

Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



1 Tammuz 5783 June 20, 2023 139TH MEETING

### MISSION & VISION

The mission of Adath Jeshurun Congregation, a member of the Conservative Movement, is to be a progressive, egalitarian and sacred community dedicated to Torah (learning and tradition), Avodah (prayer and spirituality) and Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving kindness).

**Egalitarian:** Adath Jeshurun Congregation embraces equally all members of its community

**Progressive:** Adath Jeshurun Congregation adopts a full agenda of religious and social action

**Sacred:** Adath Jeshurun Congregation seeks to find *kedushah* (holiness) in every aspect of our lives



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### **PROGRAM**

President's Welcome and Call to Order	<b>Ed Zeman</b> PRESIDENT
Invocation	
Star Spangled Banner and Hatikva Hazzan Joa	ınna Dulkin
Approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes	Ed Zeman
Recognition of Outgoing Officers and Trustees	Ed Zeman
Outgoing President's Remarks	Ed Zeman
Nominating Committee Report*	
Election and Installation of New Officers and Trustees Rabbi Aaror	_
Presentation to Outgoing President	hris Kellogg
Incoming President's Remarks	hris Kellogg
High Holy Days 5784 Rabbi Aaron Weininger & Hazzan Joa	ınna Dulkin
Honoring Staff Milestone Years of Service	Adath Staff
	aron Garber VARD WINNER
0	rold Kravitz

# 138TH ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

### 13 Sivan 5782 | June 12, 2022 | 10:30 AM

President's Welcome and Call to Order	<b>Ed Zeman</b> PRESIDENT
Invocation	arold Kravitz
MAX NEWMAN FAMILY CHAIR I	IN RABBINICS
Star Spangled Banner and Hatikva <b>K</b>	(elsey Bailey
Approval of the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes	Ed Zeman
Recognition of Outgoing Officers	Ed Zeman
Nominating Committee Report	
Election and Installation of New Officers and Trustees	
President's Remarks	Ed Zeman
Honoring Staff Milestone Years of Service	Adath Staff
Shem Tov Award	Scott Gordon VARD WINNER
Closing Benediction	_

The meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Zeman President

# INCOMING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### **Administrative Executive Board**

**Chris Kellogg** 

President

**Craig Spencer** 

President Elect

Jeremy Zacks\*\*

Vice President, Finance/Treasurer

Sarah Orbuch

Vice President, Congregational & Community Engagement

**Debra Krawetz** 

Vice President, Ritual Engagement & Spirituality

**Gary Kibort** 

Vice President, Facilities & Security

**Kim Gelperin** 

Vice President, Learning & Education

**Drew Zamansky** 

Secretary

**Ed Zeman** 

Immediate Past President

\*\*Second Term

### **Trustees**

### **Program Chairperson**

Mollie Divine Primary Education
Raleigh Fromstein Social Programs
Kim Gedan Israel Affairs

Susan Geller Membership Recruitment & Retention

Leslie Goldblatt Life Care

Eric Hausman Communication & Marketing

Stacy Horwitz Social Action

Stephanie Paul Secondary Education

Jeff Usem Fundraising & Development

Skylar Werde Adult Education

Barb Fishman Second Immediate Past President

**At Large** 

Meira Besikof Jeff Sherman Adeel Saad Mark Stesin Jonathan Shaver Marty Stillman

Respectfully submitted by the  ${f 2023\ Nominating\ Committee}:$ 

Barb Fishman, Chairperson, Chris Kellogg, Ed Zeman

### 2022-2023 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **Executive Board**

**Ed Zeman** 

President

**Chris Kellogg** 

President Elect

**Skylar Werde** 

Adult Learning Vice President

**Debra Altschuler** 

Marketing/Communications Vice President

Jeff Usem

Development & Fundraising Vice President

Jeremy Zacks

Treasurer

**Mark Freeman** 

Human Resources Vice President

**Iodi Rubin** 

Jewish Life & Learning Vice President

Natalie Zamansky

Membership Vice President

**Andrea Potashnick** 

Primary Education Vice President

**Gary Kibort** 

Property/Catering Vice President

**Kim Gelperin** 

Secondary Education Vice President

**Ann Miller** 

Secretary

**Barb Fishman** 

Immediate Past President

**Debbie Spencer** 

Second Immediate Past President

### **Trustees**

Sally Appelbaum\* Diane Arenson+ Etta Barry+ Jenny Benowitz Meira Besikof Carol Bromer\* Judy Cook\* Jeff Daniels Cindy Dubansky+ Sharon Garber+ Nancy Getzkin\*\* Leslie Goldblatt+ Judy Goldstein\*+

Mike Greenstein\* Barbara Rubin-Greenberg\* Adeel Saad\* Stacy Horwitz Raleigh Kaminsky \* Alexis Kessler Stacy Kibort David Orbuch\* Joyce Orbuch\* Sarah Orbuch Ilya Perepelitsyn Norman Pink (z"l)\* Paul Pink\*

Tema Rosenbaum+ Joy Sandler+ Heidi Schneider\* David Segal\* Jonathan Shaver+ David Sherman Jeff Sherman Mark Stesin Marty Stillman Ardis Wexler\* Drew Zamansky

# 2022-2023 PROFESSIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rabbi Harold J. Kravitz

Senior Rabbi

Max Newman Family Chair in Rabbinics

Rabbi Aaron S. Weininger

Rabbi

Berman Family Chair in Jewish Learning

Hazzan Joanna Dulkin

Hazzan

Miranda Weisbuch

**Executive Director** 

**Reb Jim Sherman** 

Rabbis' Associate

**Rabbi Barry Cytron** 

Senior Scholar

Lori Banker

**Finance Director** 

**Andrea Blumberg** 

**Director of Operations and Fundraising** 

**Talor Blustin** 

Development Director- Adath Jeshurun Foundation

Risa Kessler

B'nai Mitzvah and Torah Reading Coordinator

Lindsay Makarem

Gan Office Manager

**Diane Mavis** 

**Executive Assistant** 

Victoria Norlander

**Finance Assistant** 

**Jenifer Robins** 

Director of Young Adult and Family Life

Luz Sather

**Catering Director** 

**Elaine Savick** 

**Congregational Nurse** 

**Rachel Sher** 

**Director of Youth Engagement** 

Rae Silberman

**Marketing and Operations Specialist** 

**Anna Simon** 

**Director of Congregational Life** 

Elisheva Thompson

**Director of Communications** 

Julie Ziessman

**Director of Early Childhood Education** 

### PROFESSIONAL STAFF MILESTONE YEARS OF SERVICE

Jim Sherman	20	Sydney Schaffer	5
Heidi Zipkin	15	Anna Simon	5
Andrea Blumberg	<b>5</b>	Kiara Stonebraker	5
Debra Lynn Perna	5	Stephanie Stover	5

### **PAST LEADERSHIP**

### **Senior Rabbis**

C. David Matt\*

Jesse Schwartz\*
Albert Gordon\*
Morris Gordon\*
1946-52
Stanley Rabinowitz\*
1953-60
Jerome Lipnick\*
1960-65
Arnold Goodman\*
1966-82
Barry Cytron
1983-96
Harold J. Kravitz
1996-2023
Aaron Weininger
2023-present

### **B'nai Emet Past Presidents**

Herman Freidson* Alex Astren* Martin Schoenberger*	1972-75 1975-77 1977-79	Adeel Saad Sari Lederman (co-president)	2003-05 2005-09
Gerald Gold* Alice Flom*	1979-81 1981-83	Adeel Saad (co-president)	2006-07
Lorraine Astren* Ron Burton*	1983-85 1985-86	Paul Tuchman (co-president)	2007-09 2009-11
Evelyn Flom* Beverly Dolinsky* Alan Ingber	1986-87 1987-91 1991-93	Adeel Saad	2009-11
Tris Hage Martin Schoenberger*	1993-95 1995-97		
Alan Grone Bonnie Berezovsky Alan Ingber	1997-99 1999-01 2001-03		

### \*z"l - may their memories be for a blessing.

### **Past Presidents**

Joseph Schanfeld*	1907-32
Louis B. Schwartz*	1932-35
Morris Kantar*	1935-43
Dr. David Pink*	1943-46
George Stillman*	1946-47
Arthur Figen*	1947-48
Louis M. Cohen*	1948-50
Samuel Libman*	1950-52
Maurice Grossman*	1952-55
Ellis Peilen*	1955-58
Sim Heller*	1958-62
Sidney Goldish*	1962-63
David Gordon*	1964-67
Irving Brand*	1967-69
Melvin Orenstein*	1969-71
Jerome Fischbein*	1971-73
Irving Nudell*	1973-75
Jules Levin*	1975-77
Gerald Miller*	1977-79
Esther Katz*	1979-81
Norman Pink*	1981-83
Sally Appelbaum	1983-85
Judy Goldstein	1985-87
Paul Pink	1987-89
Joyce Orbuch	1989-91
Melvin Goldberg*	1991-93
Norman Pink*	1993-96
Carol Bromer	1996-98
Jerry Zweigbaum*	1998-00
Raleigh Kaminsky	2000-02
Judy Cook	2003-04 2004-06
David Segal David Orbuch	2004-06
Heidi Schneider	2008-08
Mike Greenstein	2008-10
Barbara Rubin-Greenberg	2010-12
Christine Kellogg	2012-14
Debbie Spencer	2014-16
Barb Fishman	2018-18
Julie Ziessman	2018-20
Ed Zeman	2020-21
Eu Zeman –	2021-23

### SHEM TOV AWARD

The Shem Tov (Good Name) Award is given to individuals who have contributed substantially to congregational activity and have had significant impact on the life of the synagogue community.

Each year, several months prior to the Annual Meeting, a committee composed solely of previous award recipients meets to select an individual who best mets these criteria.

