Montague, Jan Nykin, Judith Stenzel

SHOFAR PATRONS

Charlotte Brodsky
Mathilde Cohen

Pamela & Michael Dern
Ellen & Jack Deutsch

Judy & Richard Glassman
Howard Lesser

Caroline & Eric Mann
Lester Miller

TEKIAH GEDOLAH

Audrey & Leonard Adreon
Elaine & Harold Blatt
Terry & Gordon Bloomberg
Rita & William Eiseman, Jr.
Dorothy & William Firestone
Marilyn & Sam Fox

Judy & Ira Gall
Bettie Gershman
Helen & Kenneth Goldstein
Joyce & Morton Green
Sandra Greenberg
Natalie & Neil Handelman

Barbara & Norman Hausfater
Linda Hyken
Esther & Earl Kessler
Frances & Gary Lazaroff
Susan & Irving Levy
Judith & Jerome Levy

Dee & Cary Mogerman
Lisa Ring
Joanne & Daniel Schwartz
Lynn Wallis
Barbra Horn & Peter Weiss
Ethel Wolfson

TERUAH

Mary & Andrew Blatt
Jerry Chod
Rand Dankner
Lee & Eugene Deutsch
Hope & Julian Edison
Susan & Allan Epstein
Esther Frank

Joyce Gartenberg
Susan & Leonard Gaum
Karole & Thomas Green
Ruth & Walter Gusdorf
Frieda Handelman
Eleanor Withers & Ralph Kalish Jr
Nancy Kalishman

Karen & Harry Knopf
Joan & Eugene Kraus
David & Jayne Langsam
Lois Levin
Constance Levy
Elizabeth & Larry Linkon
Heather & Jay Padratzick

Jeanne Pass
Joyce & Jules Pass
Hildegard & Herman Rochman
Maurine & Mahlon Rubin
Martha & Leonard Weinstock
Barbara & Norman Wielansky

SHEVARIM

Sandra & Robert Aisenfeld
Martha & David Aronson
Charline Baizer
Jill & David Belsky
Patricia & Robert Bernstein
June Bierman
Marilyn & Donald Blum
Elaine & Eric Bly
Judith & David Capes
Ellen & Henry Dubinsky
Elmer & Zella Esrock
Doris & Harold Fishman
Barbara & Fred Flegel
Susan & Edward Fliesher

Dorismae & Harvey Friedman
Jane & Alvin Gold
Lois & Alan Goldberg
Laura Kipnis & Sidney Goldstein
Claire Schenck & Richard
Greenberg
Alice & Howard Handelman
Delores & Melvin Heller
Susie & Rik Knopf
Nancy & Mark Kodner
Linda & Jerome Kraus
Joelyn Knopf Levy & Edward
Levy
Lynne & Michael Lippmann

Wendy & Mark Ludwig
Ricki & Neil Marglous
Joyce & Arthur Margulis
Jan Nykin
Harry Offenbach
Frala & Aaron Osherow
Marcia & Robert Pass
Judy & Gerald Poger
Dana & Troy Pohlman
Aileen & Melvin Rabushka
Karen & David Raskas
Helen & Raymond Robinson
Lynne Kipnis & Steven Rothman
Susie & Robert Schulte

Avery Seidel
Marcelyn & Merle Silverstein
Harlan Steinbaum
Judith Stenzel
Dorothy & Arnold Tepper
JoAnne Levy & Jim Thomeczek
Elizabeth & David Weinstein
Marlita & Stuart Weiss
Joan & Howard Wittner
Richard Wolfheim
Bella Woolf
Anonymous
Anonymous

TEKIAH

Stewart Albert
Rachel & Thomas Andreasson
Gail & Murray Appelbaum
Barbara & Jerome Bader
Faye Beth Baer-O'Byrne
Joy & Fred Balis
Susan & Barry Barber
Charles Bates Baron
Sandra & David Becker
Linda & Fred Berger
Hui Hua & Keith Bernstein
Susan & Robert Bernstein
Patricia & Jonathan Bloom
Linda & Ivan Blumoff
Sandy and Max Breadman
Jana Smith & Arline Brilliant
Robert & Ellen Brin
Janice & Lawrence Brody
Susan & Mark Bronson
Anna Lee Brown
Rena & Robert Caplin
Jody & David Chassin
Cheri & Ronald Chod
Kathy & Darryl Cohen
Carol & Edward Cohen
Kay & Robert Cohen
Lynne Cole
Marni & Jeremy Deutsch
Jennifer & Jonathan Deutsch
James Eiseman
Karen Berry Elbert &
Charles Elbert
Jill & Bernard Esrock
Beverly Faber
Jody & Preston Fancher

