



Welcome,

Thank you for your interest in Temple Emanu El. We are proud to offer an inviting atmosphere; meaningful, family-oriented Shabbat services; an innovative Religious School; a nurturing Jewish Preschool; a broad range of adult education opportunities, highly-attended youth groups, and many active constituent groups including our Brotherhood and Women of Temple Emanu El (WOTEE).

There are many ways to become acquainted with all that Temple Emanu El offers. In addition to the information that follows, you can visit our website at [www.TEECleve.org](http://www.TEECleve.org), follow us on Facebook and Twitter, request to begin receiving our weekly TEEMail messages, and most importantly, come visit us in person.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tour, please contact Andrea Rubin at 216.454.1210 or [arubin@teecleve.org](mailto:arubin@teecleve.org). We assure you that we always respond to the particular needs of each person and family with understanding and confidentiality.

We look forward to introducing you to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven L. Denker".

Steven L. Denker  
Rabbi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Renee Higer".

Renee Higer  
Executive Director



# CLERGY



**Steven L. Denker, Rabbi**, joined the Temple Emanu El family in 2004. He is known for developing personal relationships with congregants of all ages. Rabbi Denker can be found holding an infant during services or on the floor at eye-level with preschoolers during Tot Shabbat. Rabbi Denker's humor and warmth is exhibited on the bema, in the classroom and when he visits congregants and their families in the hospital or in other times of need. Rabbi Denker delivers spiritual services and witty intellectual sermons, while maintaining a family-friendly atmosphere.



**Daniel A. Roberts, Rabbi Emeritus**, has been a leader of our congregation with a passion for Judaism for over 40 years. His longevity has served as a bridge from the past to the present. He has seen congregants through lifecycle events from Consecration to B'nai Mitzvah to marriage. His leadership both within the Temple family and the greater community is constantly demonstrated. An expert in the field of bereavement, Rabbi Roberts often lectures locally, nationally and internationally on death and dying. He is also known for his humor, voted funniest Rabbi in Cleveland in 2011.



**Richard Lawrence, Cantor**, has been singing and playing piano since childhood, and is happy to take his passion and use it to serve the Jewish community. On the bema leading services, singing with the youth choir or leading congregants in the Purimspiel, Cantor Lawrence enjoys bringing people together through music. He loves learning and engaging with students of all ages, and likes exploring Jewish texts as a way to help us shape our own Judaism today. He is an eager teacher of Jewish musical history, traditional chant, and liturgical music.



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Officers

**Adam Abrams**, President  
**David Sperling**, Executive Vice President  
**Sue Krantz**, Vice President/Treasurer  
**Darcy Hershey**, Vice President  
**Pam Richards**, Vice President  
**Lillian Schlachter**, Vice President  
**Jenny Walinsky**, Secretary

## Board of Trustees

Sheldon Baskin  
David Blumenthal  
Jeff Brooks  
Tracy Gehrt  
Larry Goddard  
Rick Gross  
Peter Haas  
Evan Klotzman  
Art Kraus  
Regina Olbinsky  
Jared Shapiro  
Adam Wallenstein  
Adam Weissberg  
Marilyn Zaas  
Martha Zlotnik

## Life Trustee

Stanley Blum  
Rick Horvitz

## Brotherhood Rep

Mitch Cronig  
Alan Levine

## Youth Rep

Peter Abrams

## Past Presidents

Leslie Atkinson  
Matt Ellin  
Dennis Hershey  
Ruth Hurwitz  
Jerome Kustin  
Richard Landis  
Stanley Levy  
Ralph Rosenthal  
Robert Stern  
Judy Uram  
Ed Weisler





# WORSHIP & RITUAL

Temple Emanu El is an observant Reform congregation which offers an assortment of *Shabbat* and holiday/festival worship services. Our *Shabbat* services generate warmth and spirituality. This special feeling of community in prayer, song and worship encourages members to actively participate in services and share life-cycle celebrations.



## **Shabbat Services**

Friday evening services are held weekly at 6:15 pm with a Pre-Reception held prior to services at 5:45 pm. Frequently, we hold special *Shabbat* services that feature our Chai Band, our Youth Choir, award presentations, special discussion topics, student participation and more. We offer a variety of interesting themes and topics that have included; Broadway Comes to Shul, The Music and Meditation of Shlomo Carlebach, a discussion on Israeli elections, and presentations of our annual *Tikkun Olam* awards.

*Shabbat* morning services are held weekly at 10:30 a.m. Once a month, we hold our *Shabbat B'Yachad* (*Shabbat Together*) service. This is an interactive, multi-generational service followed by a congregational brunch.

Additionally, *Tot Shabbat Services* are offered monthly. These memorable services for younger children combine a short service with stories and songs along with a themed activity, crafts and a snack.

## **Weekly Torah Study**

Join a lively and diverse community that meets and explores the Torah each *Shabbat* morning with Rabbi Denker from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Bring an open mind and discover the amazing relevance that our ancient text has to modernity.