Sam Abrams*	1959	Jeffrey Schachtman	1993
Herman Neff*	1960	Daniel Heilicher*	1996
Aaron Herman*	1961	Edwin Agranoff*	1997
Ellis Peilen*	1962	Norman Pink*	1998
Sim Heller*	1963	<b>Charlotte Nudell</b>	1999
Sidney Goldish*	1964	Carol Bromer	2000
Sheldon Gensler	1965	Martin Bush* & Ben Kibort*	2001
David Gordon*	1967	Jerry Zweigbaum*	2002
Esther Katz*	1970	Bruce Nemer*	2003
Melvin Orenstein*	1972	Barbara Parks	2004
Gerald (Sonny) Miller*	1975	Julie Kozberg	2006
Jerome Fischbein*	1976	Mike Greenstein	2007
David Sherman*	1977	Ellen Sue Parker	2008
Morris Besner*	1978	Judy Cook	2009
Jules Levin*	1979	<b>Lon Rosenfield &amp; Todd Werner</b>	2010
Irving Nudell*	1980	Alan Gingold	2011
<b>Judy Goldstein</b>	1981	<b>Bob &amp; Debby Wolk</b>	2012
Max & Dinah* Elkin	1982	Sue Kane	2013
Sidney Rich*	1983	Paula Fox*	2014
Joyce Orbuch	1984	David Liss	2015
Martin Miller*	1985	Cindy Dubansky	2016
Maurice Selcer*	1986	Neil Meyer	2017
Goldie Wilensky*	1987	Chris Kellogg	2018
<b>Donald Masler</b>	1989	Jan Frisch	2019
Raleigh Brand*	1990	Adath Community	2020
Sally Appelbaum	1991	Scott Gordon	2021
		Sharon Garber	2022



2023 Shem Tov Award Recipient: Joy Sandler

### GOVERNANCE

Starting in January 2022, the Adath Strategic Planning Governance Committee (Co-chaired by Chris Kellogg and Jonathan Shaver) began the process of reviewing the synagogue's governance structure of the Board of Trustees. The Committee worked closely with the Adath Board of Trustees, used information from the Congregation's Strategic Surveys, and drew on the expertise of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

The goal of the committee was to understand the goals and needs of the Board of Trustees to efficiently govern our synagogue. Based on this, a new structure was developed which streamlines the Board of Trustees and focuses the Board of Trustees on strategic oversight. The size of the Board of Trustees will decrease from over 50 members to approximately 25 which is consistent with the trend of synagogue Boards across the country.

The Board of Trustees will consist of Officers, Portfolio Vice Presidents, Board Committee Chairs and approximately 5 at-large members. The concept of Portfolios is to divide our congregational activities into conceptual groupings with a Vice President overseeing each of the groups and a Board Chair supervising each committee. The following chart identifies the 5 Portfolios and the Vice Presidents and Board chairs that oversee the activities of the Synagogue in conjunction with our clergy and staff.

# Synagogue Portfolios 2023-2024

# **Learning & Education**

S: Reb Jim Sherman S: Rabbi Harold Kravitz S: Rabbi Aaron Weininger VP: Kim Gelperin S: Hazzan Joanna Dulkin

# **Primary Education**

S: Jenifer Robins C: Mollie Divine S: Julie Ziessman

- Gan Shelanu / B'Yachad Camp Mishpacha
- Young Family
- Programs Liaison to Talmud Torah & HMJDS

# Secondary Education

C: Stephanie Pau

S: Risa Kessler S: Rachel Sher

- Shabbat Morning Program USY, Maccabees, Kadima
- Kallot
- Rosh Chodesh / Shevet Achim
- College Age Outreach
- TEN@Adath
- Liaison to Talmud Torah
- Camp Interaction
- Haftarah Program
- Youth Commission

# **Adult Education**

- C: Skylar Werde

- Adult Classes
- S: Anna Simon

# **Community Engagement** Congregational &

S: Rabbi Harold Kravitz S: Rabbi Aaron Weininger S: Miranda Weisbuch S: Hazzan Joanna Dulkin VP: Sarah Orbuch

# **Recruitment & Retention** Membership

C: Susan Geller

# Social Programs

C: Raleigh Fromstein

- S: Jenifer Robins S: Anna Simon
- Makom
- HaLev

Atid

- Hillsiders
- Women of Adath

# **Life Care**

C: Leslie Goldblatt

- Cemetery
- Chevra
- Yad Sima Tova

# Israel Affairs

C: Kim Gedan

# Social Action

C: Stacy Horwitz

- Keruv Inclusion
- Hesed
- Antiracism

# **Communications & Marketing**

S: Elisheva Thompson C: Eric Hausman

S: Rae Silberman

- Library
- Senior Programming

**Communications Policies** 

Social Media Chadashot Website

**President** Chris Kellogg

Rabbi Emeritus Rabbi Harold Kravitz

## Finance

Ritual Engagement & Spirituality

S: Rabbi Aaron Weininger VP: Jeremy Zacks

S: Rabbi Harold Kravitz

S: Miranda Weisbuch

S: Luz Sather

Security

S: Andrea Blumberg

VP: Gary Kibort S: Miranda Weisbuch

Facilities & Security

S: Hazzan Joanna Dulkin S: Rabbi Harold Kravitz S: Rabbi Aaron Weininger VP: Debbie Krawetz

# Treasury

C: Jeremy Zacks

Art & Design

Catering

& Property

**Building Furnishing** 

- Financial Management Financial Statement Annual Budgeting

## & Development **Fundraising**

S: Andrea Blumberg C: Jeff Usem

- L'Chaim Campaign
- Annual Benefit

Senior Rabbi Rabbi Aaron Weininger

**Executive Director** Miranda Weisbuch Cantor Hazzan Joanna Dulkin

# **Adath Jeshurun** Foundation

- C: David Orbuch
- S: Rabbi Aaron Weininger S: Rabbi Harold Kravitz

S: Miranda Weisbuch S: Rabbi Aaron Weininger

Jaclyn Millner (President)

Jacob Millner

Talmud Torah Board Adath-Beth El

- S: Miranda Weisbuch
- S: Talor Blustin

Eric Hausman Steve Gilfix Anya Belenky

Lauren Sarnak Janessa Prawer **Adam Minter** 

Ed Zeman

Matt Heilicher

# **Brad Kanter** C: Board Chair

# S: Staff

VP: Vice President

# Committee

Portfolio

# Associated Entity

# Administrative and Finance Committee Reports



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## **Development and Fundraising**

Our Adath community was once again very generous over this past year. We continued to evolve over the year transitioning to an environment winding down from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We worked with congregants to find ways to connect to our synagogue however it worked best for them and their families.

The annual L'Chaim campaign raised \$250,000, which was our goal. This was wonderful and shows the continued dedication of our engaged membership. This is being written just prior to our annual benefit event honoring Rabbi Kravitz and his 36 years of service to our congregation. We already have \$195,000 raised through sponsorships, tribute book donations, and concert ticket sales, and expect to bring in close to our stretch goal of \$200,000. The event will be attended by his colleagues and friends from across the country. We're looking forward to the entire weekend of festivities and appreciate all of the support shown for Rabbi Kravitz, his family, and our congregation. To all of our benefit sponsors and supporters... THANK YOU!!

The following are some additional development and fundraising highlights from the past year:

- The Youth Department organized the annual Purim carnival, which returned to its prior glory as a wellattended inside event. It was wonderful to see so many children (and adults) in costumes back together celebrating the holiday. It couldn't have been accomplished without all of the volunteers and eager attendees.
- Adath members continued directing special gifts toward Gan Shelanu Preschool, USY, TAMID, summer camp scholarships, Adath Chesed Shel Emes Cemetery, the Center for Learning and Spirituality, clergy Discretionary Funds, Anti-Racism efforts, Yad Sima Tova, and other specialty areas.
- Our many volunteers assisted with the L'Chaim Campaign, Purim Carnival, Annual Benefit planning committees, and all of the diverse programming throughout the entire year.
- The Adath Jeshurun Foundation has continued to flourish by focusing on the maintenance and growth of our many expanding Foundation Funds. We've also worked closely with our investment advisors and committee to make sure our funds are allocated in an appropriate manner to support our mission.

The ongoing generosity of our congregation is never taken for granted and is greatly appreciated! However you support our Adath community, whether it be by donating your money or your time, we couldn't do it without you.

B'Shalom, **Jeff Usem** 

Vice President, Fundraising and Development

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### **Finance**

The purpose of the Finance Committee is to provide oversight and governance regarding the financial standing of our synagogue. We do this by providing guidance and communication to the organization's leadership to assist them in operating in a fiscally responsible manner.

Throughout the year, monthly financial statements along with updated forecasts for the remainder of the year are issued to staff, Executive Committee and members of the Board of Trustees. That information is used to assess the financial performance of the various programs on a current basis so that appropriate and timely decisions can be made if/when needed. The Finance Committee meets several times a year to discuss the financial statements and other financial matters and meets several times in the early spring to work on the annual budget. This process starts with the Finance Committee communicating financial expectations for the upcoming year with the various department leaders. The department leaders then prepare budgets for their areas for the next fiscal year based on what they know and what they expect. After this is done, the individual departmental budgets are combined into one overall operating budget, after which the Finance Committee works to bring the overall budget into balance, typically working with our executive director, finance director, clergy and various department leaders, as necessary, to revise the proposed revenues and expenses.

This past year we have seen increasing fiscal challenges for the synagogue, but with the help of our dedicated staff we were able to navigate the challenges and come out ahead. In May the Board approved an approximately \$4.6 million balanced operating budget. Our 2023 budget reflects our current fiscal situation and the continued pressures of inflation but could change based on the economic and operating outlook in Minnesota. Our budget also reflects the ongoing support we receive from our Foundation.

As we continue to navigate the issues brought about by the pandemic and other financial factors in our world today, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to our Finance Director, Lori Banker, and our Executive Director Miranda Weisbuch. Their dedication and support to our synagogue allow us to have accurate, reliable, and important financial information to ensure that our congregation continues to operate successfully. I would also like to thank our incredibly devoted and talented synagogue staff who, despite today's operational challenges, are able to provide high quality services and programming to our community.

I would like to thank the members of the Finance Committee: Glenn Aronauer, Lori Banker, Susan Geller, Chris Kellogg, Jeff Usem, Miranda Weisbuch, Drew Zamansky, and Ed Zeman. They have all given countless hours of their time to support the synagogue and continue to work to ensure the long-term financial stability of our congregation.

### Jeremy Zacks

Chair

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### **Human Resources**

During this past year, the VP of Human Resources and other HR volunteers have provided support and guidance to the President, Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and staff regarding issues dealing with employment contracts, human resource policies, practices and procedures. I want to extend a sincere thank you to those who have offered professional guidance and counsel regarding employment and human resource matters. Moving forward Adath has entered into a co-employment relationship with Insperity, a Professional Employment Organization, who will provide Adath human resource consulting and a variety of benefits to our employees. The Adath Administrative Executive Committee will handle major human resource issues in conjunction with Insperity.