Robin & Gary Feder
Joyce & Gary Follman
Lotta & Jeff Fox
Elaine & Charles Fremder
Mary Ellen & Robert Freund
Eleanor & Milton Fry
Amy & Burton Garland, Jr.
Dorette & Edward Goldberg
Susan & Paul Goldberg
Holly & Marc Goldfarb
Janis & Rand Goldstein
Cathy & Robert Goldsticker
Laura & Edward Greenberg
Jan & Ronald Greenberg
Carol & Paul Gusdorf
Robin & David Gutmann
Amy Knoblock-Hahn & Robert Hahn
Ronni & Gary Handelman
Judy & Harvey Harris
Myrna & Arnold Hershman
Suzanne & Theodore Hoffman
Linda & Philip Horwitz
Cindy & Shep Hyken
Helane & Warner Isaacs
Mary & Morris Jofthus
Marcie & Dale Kalina
Barbara & David Kantrovitz
Harry Katz
Marjorie Katz
Emily Evans-Kline & Lee Kline
Barbara & Ira Kodner
Susan & Richard Kofkoff
Diana & Andrew Kohn
Anita & Ken Kraus
Martha & David Kreipke

Minnette & Joe Liberman
Elayne & David Lieberman
Judith & David Lipsitz
Melanie & Tom Litz
Carole & Louis Loebner
Carolyn & Joseph Losos
Felice & Michael Lowenbaum
Loren & Kenneth Ludmerer
Louise & Barry Mandel
Paula & Stuart Mandel
Shelley & Steven Marglous
Julie & Steve Mathes
Joy & Albert Melman
Deb & Mark Mehlman
Leslie & Steven Melnick
Dorothy Meyerson
Jill Silverstein & Jonathan Mills
Sallie & Donald Mogerma
Joan & Leslie Nackman
Evelyn & Eric Newman
Dolores Newport
Jean Schaffer & Daniel Ory
Linda & Herbert Palans
Jan & Ronald Pass
Lenore & Edwin Pepper
Cheryl & Laurence Perlstein
Madhavi Kandula & Mitchell Platin
Judith & Paul Putzel
Anne & David Rosenberg
Karla & Steven Rosenblum
Michele & Norman Roth
Diana & James Rothbarth
Jean Sachs
Caryn & Bruce Sandweiss
Ellen Watkins & Theodore Schechter

James Schiele
Carol Rubin & Howard Schlansky
Lauren & John Schwab
Helen & Julian Seeherman
Deborah & Bradley Shanker
Audrey Shatz
Jennifer & Walter Shifrin
Sammy & William Shoss
Noma & Arthur Simon
Nancy & Richard Singer
Barbara Goldberg & Alan Skop
Karen & David Smoller
Nancy & Robert Spewak
Sharon & Melford Spiegelglass
Sandra & Arnold Spirtas
Jane & Eric Spirtis
Patricia & Frederic Steinbach
Lecie & Richard Steinbaum
Judith & John Steiner
Helen & Cary Stolar
Libby & Robert Stone
Gerti Strauss
Jane & Mark Tucker
Carolyn Haimann & Thomas Vandiver
Rita & Scott Waldman
Barbara & Edward Weiss
Bonnie & Howard Weiss
Diane & Michael Weiss
Linda & Stephen Wielansky
Kimberly & Brett Wolff
Carolynn & Stephen Wolff
Suzanne & Robert Yawitz
Bonnie & Myron Zwielman

SISTERHOOD

Did you know that Temple Israel Sisterhood pays for the babysitting on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Friday nights? Sisterhood also pays for the Temple flowers when not sponsored by a family for their special occasion. Ever year Sisterhood buys for and decorates the Bimahs in the Gall Sanctuary and May Chapel for Succoth and Simchat Torah.