## **High Holy Day Services**

The High Holy Days are celebrated with a memorable blend of traditional prayer and inspirational holiday music. Adding a warm community feeling to our High Holy Days, post *B'nai Mitzvah* students often participate in the *Torah* service. Adults and children of all ages are welcome to attend our services. In addition, a youth service led by teens is offered simultaneously while supervised activities and childcare is available for children ages eighteen months to 6 years old during these services. An



afternoon children's service is offered on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*.

# EDUCATION

At Temple Emanu El, we encourage and challenge learners of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to discover the spiritual, religious and cultural treasures of our tradition. We strive to create an inviting educational environment in which everyone can participate.

## Religious School

Our Religious School, accredited by the Association of Reform Jewish Educators, encourages our PreK through Grade 12 students to make informed choices so that they can develop a sense of faith in their lives found through love of God, study of *Torah* and identification with



the Jewish people. We consider education to be a life-long process that emphasizes the partnership between parents, synagogue and school. Our clergy and faculty, along with

Education Director, Marla Wolf, instill the importance of doing *mitzvot* and provide engaging lessons that teach our students about *Torah*, *Avodah* (finding sacred connections) and *G'milut Chasadim* (acts of loving kindness).

We also partner with parents to find enriching ways our students can live Jewishly. Students have the opportunity to engage in *T'filah* (prayer) with our clergy, draw closer to God and study *Ivrit* (Hebrew) in order to understand the meaning behind the prayers we say on Shabbat, Holy Days and lifecycle events. Together, students find meaningful ways to connect to *Eretz Yisrael* (Israel) and learn about the *chagim* (holidays). We believe in helping our children enrich their Jewish

experience outside the classroom as well. We strongly encourage attendance at Jewish overnight camps and travel to Israel to help reinforce our children's Jewish identities and to broaden their Jewish education. Thanks to generous donors, provisions for Israel travel and camp scholarships are available.

## Preschool & Childcare

Our Judaically-oriented program provides a safe, nurturing and supportive environment in which preschoolers can learn to play and socialize. Personal contact with the clergy fosters a sense of Jewish identity and encourages the learning of basic Jewish traditions.

Open to children ages 3 months through Pre-Kindergarten, our program includes the use of our private playgrounds, music and gym classes, library time, daily art and science activities and more.

Under the direction of Katie Theobald, the Preschool is a 3 star Step-Up-To-Quality program. Open weekdays from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. TEE Preschool offers half and full day programs. A kosher-style hot lunch and snacks are provided.

## Adult Education

We offer a variety of learning opportunities that included Jewish literature, Jewish music, Holocaust education, Bible studies, Yiddish



and Hebrew classes and more. We also hold ongoing Torah study, books clubs, speakers and discussions groups.

# CONSTITUENT GROUPS

Temple Emanu El is a *haimish* congregation. People visit. They feel at home. They stay. We provide activities to nourish our congregants spiritually, intellectually and socially through these constituent groups as well as others.

## Brotherhood

TEE Brotherhood offers members the opportunity for working, learning and socializing with a group of dedicated Jewish men who provide service and support to our Religious School, youth group, congregation and the community at large. Programs and speakers have included the US Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, a baseball historian, a representative from NASA, and more. Community building, networking and socializing are a part of activities including poker tournaments, sporting events, beer tasting, a night at the *Schvitz*, a trip on the Goodtime III and most notably, the Annual Sports Night which brings in local sports personalities, executives, and players.

## Women of Temple Emanu El

The Women of Temple Emanu El (WOTEE) is a multi-generational group that brings women together for social, spiritual, educational and fundraising events. We offer a new member luncheon, guest speakers, mystery trips, Torah study, book reviews and more. WOTEE is involved in a wide array of activities including sponsoring our weekly *Oneg Shabbat* and donating gifts.



## TEMTY & JTEEE Youth Groups

TEMTY is Cleveland's most active Reform temple youth group offering social, educational and religious experiences for students in grades 9 to 12. Our Junior Youth Group is for our students in grades 6 to 8. Programs including youth-led services, retreats, *Tikkun Olam* projects, planning the annual Purim Carnival and more providing an opportunity to meet and socialize with other Jewish students locally and nationally.

## Tikkun Olam Committee

This committee plans and promotes community service programs and social action including food, clothing, toys and toiletries collections for local organizations as well as to bring to Israeli soldiers; volunteering at food pantries and soup kitchens; and involvement in the Greater Cleveland Congregations.

## Kehilat Chesed (Caring Committee)

Based upon our rich Jewish tradition, this committee promotes a culture of caring by providing support, solace and hope to congregants and their families during times of illness, loss or need, as well as recognizing their joyful milestones and accomplishments.

**Additional information is available on our website at [www.TEECleve.org](http://www.TEECleve.org).**