### **Mark Freeman**

VP of Human Resources

## **Marketing and Communications**

This year marked a period of transition for the Marketing department at Adath. In August, we welcomed Rae Silberman, our Marketing and Operations Specialist, to the team. Arriving at one of Adath's busiest times, Rae was instrumental in the completion and distribution of High Holy Day materials, informing the congregation of our offerings just a month later. Rae later took on our Chadashot Newsletter, as well as support of Adult Learning and our Adath committees, ensuring that their message was broadcast to the community.

Later in August, Lindsay Makarem joined the team as Office Manager of the Gan. Lindsay took over our Young Adults and Young Families communications, specializing in the Gan, HaLev, and Young Families programming, in addition to her responsibilities in the Gan.

In April, Adath hired Jewfolk Inc. as Adath's marketing consultant, with the hope of overhauling our Social Media Engagement strategy and email marketing strategy, as well as receiving help in executing that strategy. As part of our agreement, Jewfolk will also assist Adath in its advertising efforts to the broader community, and cover our events, as they did for the Adath Annual Benefit held just last week.

Lastly, with great excitement, we announced earlier this month that Elisheva Thompson has joined the Marketing team as Communications Director. Elisheva comes to us with over twelve years of experience in marketing, specializing in brand strategy, strategic communications, and human-centered design. Prior to coming on board at Adath, Elisheva led the brand and marketing department at UpStart, an accelerator and incubator for Jewish nonprofits. She has worked for national marketing agency Huge, and Conservative synagogue Congregation Tikvat Jacob in her hometown of Los Angeles. She is happy to be returning to the synagogue space, where her love of community intersects with her passion for Jewish spirituality.

This year will be a year of growth, rethinking, and retooling, as we reconsider our overall marketing strategy in pursuit of delivering our congregants the most up-to-date Adath news and offerings regardless of where they are at in their lives. We are excited to see what comes of our research and work as a team, with the help of Jewfolk Inc.

### Miranda Weisbuch

**Executive Director** 

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### Membership

While the pandemic gave us an opportunity to engage with members and prospective members in new and innovative ways, creating programs we never dreamed possible, we are pleased that this year was a return to so much of what was missed during the pandemic: in-person community. It has been wonderful to see more and more congregants attending Shabbat and Holiday services and synagogue activities. Our clergy, professional staff and lay leaders are dedicated to providing a welcoming and meaningful experience for all members and guests. We continue to enhance and add programming and support you in simchas, sorrows and all times in between.

We have been very busy providing the right support to garner new members, support existing members and continue to innovate to engage all of those in our community. Adath has demonstrated its innovativeness and flexibility, whether members are supported online or in-person. We are very fortunate to have such dynamic clergy, staff and lay leaders who are always strategizing about new and novel ways to engage existing and prospective members.

As we have emerged from the pandemic, we continue our journey of customizing our entry points into the synagogue, and meeting members exactly where they are. Adath membership is an active experience and there is no lack of activity going on at Adath. Our Chadashot highlight the activities happening daily at Adath. Please visit Adath's website regularly to see the myriad of ways Adath is continuing its programming and religious services.

Please help us continue our efforts by inviting a friend to join you for a program you are participating in at Adath this year. Please let the Clergy, staff or any Board member know if there's an Adath member who is struggling, feeling isolated or disconnected. Please let us know of newcomers in our community. Please let us know if there is a young family who is looking for a Jewish home like Adath. Please let us know if there are people looking for a new synagogue. We welcome all of you to join us in creating new relationships and sustaining existing ones.

### **Natalie Zamansky**

Chair

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### **Property and Security**

### **Property**

The property committee continues its focus on general and specific repairs, maintenance and continuous building improvements. This past year much of the attention has been dealing with aging equipment, and the challenges of related increasing energy costs. Looking ahead, the committee will be working on needed repairs and improvements building-wide within a thoughtful budgeting approach.

### **Security**

The security committee continues the important work of keeping everyone safe. This past year has seen additions of security staff, along with many security related building equipment upgrades and improvements. We were also thrilled to receive a \$150,000 grant from the Federal Government to help address some concerns. Looking ahead, the focus of the committee remains keeping every one safe.

### **Members**

Thank you to our dedicated Property and Security Committee members: Ivan Bonk, Jean Efron, Judy Elias, Stan Kagin, Dan Levitt, Jonathan London, Paul Pink, Lee Prohofsky, David Segal, Todd Heilicher, Mike Lurie, Uri Rosenwald, Sharon Zweigbaum, Harlan Jacobs, Miranda Weisbuch, Andrea Blumberg, Sharon Garber, Dan Steinberg, Ed Zeman and Rabbi Kravitz and Rabbi Weininger

Special gratitude to our Adath staff for all their work and efforts to support all committees.

### **Gary Kibort**

Vice President





# Education Committee Reports



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# The Center for Learning & Spirituality

### Adult Learning & Engagement, Atid (50+ group), Hillsiders (Seniors Group), Congregational Life and the Library

Led by Anna Simon, Director of Congregational Life, the Center for Learning and Spirituality continues to provide unique and meaningful opportunities for adults to learn, grow, play, connect, and build community. 2022-23 was an incredibly full (and fun) year!

### **WE LEARNED**

Our dedicated clergy, teachers, scholars and volunteers offered enriching opportunities for adults to develop new skills, challenge their thinking, and continue (or begin) down a path of lifelong learning. With a deep passion for learning, over 350 people jumped into everything from study groups, Hebrew classes, and the Soul Sisters class to Torah reading lessons, book discussions, online programs, and scholar events. The Intro to Judaism class, led by Rabbi Kravitz, brought new people to the Adath learning community as well.

### Highlights:

- Pre-High Holy Day Series: 5783, our post-pandemic [hopefully] selves, and the High Holy Days (Rabbi Cytron)
- Numero-Steinfeldt Scholar: A Bob Dylan Shabbat (Dr. Stephen Arnoff)
- Jewish Studies Series for a Better World Reproductive Rights: Religious Perspective (Hazzan Dulkin, Rev. Jia Starr-Brown, Kelli Clement, Earl Schwartz and a staged reading of the play, Roe)



### **WE GREW**

Over the past year, we offered many opportunities for self-reflection, mindfulness, and personal growth including a community Selichot program on forgiveness, a Yom Kippur meditation, and a variety of Mussar classes for every level of practice. Rabbi Kravitz, Rabbi Weininger, Hope Melton, Ofer Geller, and Heidi Scheider served as teachers and guides for the 50 people who studied Mussar during the past year.

### Highlights:

- The Sandra and Irwin Mandel Family Fund Scholar (Rabbi Geoffrey Claussen)
- Yoga of the Heart Shabbat Spirituality Retreat (Rabbi Sara Brandes and Hazzan Dulkin)

(continued on next page)

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### **WE PLAYED**

From laughing hysterically with 100 other people live trivia, to singing Bob Dylan songs on the patio and petting ALL the dogs at the Blessing of the Animals, we know how to have a good time!

### Highlights:

- Trivia in the Tent
- Honey-Palooza
- Havdalah, Music, & Whiskey w/Stephen Arnoff
- Blessing of the Animals
- Tu B'Shvat Hike
- Community Luminary Havdalah & Singing
- Purim Megillah Reading and Party
- Maple Sugaring & Brewery Meet Up
- Passover Matza Brei/Pizza Dinner & BINGO
- Shavuot Cheese Tasting & Wine Pairing
- Film Club w/Reb Jim Sherman



### **WE CONNECTED & BUILT COMMUNITY**

At the core of Adath is a kehillah (community) that would not be possible without our wonderful clergy, staff and board members, friendly "welcomers" and kind lifelong members who show new people the ropes. Making meaningful connections through shared experiences, celebrations and meals helps build this beautiful community.

### Highlights:

- Erev Shabbat Happy Hours & Nosh
- Shabbat Potluck Dinners
- Masorti Scholar weekend with Rabbi Yosef Baruch Fromer
- Wine & Cheese in the Sukkah
- Simchat Torah Dinner & Celebration

"As a new Adath member within the last year, I have been delighted by the vast array of social and adult learning opportunities. I have made new friends, deepened my spiritual practice, and for the first time in years feel connected to my Jewish community. Thank you for the thoughtful and intentional programming which serves to connect and strengthen our congregation."

- Cathy

### Skylar Werde

Vice President, Adult Learning









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### **Atid**

Atid, the Hebrew word for future, is an open group for anyone aged 50 plus that provides opportunities for deeper engagement through gatherings and events that take advantage of all the Twin Cities has to offer, as well as social, spiritual and educational opportunities at Adath. Together with Anna Simon, Director of Congregational Life and Rabbi Kravitz, Atid members were excited to gather fully in person this year to learn, schmooze and most of all to engage with friends and form new connections. This year our Atiders enjoyed two Potluck Shabbatot filled with many delicious dishes, were challenged at Trivia Night under the Adath Tent, gathered for Havdalah and Whiskey Tasting followed by a sing-a-long on the Adath patio, celebrated Sukkot at a Wine and Cheese event in the Sukkah, hiked at Westwood Nature Center with yummy tastings for Tu B'shvat, learned the art of Maple Sugaring at The Landing, and joined together with Makom (Adath's young adult group) for an educational and delectable Shavuot Cheese Tasting and Wine Pairing on the Adath patio. Through all of these experiences, the Atid group continues to thrive. We look forward to continued opportunities to connect and learn within our own Adath community and beyond.

**Jeannie Gilfix, Esther Haskvitz, and Lauren Segelbaum**Atid Co-Chairs

"Atid events are always a treat. It's a great way to connect with Adath members."

- Susan and Ofer



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### **Gan Shelanu Preschool**

The Adath Jeshurun Congregation's preschool, Gan Shelanu, supports our "youngest congregants" in building a foundation from which they will continue to cultivate their Jewish education. The Gan's comprehensive curriculum opens opportunities for students in a wide range of areas to help achieve cognitive, social, emotional and physical milestones while developing their Jewish identity.

During the summer of 2022 our Camp Mishpacha numbers continued to grow. As always, we spent as much time as possible outside enjoying waterplay, having snack and lunch at the picnic tables and playing on the playground. We added an incredible mud kitchen to our list of outdoor summer offerings. Our mud kitchen enables campers to participate in dramatic play in the great outdoors and provides opportunities for fine motor and gross motor development. A special thank you to Gan staff member, Lea Brand and our custodial staff Mauricio Vasquez Torres and Ed Ramirez for their tireless work to get the mud kitchen up and running. Mauricio also donated some large logs for kids to use as tables or chairs! We welcomed Zach Dulkin as our music specialist and celebrated Shabbat at the flagpole with Hazzan Dulkin. Lea Brand took on the role of "Farmer Lea" and taught the Mishpacha kids how to cultivate a garden. There were many opportunities to taste the fruits of our labor! Finally, we were thrilled to welcome families for both for our annual Fourth of July parade and picnic and the formal dedication of our mud kitchen, where Hazzan Dulkin and Rabbi Weininger hung a special mezuzah at the entrance.