Sisterhood has many activities going on during the year. Please check the *DATELINE* for the latest news.

Sisterhood gives Chanukah candles to our Religious School, Hebrew School and DECC students every year. We also give Bar and Bat Mitzvah gifts (a Jewish Star Necklace), and confirmation gifts (a Bible) to all our students. We have a Hanukah lunch every year.

Our Passover Mitzvah Project is to collect Passover food for the Jewish Food Pantry in St. Louis. There is a great need for this and Temple Israel Sisterhood really comes through every year.

We have a “Dessert and Discussion” Book Club every other month. We have read some wonderful books. Rabbi Shook and Rabbi Feder have lead discussions for us.

Sisterhood is a sponsor of the St. Louis Jewish Film Festival and the St. Louis Jewish Book Festival. Authors we have sponsored are: Rabbi Harold Kushner, Dr. Ruth Westheimer, Naomi Ragen, Rona Jaffe, Evan Handler, and this year Jan Goldstein.

Each year we have a Sisterhood Shabbat where our members lead the service.

These are some of the Women of Sisterhood and what they do:

Susan Stiefel – Sisterhood President

Thelma Davidson – Corresponding Secretary for over 20 years and presenter and Chair of Bar and Bar Mitzvah gifts

Jane Gold – Full-time Gift Shop volunteer for many years

Judy Lewis – Gift Shop treasurer

Joan Moscovitz – Past Treasurer

Ann Epstein – Handles flowers for many years

Myrna Hershman – Handled Oneg Shabbats for many years

Rita Freed – Always there to help

Lea Levitt – Always there to help

Hildegard Rochman – Surprises us with delicious homemade goodies

Sally Greenblatt – Past President who gives us advice

Book discussion volunteers: Susie Fleisher, Jan Offenbach Nykin and Ruthellyn Roufa



SYNAGOGUE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

It has been a year of transition for the Synagogue Community Committee. Chairman Ken Kraus, whom we thank profoundly for his ideas, spirit and service, has moved on to a role overseeing implementation of Temple Israel’s strategic plan. We also said “goodbye and best of luck” to Director of Synagogue Community, Jessica Farber, who was accepted to law school this past summer. There has been a great deal of research within the Temple Israel community and

Reform Judaism in general during the past year. There are a number of opportunities to grow and enrich Temple Israel and to strengthen the sense of COMMUNITY in its purest sense. Together with Victoria Siegel, who has taken over the newly-rebranded position of Director of Membership and Communication, we will be embarking on an ambitious campaign to re-energize Congregation Temple Israel, focusing on programming and outreach that we hope will attract new members and further engage our existing members.

The next year promises to be a very productive year for our committee. We will not be without our challenges. We have, however, a very capable and powerful team to help us reach our goals for a more vibrant, attractive community.

Yale Hollander, Chair

Committee Members: Marc Braun, Fred Cohen, Jonathan Deutsch, Cindy Frank, David Golde, Stephanie Greenberg, Eli Montague, Diana Rothbarth, Darcy Scharff, Gary Shapiro, Barbara Shapiro, Victoria Siegel (Staff Liaison), Jerry Thomeczek, Jason Turkin, Neil Wolfman



TIKES COMMITTEE

Tikes organizes educational and social programs aimed at families with children aged 0-9. Past Tikes events included holiday oriented programs such as the Sukkot picnic and the Hanukkah scavenger hunt, and social events such as pancake breakfasts.

This year Tikes has continued its family Shabbat series (formally Tot Shabbat), which we are calling **Light Up the Night**. We formed a committee to upgrade the Family Shabbat experience, and met multiple times over the summer to rethink our priorities and desires for this group. While some families have “graduated” to programs for older children, Tikes has had recent success encouraging new families to participate in these monthly services. The kids enjoy the musical service format and lesson-filled stories delivered by the rabbis. We hold the service on the first Friday of most months and have added special activities and prizes for attendance.

This year we continued the ritual art series “Creating Jewish Gems”. This series provides both children and their parents with opportunities to learn more about elements of Judaism that they may never have questioned. In each installment, children and parents had separate education sessions on the meaning of the item being created. Then the families rejoined to create items to take home for use and/or to put in their homes.

Chair: Steve Melnick & Kevin Zeldin, Co-chairs

Committee Members: Joy Bassett, Susan Kempainen, Greg Levine, Ed Levy, Michele Steinberg, Bridget Switzer, Neil Wolfman



TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

We strive to provide year-round opportunities for Temple Israel members and their families to participate in *TIKKUN OLAM* (repair of the world). Late this year we merged with the Caring Community Committee and together we will incorporate activities that focus on helping our fellow congregants as well as the larger community. We welcome new ideas and believe that together we do make a difference!

Events and activities in 2009 included:

Slichot Service and activity: This tikkun olam themed service and activity helped us prepare for the high holidays and kicked-off our extended toiletry drive.

High Holiday Personal Care Item collection: Our annual event to benefit the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry was extended this year from Slichot to Mitzvah Day. We collected thousands of toiletry items that filled more than ninety large plastic bags in this very successful drive.

CROP Hunger Walk: Temple Israel recruited a team of more than forty walkers in the third annual interfaith walk in Forest Park. This was our largest team yet. This year we gathered with teams from many other Jewish Congregations and began the walk together. CROP means Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty.

Mitzvah Day: Our annual morning of mitzvot and community building was attended by more than 130 congregants. This year, all activities took place in the Isserman Auditorium at Temple Israel and we offered ten different projects. Volunteers spent time making fleece blankets for hospitalized children, assembling bracelets for cancer research, making Dolls for Darfur pins, creating centerpieces for the annual TI Thanksgiving Dinner, making toys for animals at the Humane Society, decorating puzzles and thank-you notes for our Troops, making Memory Boxes for residents with dementia, and assembling hundreds of Trail Mix snacks and Birthday Bags for the Jewish Food Pantry.

Thanksgiving Dinner: This annual holiday dinner served approximately 360 members of our community. Each year, since 1986, on the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving Day, we have provided a traditional Thanksgiving meal, entertainment and camaraderie for people, many elderly, who need a place to celebrate the holiday. More than 100 volunteered to make this event run smoothly, serve our guests and make them feel welcomed.

Beyond Mitzvah Day Monthly Activities: We began these activities with the annual Covenant House visit to help residents with handy-man tasks. Other monthly activities include visits to Crisis Nursery, Food Outreach, Parc Provance, and cooking Frozen Dinners for the Jewish Food Pantry.

Give a Meal-a-Month Plus: Our members coordinate the collection of food and toiletries to the Jewish Food Pantry and Hosea House through this program. Volunteers also purchase and deliver groceries weekly for some residents of the Covenant House.

These events and activities have proven to be a great way to build community and friendships while helping others. The support and assistance of the Rabbis, Director of Education, and TIFTY make our events successful.

Pamela Dern and Judy Jacks, Co-chairs

Committee Members: Rabbi Feder (Rabbinic Liaison), JoAnne Levy (Board Liaison), Rabbi Alper, Susie Fliasher, Betsy Gleijeses, Myrna Hershman, Shari Hollander, Mary and Dr. Morrie Jofus, Harlan and Lea Levitt, Wendy Lindsay, Beth Miller, Jacki Moore, Joan Moscovitz, Jan Nykin, Caryn Sandweiss, Debbie Schultz, Nancy Solomon, Sandy and Frank Wasserman, Eve and Ken Wilde



TREASURER'S REPORT

We are happy to report that our Board of Trustees passed a **balanced** budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010. The Board concluded that we must stop our deficit spending and begin to grow our endowment again. Remarkably, the budgeted expenses necessary to operate the Temple are lower than they were in 2004, almost 6 year ago! This cost containment is necessary in these tough economic times and demonstrates our commitment to running an efficient and fiscally responsible operation.

The Board's passage of the balanced budget and the staff's commitment to control costs are just the first steps. The rest is up to our members. Our members are our only resource which will enable us to weather this difficult economic time. Our income from dues and fundraisers are our only source of support for our operations. We have consistently committed to never turn away any member who is unable to pay standard dues due to financial hardship and we will continue to meet the needs of members who can confidentially demonstrate the need for relief. In order to balance our budget and break the cycle of deficit spending, however, we must raise dues at this time. Our continued fundraising and Livnot Campaign are also necessary to strengthen our long-term financial position.