Our school year began again in September. We were grateful to lift many of the COVID-19 precautions from the previous two years. Our enrollment continues to grow in a post pandemic era. Our enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year was almost 30% higher than the 2021-2022 school year. This past school year we added a second pre-K class and a third preschool class. We currently have a waiting list for our Infant room and a very full transitional toddler (children 16 – 25 months) class in our Beit Tinokot Program.

Working with curriculum consultant, Maia Poling, we set out to examine current curriculum and teaching practices, embrace "growth mindset", as a framework to see change as exciting and full of possibility. In addition, Maia presented varied methods of teaching and planning that allow for more authentic engagement in the classroom. After examination of our current curriculum and teaching practices, we decided to embrace a curricular philosophy of Emergent Curriculum. This philosophy focuses on using a student's interests to drive curriculum and embraces children's developmental stage, skill level and abilities. Students and teachers are co-constructors of learning.

We were excited to welcome guests back into our school with very few restrictions. Each Friday morning before Gan Shabbat Hazzan continued to facilitate Shabbat for You, a parent discussion group. Topics ranged from parenting in the pandemic to creating meaningful traditions in our families. Guests also had an opportunity to attend Gan Shabbat each week in person. We celebrated many holidays together including our Thanksgiving Feast, Gan Hannukkah Shabbat, the Gan Purim Parade, the Gan Seder, Passover Palooza and we finished our school year with a "trip" to Israel with special guest pilot, Janice Schachtman.

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### Gan Shelanu Preschool, cont.

Our school year concluded with pre-k graduation. Our community celebrated the accomplishments of 20 pre-k students and the culmination of their time at Gan Shelanu. This annual milestone celebration with filled with song, prayers and gratitude. Hazzan Dulkin presented each child with the book they had used for weekly Torah study, A Child's Garden of Torah by Joel Lurie Grishaver and Rabbi Weininger gave each child a copy of Oh, The Places You'll Go.

Gan Shelanu teachers and staff remain incredibly committed to their students and their families. We are grateful for the support that we receive from parents, grandparents, special friends, and former Gan families.

### Julie Ziessman

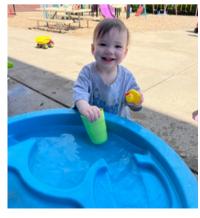
Director of Early Childhood Education













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## **Jewish Life and Learning**

As is written in our mission statement, Adath is a sacred community dedicated to Torah (learning and tradition), Avodah (prayer and spirituality) and Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving kindness). Our congregational programs provide a wide variety of opportunities to learn, explore and connect to foster Jewish engagement and personal spiritual development. As lifelong learners, we strive to engage our members from infancy through adulthood with a rich array of programming offered to our community in support of our mission.

Our professional staff have successfully provided opportunities for our congregants to re-engage following the isolation that so many felt during Covid. The staff and lay leaders worked together to understand the current needs and interests of our members to create programming that brought our community back to the synagogue. The feeling of fulfillment that came from filled classrooms at the Gan, large turnouts for young family programs, SMP teen tutors and students working together in the pits, laughter and learning at TEN/USY, adults engaging in book and knitting clubs, Makom get togethers, and numerous educational and speaker series reminds us that we continue to be a thriving Jewish Adath community.

Each Simchat Torah, the Jewish Life and Learning Cabinet selects two congregants who are honored for their inspiring service and dedication to the congregation. Past honorees have enriched learning in our congregation by their volunteerism, commitment and leadership. The 2022 honorees were Jonathan Shaver and Dudley Deshommes Kohls

### Past Honorees include:

2002 Irv Nudell\* and Mike Greenstein

2003 Dina\* and Max Elkin and Ellen Sue Parker

2004 Don Masler and Todd Werner

2005 Bruce Nemer and Joel Green

2006 Lon Rosenfield and Leslie Gotlieb

2007 Matt Gilfix\* and Roni Gingold

2008 Carol Bromer and Sue Oreck

2009 Alan Gingold and Scott Grossfeld

2010 Jeannie Gilfix and Sue Kane

2011 Steve Krikava and Jonathon London

2012 Paula Fox\* and Jaye Snyder

2013 Sharon Garber and Lee Prohofsky

2014 Sheila Davis and Joee Nelson and Natalie Zamansky

2015 Nancy Harold and Libby Parker

2016 Ruth Harris and Nancy Krawetz

2017 Chris Kellogg and Andrea Potashnick

2018 Bev Fishman and Greg Arenson

2019 Jacki Borofsky, Rachel Canfield, and Scott Gordon

2020 No recipient due to Covid pandemic

2021 Minyan Leaders

2022 Jonathan Shaver and Dudley Deshommes Kohls

\*z"l – may their memories be a blessing.

### Jodi Rubin

Vice President

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### **Makom**

We greatly appreciate the support of Beverly and Dick Fink, the Fish-Arenson Fund, and the Andy and Barb Fishman Youth and Family Engagement Fund of Adath Jeshurun Foundation which allows Makom to actively engage young adults and provide them with meaningful Jewish programming and community.

### **Empowering Young Adults To Enhance Their Jewish Life and Community**

This fall, an engaged core group of Makom leaders met with staff and clergy over dinner to strategize about a variety of young adult get-togethers. The group agreed to concentrate activities around monthly Shabbat dinners that, for the first time since early in Makom's 11-year history, met inside the synagogue. Many of these leaders are married or partnered and are more prone to come both to Makom as well as non-Makom events at Adath. Participants also attended Adath's Friday night services followed by a lovely Adath-prepared meal.

### **Praying and Playing Together**

Since this winter, the group continues to expand and Makomniks have stepped up to once-again host Makom Fridays in their homes. In-home hosting is the model that Makom began with and thrived on for many years. Pre-pandemic, Makom Fridays were held for almost a year in a beautiful event center in Uptown donated free-of-charge by Prairie Care Institute. Rabbi Weininger and other Makom leaders lead warm and heartfelt services and meaningful Jewish teachings and discussions.

One method Makom has employed to maximize visibility and participation is to partner with area organizations to co-host events. In August, Makom was the first-ever cohost of YALA's Ten-Pin Tuesdays. (YALA is the young adult constituency of the Twin Cities Jewish Federations.) Ten-pin Tuesdays is a very well-attended monthly young adult bowling outing. Many regular Makomniks met and mingled with other young adults and invited them to get involved with Makom. Makomniks also braved frigid temps to attend the second annual Community Luminary Havdalah.

During Rosh Hashanah, rabbinic intern Talia Kaplan facilitated a meaningful and spiritual "Tashlich On Tap" at Adath's marsh for 20 attendees. Many current Makomniks are not only drawn to young adult events, but also enjoy participation in Adath's other ritual and learning programs including the Tu B'Shvat hike, the recent Shavuot cheese-tasting and many all-congregation dinners, happy hours and celebrations.

### **Building Adath's Future**

Many Makom leaders have recently expanded their families and now are participants in HaLev programming, but get babysitting to still attend Makom events as well.

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### Makom, con't.

Here's what young adults say about Makom:

"Makom is valuable for so many reasons. Makom provides people who are new to Judaism or Adath, or who just want to meet more like-minded people in the Jewish community, with a way to immediately form real, authentic connections with other exceptional human beings. Makom provides people with a direct, easy, and meaningful way to share Shabbat with other people in the Jewish community, which can be a formative experience for those who are new to Judaism. Makom provides people with a forum in which to express and explore their Judaism and that of others without having to worry about being judged, which immediately results in them forming deeper connections to Jewish life." - Will B.

"Makom is how I found my Jewish community and my Jewish home after moving to Minnesota. Through Makom, my wife and I made amazing friends who we see regularly, both at Adath and for our own Shabbat dinners and holiday celebrations. After meeting so many fantastic people at Makom events, I feel excited to come to Adath to see friends, and I feel so comfortable there. Makom programming is what brought me and brings so many others into the shul and immersed in Jewish life." - **Jeremy C.** 

"Makom has had a very significant impact on our life. One of the very first experiences my spouse and I had at Adath was a Makom event. We were very new to Judaism and went to the event without knowing many people in the Jewish community, but were seeking to find a Jewish belonging. The professional staff and attendees were exceptionally warm, welcoming, and inclusive, and we were able to meet several people with whom we shared things in common. Today, several of the people/couples we met at our very first Makom event are some of our closest and most cherished friends.

At one Makom event, I remember the simplicity of sitting around the living room of the host's home with several others after enjoying our Shabbat meal and discussing what each person found compelling and impactful about Jewish life. It was a late night with deep conversation, lots of laughs, and the consumption of way too many of Adath's addicting cookies." - **Alexis B.** 

"Makom has given us a place to start finding and building Jewish community as young adults post college and helped us connect with a synagogue back in 2018/2019 when we were shul shopping. Having a dedicated program for cultivating a young adult Jewish community at a synagogue is important for ensuring the future of the community. Through Makom we've met other individuals that are members at Adath and we know these individuals will be long-time friends that we will look forward to seeing at shul. What's most special and unique about Makom is that it brings Judaism and Shabbat into the home. Having a Kabbalat Shabbat prayer service in someone's living room and then enjoy a delicious Shabbat meal together and life talk way past our bedtime is such a meaningful experience to have. Not much slips past our bedtime - but there is nothing like really good conversations and getting to know other fellow Makomniks." - **Sonya R. and Jacob R.** 

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## Makom, con't.













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### **HaLev**

### **Families with Young Children**

HaLev (families with young children) is a vibrant and growing constituency at Adath. Programs include Jewish holiday celebrations, ongoing series, and one-time special events. HaLev experiences are coordinated with Gan and B'Yachad programs to create myriad opportunities for families with young children to find meaning, enjoy themselves and build community together.

We greatly appreciate the support of **Beverly and Dick Fink, the Fish-Arenson Fund, and the Andy and Barb Fishman Youth and Family Engagement Fund of Adath Jeshurun Foundation**. This critical funding allows families to create strong, meaningful connections and to grow the strength of the Adath community of families with young children.

Here's what we did together last year...