We hope you are comforted by the fact that the Board of Trustees is working diligently to insure both the short-term and long-term financial security of Temple Israel with support and recommendations from our Investment Committee, Audit Committee, Fundraising Committee and Budget Committee.

Unfortunately, our expected 2009 deficit will be larger than budgeted due primarily to an unprecedented level of reserves for member dues that are believed to be uncollectable. We painstakingly analyzed our accounts receivable and reserved a much larger amount, this year, that we feel will not be collected from our members. Fortunately, this reduction in dues income in 2009 has been somewhat mitigated as we anticipate that the expenses for 2009 will be less than what we budgeted for the fiscal year, as well.

We are happy to meet with any Temple Israel member to discuss our financial condition, explain the budget process or hear your comments and suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support of Temple Israel.

Respectfully,
Ellen Brin, Treasurer
Michael Weiss, Assistant Treasurer



USHER COMMITTEE

We hope everyone is enjoying a happy and healthy 5770 and want to thank all of our dedicated ushers during the past year. Ushering is a wonderful mitzvah that is appreciated by the entire congregation. Make your ushering experience even more meaningful by having your spouse or children help you.

To usher on Friday nights, Saturday mornings or High Holy Days, please call Thelma or Marvin Davidson, (314) 993-2063.

Ushers arrive on Friday evenings and Saturday one-half hour before services begin. You will receive a name tag. Ushers welcome members and visitors, distribute the Sabbath announcements and assist worshipers with seating.

Thank you in advance for volunteering and remember...

“A Shabbat without Temple is like a Day without Sunshine.”

Thelma Davidson & Marvin Davidson, Co-chairs

Ushers: Robert Aisenfeld, Fran Axelbaum, Joelle Biernacki, Mark Biernacki, Jessica Brown-Billhymer, Marc Braun, Pam Brinkmeyer, Marvin Brasch, George Brother, Lylas Chatmon, Ron Chatmon, Linda Cherrick, Frederic Cohen, Jim Cohen, Vera Cohen, Brent Comensky, Karen Comensky, Pamela Dern, Megan Dern, Allan DeSimone, Allan Epstein, Susie Epstein, Carla Feuer, Susan Fry, Jamie Goldberg, Jessica Goldberg, Jordan Goldberg, Marvin Goldfarb, Lee Goodman, Lili Goodman, Laura Greenberg, Michael Greenberg, Ted Greenberg, Harvey Harris, Judy Harris, Bryson Hartranft, Dr. Hope Heller, Maren Lark Heller, Myrna Hershman, Marty Hyatt, Joel Kamil, Jason Kaplan, Jodi Kaplan, Jordan Kaplan, Matthew Kaplan, Michael Kaplan, Daniella Kats, Irina Kats, Dr. Larry Kiel, Dr. Harry Knopf, Nancy Kodner, Anita Kraus, Ben Kraus, Danny Kraus, Ken Kraus, Linda Koenig, Herman Leibovich, Dr. Jerry Levy, JoAnne Levy, Judy Levy, Art Lewis, Judy Lewis, Eric Litz, Melanie Litz, Tom Litz, Justin Mann, Elizabeth Mills, Jon Mills, Morris Mills, Joan Moscowitz, Jan Nykin, Lois Perryman, Nancy Powers, Ella Raber, Adrienne Rosen, Mickey Rosen, David Rosenberg, Stan Schneider, Donna Shanfeld, Brad Shanker, Debbie Shanker, Jack Shuman, Jill Silverstein, Jerry Thomeczek, Jim Thomeczek, Josh Thomeczek, Mari Thomeczek, Adam Wallis, Lynn Wallis, Carl Weber, Kenneth Wilde, Dani Wides, Erin Wides, Nancy Wides, Larry Winner.

Doctors on Call: Dr. Stewart Albert, Dr. Keith Bernstein, Dr. Burt Bromberg, Dr. Ronald Chod, Dr. Darryl Cohen, Dr. Barbara Horn, Dr. Howard Schlansky, Dr. Robert Spewak, Dr. Arnold Tepper, Dr. Leonard Weinstein, and Dr. Peter Weiss.