### **Weekly classes and gatherings**

- **Toddler Music Class** Song leader, Jonah Kaplan, leads over 100 family members each week in an energetic Jewish music song and dance session.
- **Early Childhood Family Jewish Education (ECJFE)** In partnership with a Hopkins Public Schools early childhood parent educator, Adath families discussed child development and parenting. Many HaLev families have built strong bonds with each other through the ECFE program.
- **Milk & Cookies Bedtime Storytime** Each week on Zoom, Adath children log in to see Rabbi Weininger or a Gan teacher, listen to the book, socialize with their friends and recite the Shema together.
- **Backyard Shabbatot** Families young children to gather on Saturday afternoons in the summer to eat, play and schmooze.

### **High Holy Days 5783**

Rabbi Weininger, visiting student rabbi, Talia Kaplan and the Adath tents provided a beautiful setting and meaningful services and ritual observation. On Rosh Hashanah, families were also welcomed to a Tashlich walk along the Adath marsh which featured questions that prompted thoughtful reflections for kids and adults of all ages. Talia also helped facilitate a *Jonah and the Big Fish* Bibliodrama for HaLev families.

During Sukkot, "Pizza In The Hut" welcomed several families with young children to the Gan sukkah for a pizza dinner and schmoozing. Adath hosted a congregational spaghetti dinner that was well attended – mainly by families with young children before a rousing *hakafot* Torah dance party in the sanctuary.

### Other HaLev Holidays, Events and Activities

Families connected to Adath and each other through a year of fun, spiritual and age-appropriate events and activities:

• **Kindergarten Consecration** - Adath kindergarten and first graders received a blessing from clergy and a tiny Torah at Adath's Shavuot service. Participants celebrated with a Mac n' Cheese and Milkshake Kiddush luncheon.

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### HaLev, cont.

- **Blessing of the Babies** Families of babies born from 2021-2022 were welcomed to the bimah at a special Shabbat service to bless their newborns. Clergy wrapped the families in a large tallit and blessed them with good health and prosperity.
- **Shabbat Dinners** HaLev families enjoyed warm and spiritual Shabbat dinners together with with Hazzan Dulkin and teen congregant, Eve Miller; visiting scholar, Carl Shuman and for holidays throughout the year.
- **Ramah Family Camp** Five families attended Ramah Family Camp as the Adath cohort, participating with others from around the Midwest in camp for the whole family.
- **Blessing of the Animals** On Parashat Noach, Adath hosted the 4th Annual Blessing of the Animals. Hazzan Dulkin blessed Adath pets and stuffed friends alike. Attendees brought donations for "People and Pets Together." Congregants and their pets participated in pet-related activities including "Ask the Trainer" and a drawing of goodies from "Project Hive Pet Company."
- **Light Up The Night Hanukkah Party** Participants enjoyed delicious latkes and sufganiyot, a vivacious song session and dance party lead by Hazzan Dulkin, many Hanukkah-themed activities, and a scavenger hunt featuring Adath's large collection of giant Hanukkah inflatables.
- **Dino-mite Havdalah and Dance Party** At this dinosaur-themed Havdalah, families enjoyed kid-friendly activities, a delicious dinner and schmoozing, and dinosaur stories. Without a doubt, the hit of the night was Hazzan Dulkin's glow-in-the-dark dance party.
- **Purim at Adath** Families loved the Purim dinner followed by the circus-performer-lead parade up the spine and the retelling of the Purim story by Hazzan Dulkin and the live performance in the sanctuary.
- **Matzah Pizza and Bingo** The annual Matzah Pizza Bingo Dinner is one of many Adath holiday dinners where young families feel empowered to join everyone in the congregation. Many families bring their grandparents and make it a multi-generational affair.
- Adath Bees In the spring, HaLev families planted a pollinator garden and dressed in Adath's protective bee suits to learn about the bee program. In August, congregants of all ages helped us extract honey from the Adath bees, taking turns pedaling on our unique bicycle honey extractor. Families with young children were welcomed to a host of bee and honey-related activities.

### **Jenifer Robins**

Director of Young Adult and Family Life

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### HaLev, cont.

























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### **Secondary Education**

Adath's secondary education programming includes the social and educational activities of our children from 4th grade through high school graduation, and post grad outreach. Our responsibilities include Shabbat Morning Program (SMP), United Synagogue Youth (USY, KADIMA, and Maccabee Chapters), Heschel Society Teen Study, Moving Tradition Educational Program, and TEN@ADATH - Adath's weekly religious program for high schoolers.

The Adath Jeshurun Youth Department provides an arena of programs for youth involvement within our community. Our programs allow these children and teens to engage, learn, lead, and socialize. We offer opportunities for them to experience Shabbat, prayers, Israel, social action projects, tikkun olam, and to create bonding friendships.

As activities are scheduled throughout the year, many are planned and executed by the teen leaders. These skills (leading discussion groups, tutoring, supply purchasing, reaching out to maintain and retain peer members) are continuously improving and strengthening with each individual. Their positive energy and excitement has been contagious in encouraging others to actively be a part of our Adath Youth Chapter and Youth Department.

### **SMP - SHABBAT MORNING PROGRAM**

### Grades 5-12; Weekly - September through May

Our synagogue's Saturday morning program is designed to prepare kids in grades five through eight for their B'nai Mitzvah and beyond, and to engage our teens as the tutors. We welcomed the 2022-2023 school year with a program from the past - the SMP Kallah! The Kallah weekend, held at nearby Camp Edenwood, allowed the participants to enjoy a full shabbat together with post B'nai Mitzvah and SMP teens leading services, community building activities and bonding as an SMP community. Attendance was high - more than 90% of SMPers participated. Plans are underway for the 2023-2024 SMP Kallah in September.

In October, when SMP was back in the classrooms on Shabbat morning, we worked in small and large groups to help 5th and 6th graders on their reading skills to gain strength and confidence with Hebrew letters and vowels. As the school year progressed so did the students' skill level. The 5th and 6th graders moved on to siddur reading, learning and reinforcing Torah trope skills. Hazzan Dulkin spent time with the SMP community to become comfortable with the logistics and workings of the Shabbat morning service.

SMP is grounded in the tradition of m'dor l'dor (from one generation to the next). Each weekend, the students are paired with supportive teen tutors who guide them in their studies. The education and training curriculum is thoughtfully structured, covering Torah and prayers, ensuring a well-rounded preparation for their special day. Additionally, we have recently introduced a revamped eighth-grade leadership program. This 8-week discussion series helped the 8th graders explore their specific leadership style using assessments and data. They role-played difficult leadership situations, discussed their beliefs and ethics around making tough decisions as leaders, learned how to be confident, humble, and inspirational and reviewed Jewish leaders throughout history. Through all of this the 8th graders became more comfortable with prayer content. As a result of the program, the 8th graders are ready and look forward to becoming SMP tutors in the fall. In addition, the 8th graders developed a stronger connection to their leadership as young Jewish adults to take them further in our community but also in communities outside of Adath.

SMP boasts a dedicated team of adult staff members who have been with us for many years, offering consistent guidance and support. With this comprehensive and engaging approach, our program strives to provide a meaningful and memorable experience for each child on their B'nai Mitzvah journey.

### Risa Kessler

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### TEN@ADATH - TEN (Teen Education Network) Grades 9-12; Weekly

Our teens gather for a 'schmooz' dinner before breaking into grade specific classes of inspirational Judaic learning, taught by our dedicated clergy team. Following this, all are available to continue their evening at our successful Tuesday weekly USY lounge. TEN@Adath is open to all community high school students.

9th grade Class: Big questions on theology, leadership and life - with Hazzan Dulkin

**10th grade Class**: Confirmation - Getting Beyond your Jewish ABCs: Power and Responsibility in a Changing World - with Rabbi Weininger \*This year's class included 27 10th grade students!\*

**11th - 12th grade Class**: Mussar and Midot (developing soul/character traits) - with Rabbi Kravitz/Heidi Schneider **Heschel Society Study**: Led by Rabbi Weininger and guest presenters quarterly throughout this year (meets over Shabbat lunch after services)

### **MOVING TRADITIONS PROGRAM**

### **Grades 8-12; Monthly**

Our Rosh Hodesh and Shevet groups continue to meet monthly, based on interest level from each age group. We'll start two new groups next year for 8th graders. Each group moves through the grades together with their adult leader.

For more information about the program visit: www.movingtraditions.org/

During the 2022-23 school year, Adath supported an 8th grade Rosh Hodesh group and 2 Shevet groups (8th and 10th grades)

### USY and YOUTH PROGRAMS USY: Grades 9-12; Weekly Kadima: Grades 6-8; Monthly

**Maccabees: Grades 4-5; Almost Monthly** 

### MAZEL TOV TO ADATH USY - EMTZA REGION'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR!!!

Under the great leadership of our Director of Youth Engagement, Rachel Sher, our USY Advisor, Abby Flekier, and the student USY executive board Adath USY experienced a very strong year and received this great honor.

The chapter also won the award for both Best Israel Program and Best Educational Program from Emtza Region! At the award winning Israel program, there were rap battles based on various Israeli prime ministers throughout history.

We established a relationship with Loaves and Fishes in order for USYers to engage in meaningful community service.

Many thanks to the adult volunteers within the Youth Department led by our Youth Commission Co-Chairs, Lisa Aronauer, Jennifer Zacks, and Debbie Wolfe. These women led the way to many more parent contributions throughout the year. Our parent efforts help support the annual Purim Carnival, Purim Raffle, Mishloach Manot, the Hamentashchen Fundraiser (3143 hamentaschen made!!!) An extra shout out to the key Purim Volunteer Chairs: Sue Shrell Leon, Dayna Shad, Laurel Berk, Becca Steinberg, Stephanie Paul, Lisa Aronauer, Jennifer Zacks, and Debbie Wolfe.

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### **CHALLENGES WE NOTED THIS YEAR:**

- We continued to see the ramifications of people getting used to staying home during the pandemic. It has been difficult for some families to get back into rhythms of school/shul/sports/other activities and routines.
- It is worth noting that this year's 9th grade class missed out on the weekly time spent together during their b'nai mitzvah season as the majority of them celebrated during the pandemic. Next school year brings a new opportunity for this group studying together weekly with Rabbi Weininger in the Confirmation class at Adath.
- We are thrilled to report that due to higher enrollment and engagement in programming we will be expanding the youth staff team.