High Holy Day Messengers: Pam Brinkmeyer, Frederic Cohen, Carla Feuer, Bryson Hartranft, and Donna Shanfeld.

Presenting Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gifts: Betty Bridge, Linda Cherrick, Thelma Davidson, Marvin Goldfarb, Linda Horwitz, Nancy Kodner, Adele Lewis, Loren Ludmerer, Debbie Morosohk, Kate Schecter, Carol Shook, Adam Wallis, Lynn Wallis, and Dr. David Weinstein.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The Temple Israel Youth Activities Committee encompasses a number of activities. These include Cotillion, Club 56 for fifth and sixth graders, Junior Youth Group for seventh and eighth graders, Temple Israel Federation of Temple Youth (TIFTY) for 9-12th graders and College Outreach for the college-bound group.

Cotillion

Cotillion is a program open to all St. Louis Jewish 6th grade youth. Over the course of five sessions, boys and girls receive dance instruction from DJs and their assistants. They also enjoy games, snacks, dancing and interacting with one another. The basics of party manners and proper etiquette are taught in preparation for the following year when many “graduates” will be having or attending Bar and Bat Mitzvah parties. Sessions were held on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in January and February. Over 100 boys and girls attended. This past year, our chairs were Sheryl Breadman and Lori Simmons. Letters have already been sent to all sixth graders registered in area Reform and Conservative religious schools for next year. The co-chairs for 2010 are Sheryl Breadman and Lynn Wolfe. We look forward to starting the program again in January, 2010.

JYG/TIFTY

TIFTY, the Temple Israel Federation of Temple Youth, our high school youth group was led by Jodi Lapidus during the 2008-2009 school year and is currently led by a very capable team on the executive board. TIFTY continues to prosper with the help of their advisors, Debbie Schultz and Jennifer Patchin, as well as its “unofficial” third advisor, Jennifer’s husband, Doug.

TIFTY had a wide range of programming again this year. Some of the events include TIFTY Shabbat, a Spring Retreat, and pizza in the hut for Sukkot. TIFTY members also participated in the Regional Chavurot in Denver, Kansas City, and St. Louis.

Once again this year, TIFTY did an incredible job with its third annual Trivia night fundraiser and auction. The evening raised nearly \$4,000, which will benefit Camp Rainbow as well as TIFTY and JYG programming in the 2010 calendar year. TIFTYites enjoy being part of raising so much money for Camp Rainbow, a camp for children with cancer and blood-related illnesses. Camp Rainbow is a mitzvah project of the North American Federation of Temple Youth’s Missouri Valley region.

This fall, TIFTY has been hard at work planning NFTY Missouri Valley’s SLIID (St. Louis Illinois Iowa District) Chavurah. TIFTY hosted about 80 NFTYites and advisors from around our half of the region at TI November 20 – 22. The theme of the weekend was “Fast Times at NFTY High” and explored issues important to teens from a Jewish perspective. Co-chairs for the weekend were Liz Solomon and Jerry Thomeczek, who led an enthusiastic planning team. They planned programs, services, social action, and a social event.

Leadership development is an integral part of TIFTY. Before the school year began, our executive board spent time at the Sheraton Westport to bond as a group and set individual and group goals for the year. The board holds monthly meetings to plan the business of TIFTY and work on programming and membership recruitment.

As one of the Temple auxiliaries, TIFTY is devoted to giving back to the Temple. In addition to leading the annual TIFTY Shabbat service, TIFTY members also participated in the High Holy Day services and led the Havdalah service at the conclusion of the Yom Kippur service. TIFTY also hosts the annual Purim Carnival.

All of the TI Youth Groups (5th-12th grade) came together for the annual Mitzvah Day program at Build-A Bear Workshop. Participants made the trip to make bears to be donated to the annual Hanukkah Hugs program. Our youth groups made and donated 18 bears this year.

TIFTY maintains www.tifty.org to keep members and their parents current on TIFTY happenings. Additionally, TIFTY has two Facebook groups - TIFTY is NFTY for all current TIFTY members and TIFTY Board 5770 for the TIFTY board. These mechanisms serve as the primary communication means for our membership.