### FROM THE YOUTH COMMISSION CO-CHAIRS:

The 2022-23 Kadima/USY barbecue kicked off the year with great attendance and lots of fun. USY hosted lounge nights every Tuesday with dozens in attendance each week. We had 42 Adath USYers attend Kinnus - which included many 8th graders at their first USY convention. Throughout the year the USY Board planned many unique programs including a fall membership event for 30 teens to Target Center to watch the Timberwolves and even cut down the net after the game. They organized another chapter lock-in after last year's successful overnight at the synagogue. Kadima also had great programming including Donut Fest and Movie Lounge Night. The Purim Carnival was back inside and our teen co-chairs had an opportunity to learn about fundraising. All attendees had a great time playing carnival games and eating hamantashen. The carnival was made possible by all of the teen and parent volunteers. Finishing out the regional events with Spring Kallah, our USY chapter came home with the Chapter of the Year award and two Adath members elected to Regional Board. We ended the year with the Adath chapter retreat (CMR) weekend at Camp Courage in Maple Lake, MN. Twenty-nine kids attended and welcomed the 8th graders into USY. Our new 2023-24 chapter board was elected during the weekend.

### **SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE RETURNS:**

The 2023-24 school year will see the rejuvenation of the Secondary Education committee. Made up of 5-6 volunteers, this group will work to ensure quality programming for our youth, both educationally and socially, is offered. Their concentrations will be on content, parent involvement, safety, and post-high school outreach.

### **Rachel Sher**

Director of Youth Engagement

### Kim Gelperin

Vice President, Secondary Education

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### **Talmud Torah**

During the 2022-2023 school year, Talmud Torah enjoyed the strong support of both Adath and Beth El, serving 210 students in 2nd through 8th grades. Approximately 40% of our students were Adath members.

Adath members were actively involved on the Talmud Torah Board in various capacities.

**Voting Members:** Lisa Aronauer; Anya Belenky; Eric Hausman – Safety/Security Chair; Matt Heilicher; Brad Kanter – Treasurer/Finance Chair; Jaclyn Millner – President; Jacob Millner – Development Chair; Dayna Shad – Family Connections Committee Chair; Ed Zeman – Adath President

**Ex-Officio Members:** Steve Gilfix –Past President & Chair of Endowment & Scholarship Committees; Sandy Sondell – Past President; Rabbi Aaron Weininger; Miranda Weisbuch

Talmud Torah returned to full in-person programming this year, both inside the classrooms and with schoolwide events. Talmud Torah's Head of School, Jody Moreimi, completed her first full school year with us in May 2023. This year, we focused on reinvigorating our school's sense of connection and excitement for learning in all our content areas, including Hebrew, Jewish Living, Tanach, Israel, and Tefilah.

Key experiential learning programs, including the Kitah Zayin (7th grade) trip to New York City and the Kitah Het (8th grade) trip to Washington, DC, were some highlights for our middle school students this year. Highlights for our elementary school students included Yom Hassidur where our Kitah Bet (2nd grade) students received their Siddurim in recognition of completion of their first year of study, and the Kitah Hey (5th grade) Living Museum where students researched, presented, and displayed Jewish artifacts from their families.

Talmud Torah's annual Shabbat dinner returned this year for the first time since 2019 and was hosted at Adath. Our Talmud Torah community gathered with our Adath clergy for services followed by an enjoyable Shabbat dinner and community service project. Additionally, Talmud Torah awarded scholarships to students for high school Israel trips as well as Scholarships for the Advancement of Jewish Professional Careers for alumni in college and graduate school.

We are thankful for ongoing involvement in Talmud Torah by Adath clergy, staff, and lay leadership.

### Jaclyn Millner

**Board President** 

# Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Reports



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## **Yad Sima Tova**

Adath's Outreach Caring Community - Yad Sima Tova (in memory of Susan Himmelman Shapiro): Our mission is to use the strength of our community to support Adath members and their families in times of need. We are grateful to all our volunteers, and we are always looking for more.

Below is a list of the programs we offer. Please consider volunteering any way you can.

**Congregational Nurse:** Elaine Savick reaches out to our Adath members in coordination with our clergy to assess health concerns, as well as spiritual and social needs. Through her work she maintains a connection of the individuals with the congregation while providing them with community resources for support.

**Meals:** Offered to individuals and their families who need assistance while ill or after returning home from the hospital or nursing home. There are several ways to help out: prepare a meal, deliver a meal, donate to our Yad Sima Tova Fund, or send a meal gift card directly to the recipient. If you would like to participate, please contact Kim Gedan or one of us. We will add you to our email list and reach out when a meal is needed.

**Transportation:** Volunteer drivers provide rides for Adath members who are unable to drive to Shabbat services. We have temporarily halted this program due to a lack of volunteer drivers. We hope to resume this service in the future. Please consider volunteering to drive.

**Caring Connection:** Connects with congregants in various ways. For example, Gan Shelanu Preschool provides packages to seniors during the High Holidays. Additionally, homebound congregants are contacted by phone from a team of volunteers.

Bank and Bill Management: Helps individuals organize their home finances and bill payments.

**Healing Scarves:** A group of volunteer knitters and crocheters create scarves for the clergy to give to congregants going through an illness. This serves as tangible reminder that the person is supported by the Adath Community.

**Bereavement Comfort (Kol Nehama):** Congregant volunteers send condolence notes and make follow up telephone calls to members who have suffered a death of a family member. On Rosh Hashanah we prepare and mail small packages offering condolence to those members who have had a death in their family during the past year to let them know that the congregation has kept them in mind as well as their loved one.

**Minyan Calling:** Calls are made to congregants who have an approaching yahrzeit to encourage their attendance at daily Minyan services.

**Spiritual and Religious Outreach:** Arranges for volunteers to conduct services at various nursing homes. We also sponsor occasional programs for the Sholom Community for Hanukkah, Purim and/or Passover.

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## The following are the contact people for the Yad Sima Tova programs:

Elaine Savick
Kim Gedan
Norman Greenberg
Janice Schachtman
Arnie Blatt
Debbie Spencer/Jan Frisch
Gayle Werner
Jim Sherman
Marsha Golob

We are very grateful for the ongoing financial backing and encouragement of The Gisell and Richie Wein Family Fund as well as several other Adath Jeshurun Foundation Funds. Additionally, we thank the Susan Himmelman Shapiro Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation for their ongoing support for Yad Sima Tova's outreach efforts.

If you would like to get involved with any of our programs, please contact Diane at 952-544-0474 or Tema at 763-559-2038.

### Diane Arenson and Tema Rosenbaum

Co-Chairs

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## **Archives**

In 2002, The Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest (JHSUM) founders, Nathan and Teresa Berman (of blessed memory) created an endowment for the JHSUM collection housed in the Anderson Library on the campus of the University of Minnesota. Over the past sixteen years your committee has collected 127 years of archival material documenting the 127 years of the history of the Adath Jeshurun Congregation. Together with the history of Bnai Emet congregation, we have amassed invaluable material of archival history that will be available to scholars and future generations to preserve our rich history dating back to 1884.

Over the years we have collected several additional boxes of historical material that were delivered to Kate Dietrick, our archivist. She has processed and integrated the papers into the files that have been digitized and are available for any one doing research concerning our congregation.

Your committee is continuously searching for material to add to our archives. If you have materials that you believe are pertinent to our collection, you may take them to the synagogue and we will see that they are taken to the Berman Archives at the University of Minnesota. Should you have any questions, contact either Carolyn Abramson at baubiec@comcast.net or Norman Pink at dorthnorm@aol.com.

### Carolyn Abramson and Norman Pink (z"l)

Co-chairs

# **Art & Design**

The mission of this committee is to enrich Jewish identity, spirituality and generational continuity through the visual arts. The committee accepts, preserves and displays creative works and objects that represent a wide range of Jewish themes and observances.

Adath has an extensive art collection, which has been assembled mainly from generous donors for almost a century and includes quality paintings, original prints, sculptures, photography, commemorative plaques, banners, and ritual objects. Due to space restrictions, additional art works are not presently being sought.

The art collection generally is rotated every few months. On occasion, we install temporary visiting exhibits.

Committee members: Lucy Rose Fischer, Chair; Sandy Baron, Gloria Cooper, Joel Kaplan, Paul Pink, Lee Prohofsky, Peter Sussman, and Sharon Zweigbaum.

### Lucy Rose Fischer

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# Cemetery

Adath Jeshurun maintains two cemeteries, Adath Chesed Shel Emet Cemetery at 3740 Winnetka Avenue N in Crystal and B'nai Emet Cemetery near 70th & Penn in Richfield. The mission of the Cemeteries Committee is to ensure all members of the Jewish faith and their spouses and children have a dignified internment and an honorable place of rest in perpetuity.

Highlights of our past year:

- A Kever Avot service led by our Adath Jeshurun clergy was held at the cemeteries during the High Holy Days. Private memorial prayers were provided by committee members if requested.
- Our Memorial Day Program was held at the Adath Chesed Shel Emet Cemetery, featuring Rabbi Kravitz as our speaker and Hazzan Joanna Dulkin as our soloist. Flags were placed on graves of veterans and Shoah survivors with assistance from Scout Troops 3738 and 5738 sponsored by the Sabes JCC. We invite all community members to join us for this meaningful ceremony to recognize all veterans who were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice.
- We are in the process of opening a new section for burials. It will take several years until the land is ready for use but should provide many hundreds of burial sites which will take us well into the future.

There are many other activities with which the Cemeteries Committee is involved. Please consider volunteering your time. To purchase a grant of burial or if you have questions, feel free to contact any committee member of our Superintendent, Michael Morris, at 612-998-0077.

Cemeteries Committee Members include: Rabbi Harold Kravitz, Hersh Berman, Leslie Goldblatt, Norm Greenberg, Wendy Kivens, Joel Mintzer, Jeremy Passer, Joe Peilte, Alexei Sacks, Jonathan Shaver and Thomas Wexler.

### **Leslie Goldblatt**



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## **Chevra Kavod HaMet**

Adath's nationally-recognized, award-winning Chevra Kavod Hamet (Society to Honor the Deceased) was founded over 45 years ago by congregants who wanted to help other congregants in a time of need. The Chevra has since become an integral part of the continuum of congregational life.

The all-volunteer Chevra provides comfort and support to bereaved families, while honoring the deceased by providing a traditional Jewish funeral for Adath members upon request. Chevra funerals are simple, dignified, and provided at a modest cost. Volunteers contribute their time and talents to administrative tasks, education, outreach, ritual participation, or support to bereaved families.

In the calendar year 2022, the Chevra served about half of all congregant funerals. The families we serve consistently praise the Chevra for being present and for providing meaningful support and loving care, and attention to practical needs, at a time when they needed it the most.

The Chevra has emerged from the COVID pandemic and is still dealing with one big side-effect – many people now prefer to do things virtually instead of leaving their homes. However, some Chevra functions must be provided in person, notably sitting shmira and performing tahara. We are in need of volunteers to perform these acts of lovingkindness for their fellow congregants. Please contact Cindy Dubansky or Joe Peilte at the numbers listed below for more information or to volunteer.

The Chevra continues to provide assistance with preplanning a Chevra funeral. Preplanning offers many emotional, spiritual and financial benefits and we encourage all congregants to consider this option. Contact Cindy Dubansky at 612.308.0166 or adathchevra@gmail.com for Chevra preplanning information.

We encourage you to learn more about the Chevra Kavod Hamet through the Adath website, Chevra brochures in the office, a documentary about the Chevra and its work, available in the Adath Library in DVD and book formats. Join the dozens of Adath members who provide meaningful emotional and spiritual consolation to those who have experienced a loss. For more information or pre-planning, for presentations to your committee, group or Havurah, or to VOLUNTEER, please contact Cindy Dubansky, 612.308.0166 or Joe Peilte, 612.968.7504; or by email, <a href="mailto:adathchevra@gmail.com">adathchevra@gmail.com</a>.

Chevra Leadership Team:
Cindy Dubansky & Joe Peilte, Co-Administrators
Scott Gordon
Norm Greenberg
Bruce Nemer z"I (Emeritus)

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## Hesed

The HESED Committee is 35 years old at Adath. When Rabbi Kravitz came to Adath, there was no Hesed Committee although an early attempt was headed by Av Rabinow, of blessed memory.

The HESED Committee's objectives are to provide a balance between congregants' advocacy and direct service and the Committee was not to be a "dumping group". If people have ideas, they need to work on the cause.

The HESED Committee's mission is to coordinate and provide opportunities for acts of justice and loving-kindness within the synagogue and our community. Over the past year, HESED continued to focus on issues of food insecurity, housing and racial justice. In addition, HESED continued its support of the RISE Early Learning Center. Many congregants performed acts of HESED throughout the year offering financial support for the causes Adath supports.

### **Food insecurity**

With great appreciation to generous contributors here at Adath, HESED was able to donate to the organizations we support. On the High Holidays, HESED was again able to provide financial contributions, food and supplies for STEP, the ST. Louis Park Emergency Program. HESED continued to support three food shelves, Prism, ICA and STEP. HESED contributed funds to Our Savior's Shelter when not able to serve, and enabled meals to be provided to Loaves and Fishes even when our volunteers could not be there. Adath and our HESED committee support the work of MAZON, a Jewish Response to Hunger, which is a national organization fighting to end hunger for all in the United States and Israel.

#### Housing

HESED continued its longstanding support of MICAH, the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing. MICAH is an interfaith council dedicated to affordable housing. HESED also continued to support JCA (Jewish Community Action)which promotes legislation to help prevent homelessness and make more affordable housing units available across the metro area.

### **Racial Justice**

HESED continued to support the work of JRLC, (the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition) which promotes racial justice through legislative change and NACOEJ (the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry) which provides better lives for Ethiopian children & families in Israel.

#### **Promote Quality Early Childcare/Learning**

We are happy to report that this past year HESED again supported the RISE Early Learning Center along with several other faith partners in our community. RISE Early Learning Center offers child care adjacent to affordable housing and provides a family centered approach to education and respect for cultural differences. RISE will serve the community by preparing children and families for school readiness in a safe environment that encourages exploration, active learning, and affirmation. Through superlative efforts of our new Gan director, Julie Ziessman and with the generous support from our Gan families and others, the Purim Pushke fundraiser was able to raise \$992.00 for this wonderful cause.

**Committee members**: Robert Altman, Michelle Basman, Bonnie Berezovsky, Carol Bromer, Sheree Curry, Darlene Davis, Cindy Dubansky, Barbara Friedman, Sharon Garber, Ann Ginsburg Hofkin, Ed Goldsmith, Marcy Harris, Harlan Jacobs, Rabbi Harold Kravitz, Steve Krikava, Gwyn Leder, Don Masler, Fran Meier, Rachel Orman, Larry Parks, Cindy Reich, Joy Sandler, Beth Silverwater, Jaye Snyder, Judith Tennebaum, Robin Zadaka.

We are always looking for more congregational involvement in our HESED projects. Reach out to the clergy or to Larry Parks if you have ideas and would like to participate. We are fortunate to have several Adath Foundation funds earmarked for HESED activities. Please contact Talor Blustin, Development Director of the Adath Foundation, if you would like to setup a fund to help HESED activities. HESED and our community greatly appreciate your continued support!

#### **Submitted by Joy Sandler and Larry Parks**

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## **Inclusion**

The mission of the Committee for Inclusion of People with Special Needs is to open the doors of Adath Jeshurun Congregation to all and facilitate accommodations that enable participation in all aspects of synagogue life.

Due to another year with the pandemic's effects, this committee could not meet. However, The Inclusion Committee did celebrate Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM) in February.

On the weekend of February 3-4th, 2023, we had the honor to host Charlie Kramer for the JDAIM Shabbat Weekend. Charlie was diagnosed with a progressive visual disability (Retinitis Pigmentosa) at age five and declared legally blind when he was 15.

The weekend began with Charlie joining us with prayer and song at Kabbalat Shabbat services. Charlie delivered the D'var Torah at Shabbat morning services, followed by an informal Q and A at the Kiddush Luncheon. On Saturday night, Charlie led us in a transformative and moving evening called **Singing in the Dark**. Not quite a concert, not quite a service, this experience was a journey of the senses, blindfolding ourselves to experience the present moment without our sight.

With COVID-19 in the rear window, we would like to reboot this committee and are looking for new members to add to the team. We are looking for congregants with disabilities, family members of people with disabilities, professionals in disability-related fields, and any other interested congregants who desire to be a part of our work; please get in touch with us to volunteer at <a href="mailto:ebarry64@comcast.net">ebarry64@comcast.net</a>.

Etta Barry



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## Israel and Masorti

The Adath Israel Committee strives to enhance our connection to Israel and Masorti. The committee's goal is to promote a deeper engagement by our members with Israel and Israelis, and to create a connection to Jewish peoplehood through our relationship with Israelis and Israeli history. We organize educational opportunities for our Adath members and for the greater community on issues of interest and importance concerning Israel.

We support and build connections between Adath Jeshurun and Magen Avraham, our sister congregation in Omer, Israel, just outside Be'er Sheva. Rabbi Yosef Baruch Fromer, who leads Adath's sister congregation Magen Avraham in Omer, is a proud graduate of our rabbinical intern program.

In October, we had the opportunity to welcome Rabbi Fromer to Minneapolis. We were able to connect him with many people in our community andRabbi Fromer spoke during Shabbat services and attended some study groups. He also had the opportunity to visit our Gan, HMJDS, Talmud Torah, the Minneapolis Jewish Federation and toured the Sholom Home campus, including the Roitenberg and Knollwood Place facilities with Jim Sherman and staff. Rabbi Alexander Davis also graciously met with Rabbi Fromer and toured Beth El Synagogue.

In April for the Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day), Adath's Israel Committee sponsored a photo booth at the Nickelodeon Universe at MOA, providing some fun memories of the day to the many participants. I DO NOT KNOW WHERE ALLL THE PHOTOS ARE

In May, several Adath members who are part of the Minneapolis Jewish Federation Partnership 2Gether committee hosted committee members from our Rehovot, Israel during the Joint Steering Committee meeting hosted this year in the Twin Cities. This included home hospitality, visits to Jewish community institutions and learning about the Twin Cities in general, and several Rehovot committee members attended Shabbat services at Adath.

We are fortunate to be a part of a strong community and welcome your participation in Adath's Israel Committee programs in the coming year! Feel free to reach out to us if you'd like to help or learn more.

B'shalom,

Kim Gedan and Scott Gordon

Co-chairs

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## Keruv

The Keruv Committee, established by the Board of Trustees, held its first meeting in May 2005 for the purpose of creating a congregational culture which draws in and brings close members of our community who may feel marginalized or without a voice in our synagogue family such as single people, couples without children, interfaith families, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

An important component of the Keruv Committee's work consists of examining current synagogue policies, literature, questionnaires, and documents in light of the changing population within our community and the Conservative Movement with an eye to inclusivity.

With the guidance of our rabbis, the Keruv Committee is known for its thought-provoking discussions, as we delve into the more complicated issues that can arise within the life of our synagogue. The model we follow is to name the "issue", study relevant texts and engage in meaningful and thoughtful conversation to arrive at a conclusion or consensus. This year, we revised and updated our interfaith policy statement.

During April and May, we displayed posters in the area between the sanctuary and social hall, from the They/Them Project, with images and stories of LGBTQ+ folk, in their own words. While the posters were displayed, J-Pride's Traveling Shabbat visited for a Friday night service. After the service, people from J-Pride gathered for dinner with members of ATID.

We have been working closely with J-Pride and, in the fall, Isaac Ezra Jennings, coordinator of J-Pride, will be working with our SMP group.

We continued work on our webpage, <a href="https://www.adathjeshurun.org/keruv.html">https://www.adathjeshurun.org/keruv.html</a>, which now includes images, upcoming events and resources for both interfaith families and the LGBTQ+ community.

Dedicated Adath members who served on the Keruv Committee this year: Sandy Baron, Emma Hausman, Andy Kibort, Debra Krawetz, Susanna Lodge, Don Masler, Neil Meyer, Ella Meyerson, Annette Sandler, Jeff Sherman, Debbie Spencer, Rabbi Kravitz, Rabbi Weininger and Ed Zeman.

Special thanks to the Rabbis for their outstanding leadership and to all committee members for their dedication to creating an inclusive culture in our Congregation.

### Sharon Garber

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## **Antiracism**

Adath's Antiracism Committee (AAC) was formed in June 2020 in response to the murder of George Floyd and the protests that followed as well as the unanimous support of our Board of Trustees to sign onto a national statement to say Black Lives Matter. It was initially formed as a sub-committee under Keruv but has been operating independently.

As a committee, we are working with our congregational family to initiate reflection and action to further our commitment to antiracist work, which includes racial diversity, understanding, and inclusiveness.

This year, we completed our participation with Commissioner John Harrington's Interfaith Action group of Faith Leaders, discussing scenarios of police interaction with the public before and after considering how the tenets of faith might alter our thoughts about how to respond to the situation. The work culminated with four principles to guide police interactions. Adath was one of the faith communities to sign on to the work which already has had an impact on discussion of policy changes with the legislature.