Club 56

Club 56 is off to a great start. We kicked off the 2009-2010 school year with a Saturday night ice cream social and scavenger hunt at the temple. Fifteen fifth and sixth graders attended the event. The event concluded with Slichot services in which the Rabbis did a wonderful job of including the students. The night was a great success.

The second event was the Menorah Project. Fifth and sixth graders (both returnees and those new to the program) went with Club 56 to the Painted Zebra where they painted menorahs that were then sold for various fund raising events both in the temple and outside in the community. So far, Club 56 has managed to raise \$170 with 5 menorahs left to donate, sell, and/or raffle.

The next event was for Mitzvah Day. Ten fifth and sixth graders joined the older youth groups for the annual Mitzvah Day program at Build-A-Bear Workshop. Participants, along with the advisors, Rabbis Feder and Alper, and some willing parent volunteers went to the mall to make bears to be donated to the annual Hanukkah Hugs program through the Jewish Food Pantry.

Three more events are planned for the 2009-2010 school year.

College Outreach

The committee sent holiday packages to our college youth for the High Holidays. We only have a small group of addresses this year so if anyone would like their college kids or grandkids to receive a holiday package for Passover, please make sure we have his/her school address.

Our youth group is simply amazing and the Youth Activities Co-Chairs and the rest of the committee would like to thank Debbie Schultz and Jennifer Patchin for their dedication, long hours and incredible devotion to our youth.

TIFTY Board 2009-2010

Jerry Thomeczek, Programming VP
Healy Slakman, Religious & Cultural VP
Liz Solomon, Membership VP
Ellie Morosohk, Communication & Visuals VP
Andy Cohen, Special Projects Coordinator

The Youth Activities Committee of 2009

Lynne Lippmann and Diane Packman, Co-chairs
Debbie Schultz, TIFY Co-advisor, JYG advisor
Jennifer Patchin, TIFTY Co-advisor
Stephanie Rhea, Club 56 Advisor
Committee Members: Judy Jacks, Jill Silverstein
Rabbi Michael Alper, staff liaison



YOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

Temple Israel's Education programs strive to provide an understanding of Reform Judaism and instill pride in our Jewish heritage. Our programs seek to engage our community, promoting an enduring relationship with God and the Jewish people through worship, Torah study, and the performance of acts of loving kindness. We encourage individuals to develop their unique Jewish identities through lifelong learning.

In 2009 the Youth Education Committee, under the new leadership of Sheri O'Gorman, continued to work with the Director of Education to review and make recommendations concerning all the programs of our Religious School, Hebrew School, and Bar/Bat Mitzvah program.

The committee spent a great deal of its time assuring that we were working toward living both the mission of the congregation as well as the mission of the Youth Education programs. To that end, adjustments were made to several of our programs. Tot Holidays added a session, Torah Study Shabbat for 6th grade families was discontinued, Grade Level Shabbat dinners were added, and It's a Girl Thing was added as an Academy elective. At the end of the school year, families were asked to respond to a survey about Religious School on a survey monkey and results were reviewed by the committee.

Our school benefited from several granted programs. Creating Jewish Gems continued for a second year funded by a Crown Family Education Grant. Teachers attended a workshop on "Active Jewish Learning" paid for by a School Enhancement Grant from CAJE. Our 9th graders took a class trip to Cincinnati with the assistance of the Bohm Fund for Jewish education. And four of our teachers went to Israel for 10 days with funding from The Knesset Israel Initiative of Jewish Federation and a School Enhancement Grant from CAJE.

We continue to be extremely proud of our amazing faculty. At Jewish Education Shabbat services each spring we honor teachers who have been teaching for a multiple of 5 years. In May, 2009, we honored Sammy Shoss for 40 years of teaching Kindergarten. A tree has been planted in her honor near our playground.

Our committee meets five times a year to consult with the Director of Education and help set the policies for our school programs. Our agenda is determined in large part by our Mission Statements as well as by feedback from our families.

Sheri O'Gorman, Chair

Committee Members: Carol Cohen (Board Liaison), Brian Goldberg, Loren Ludmerer, Lori Orbals, Lael Simon, Janice Singer, Karen Smoller, Elizabeth Snidman, Kevin Zeldin.