We delved into the area of racial covenants this year, helping congregants determine whether there is a racial covenant on their deed and how to discharge it if one is found, using the materials created by the Just Deeds project. We placed information on our AAC webpage on the Adath website, <a href="www.adathjeshurun.org">www.adathjeshurun.org</a>, and in the Chadashot. During Purim, we had a table at the Purim Carnival and helped several participants discover that they did have a racial covenant. We will be doing the same thing at the Annual Benefit. During this process, we discovered that Plymouth is one of the cities not currently helping residents to discharge racial covenants. As a result, we formed a subgroup of AAC to talk to Plymouth staff and city council about joining the surrounding cities who do provide this service.

In other work, we continued to meet with Westwood Lutheran Church to exchange ideas on bringing DEI into houses of faith. And we have continued our involvement in the Rise project to provide affordable daycare in a new affordable housing unit in St. Louis Park. We are proud of what we have accomplished but understand that it has only just begun.

All of this work has only been possible because of the dedicated work of our members who are passionate about antiracism and have devoted many hours to the cause: Mitchell Bender, Sheree Curry, Linda Itman, Michelle Kuhl, Alisha Litman-Zelle, Riv-Ellen Prell, Linda Stone, Rabbi Kravitz, Amy Susman-Stillman, and Rabbi Weininger.

Sharon Garber

Dudley Deshommes-Kohls

Co-Chairs

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# **MAZON Advocacy Project: Minnesota**

Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger, has been active on legislative activities in Minnesota during 2023. It has been a very successful year for anti-hunger programs at the state capital. Mazon advocates from Adath and other congregations were active in support of two items that passed this year. First was passage of legislation to provide school lunch and breakfast to all students in the state at no cost. Mazon has been active on school lunch legislation for the past 10 years. Passage of the Hunger-Free Schools legislation is a culmination of that work. Mazon also supported an increase in the Market Bucks program. Market Bucks provides Minnesotans who receive SNAP benefits (food stamps) with a certificate for free produce at a participating farmers market when they use their SNAP benefit to buy products there. The program received an increase in funding to \$500,000.

This spring, Mazon's congregational organizer met with Adath members to discuss ways that the organization can increase engagement with Adath and other Minnesota congregations. The discussion lead to plans for supporting Mazon's anti-hunger priorities in the Farm Bill that will be debated during the upcoming session of Congress. Adath activities in support of this initiative will be coordinated through the Hesed Committee.

Lastly, Mazon had high visibility with Adath members during the weekend of activities to recognize Rabbi Kravitz's retirement as senior Adath rabbi. Howard Tarkow, Adath member on the Board of Directors of Mazon, gave a presentation on Rabbi Kravitz's leadership during his service on the Mazon board.

## **HUNGRY FOR CHANGE?**

## Democracy:

action taken by engaged citizens working together to create a community with shared opportunities

## Advocacy:

a tool used by individuals and communities to protect the vulnerable among us and advance change

## 4 WAYS TO BE AN ADVOCATE:



## RAISE AWARENESS Educate others on the

Educate others on the shocking prevalence of hunger in America.



### TAKE ACTION

Join and promote MAZON advocacy campaigns.



#### **USE SOCIAL MEDIA**

Post hunger facts and facilitate a conversation with your friends, followers and your elected officials.



### STAY ENGAGED

Sign up for MAZON advocacy alerts to get the latest news.

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# **Nominating**

Continuing Officers, Board Trustees and positions NOT requiring approval

Officers	(through	າ 2024):
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VP Facilities and Security.......Gary Kibort
Immediate Past President.....Ed Zeman
Second Immediate Past President.....Barb Fishman

## **Board of Trustee Program Chair (through 2024):**

Adult Education.....Skylar Werde

### **General Board of Trustees (through 2025):**

Meira Besikof, Jeffrey Sherman, Jonathan Shaver, Mark Stesin, Marty Stillman

Immediate Past President B'nai Emet.....Adeel Saad

Recommended for Approval at the 2023 Congregational Annual Meeting

### Officers (through 2024):

President......Chris Kellogg
President Elect.....Craig Spencer
VP Learning and Education..... Kim Gelperin

### Officers (through 2025):

VP Congregational and Community Engagem	nentSarah Orbuch
Secretary	Drew Zamansky
VP Finance/Treasurer	Jeremy Zacks
VP Ritual Engagement and Spirituality	Debbie Krawetz

### **Board of Trustee Program Chairs (through 2025):**

Primary Education	Mollie Divine
Secondary Education	Stephanie Paul
Membership	Susan Geller
Social Programs	Raleigh Fromstein
Life Care	Leslie Goldblatt
Israel Affairs	Kim Gedan
Social Action	Stacy Horwitz
Communications & Marketing	Eric Hausman
Fundraising & Development	Jeff Usem

Respectfully submitted by the 2023 Nominating Committee: Barb Fishman, Chris Kellogg, Ed Zeman

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## **Women of Adath**

Women of Adath celebrated 102 years of affiliation with Women's League for Conservative Judaism. Our history of being an integral part of the Adath Community goes back to before the Synagogue's Articles of Incorporation were signed. While we had to limit our activities due to Covid, we continued our financial commitments to the Gan and USY through the scholarship funds we established for each of them.

Our members were encouraged to take advantage of the many outstanding programs offered by Women's League for Conservative Judaism at WLCJ.org. Many of our members enjoyed the series "Jews in Film" which is still available on the website.

Our local Zoom programs included Laurie Hertzel, Book Editor of the Star Tribune. We also co-hosted our Region Women's League Conference. Our member Linda Jacobs was one of the local co-chairs and Ruth Harris continues her term as President of Intracontinental Region.

We welcome your continued support.

### **Ardis Wexler and Judy Goldstein**

Co-presidents, Women of Adath

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## **Scholarships**

Adath Jeshurun young congregants are eligible for merit scholarships to Jewish Summer Camps and Programs in Israel based on their service to Adath through SMP and other approved service activities. Financial Aid is also available for families who need assistance in order for their children to participate in these programs.

During the 2022-2023 school year, Adath awarded \$19,634 in merit scholarships to 22 children and teens who attended the following programs: Herzl Camp, Camp Ramah in the Poconos, BBYO Passport Israel Journey, BBYO Passport Israel Western Europe, Alexander Muss High School in Israel, Ramah Machon, and BBYO Israel Journey Ultimate Spain.

In addition to merit scholarships, Adath gave out \$38,530 in Financial Aid to 21 children and teens who attended the following programs: Herzl Camp, Ramah in the Poconos, BBYO Passport Israel, and Ramah Wisconsin.

Scholarships are awarded from 52 funds in the Adath Jeshurun Foundation.

Jan Frisch and Jane Zeman

Co-chairs

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## **Adath Jeshurun Foundation**

The Adath Jeshurun Foundation is the covenant generations past and present have made with generations yet to come to ensure the Adath community will be there for them as it is here for us.

In June 2022, the Foundation announced its new Development Director, **Talor Blustin**, and President, **David Orbuch**. Throughout the past year, Talor, David, and the Foundation Board of Directors, with assistance from Miranda Weisbuch, Executive Director of Adath, and Lori Banker, Finance Director of Adath, have been working tirelessly on updating the systems and procedures that have helped the Adath Foundation find success over the past 30 years.

At the beginning of 2023, the Adath Foundation Investment Committee proposed, and the Foundation Board approved, changes to the Investment Protocol Statement that governs how our assets are invested. As a foundation of over \$11.2 million, we felt it an appropriate time to take on more equity exposure and aim for a higher return.

Starting in June 2023, the Adath Foundation will begin its implementation of a new database, Foundant, which will allow us to better report about your funds, give more timely fund balances, and integrate information more accurately. This system will allow us to track commitments, as well as donations, volunteering, and so much more. It truly will be revolutionary to the growth of the Foundation.

Also in June 2023, Adath held its Annual Benefit, in honor of Rabbi Harold Kravitz and his 36 years of service. As Rabbi Kravitz becomes Rabbi Emeritus, he and Cindy are establishing a fund in the foundation, aided in part by your donations to the Adath Annual Benefit. In addition to the establishment of this fund, the Adath Foundation established the Dorothy Papermaster Scholarship Fund in March 2022 to provide scholarships for Jewish summer camp, education and travel experiences to students up to 22 years of age.

Starting in July 2023, we welcome Andy Fishman as the new Investment Chair of the Adath Jeshurun Foundation. Andy has served on the Adath Foundation board and the Investment Committee for the past 18 months, and brings more than 30 years of Investment experience to our Adath Foundation leadership. We are incredibly grateful to Jason Rose, who spent nearly a decade at the helm of the Foundation Investment Committee.

Finally, I want to thank the following Board members and staff for their service in 2022-2023:

## **David Orbuch**

Foundation President

Judy Goldstein Chris Kellogg

Dr. Jeff Mandel Joel Mintzer

Charles Newman lason Rose

Investment Committee Chair

**Barbara Rubin-Greenberg** 

## **David Segal**

**Director Emeritus** 

Jeff Usem

Adath VP of Fundraising and

Development Jon Tarshish Andy Fishman

Joe Rubenstein

Immediate Past President

Stan Kagin

### Jeremy Zacks

Adath Jeshurun Congregation Treasurer

**Ed Zeman** 

Adath Jeshurun Congregation President

Miranda Weisbuch, Ex-Officio

Adath Executive Director

**Rabbi Harold Kravitz** 

Newman Family Chair in Rabbinics

Talor Blustin, Ex-Officio

Development Director, Adath Foundation

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## **Adath Jeshurun Foundation Funds**

### We Proudly Honor the Permanent Endowment Funds of Adath Jeshurun Foundation:

Albert, Minnie & Sandra Bergman Fund

Alvin & Judy Goldstein Israel Scholarship Fund

Andrew Seitel Memorial Fund

Arleen & Leonard Gruenberg Library Fund

Art Brand Scholarship Fund

Avis Margulies Savitt and Burton Savitt Gan Shelanu Fund

Bach/Segall Family Fund Badower Family Fund

Barbara & Larry Parks Camp Scholarship and Israel Experience Fund

Barbara Ziman Pentelovitch Gan Shelanu Fund

Ben & Miriam Kaitz Family Scholarship Fund

Ben & Reva Kibort Scholarship Fund

Bender Scholarship Fund

Berman Family Chair in Jewish Learning

Bernard & Ida Gingold Fund

Bernice & Jerry Fischbein Memorial Fund

Bertram & Charlotte Cooper Adult Education Fund

Bnai Emet Fund

Bnai Emet Scholarship Fund

Briskin-Sholler Family Scholarship Fund

Bruce Walonick Family Fund

Brusso Fund

Burton & Marty Abramson Fund

**Burton Kronick Fund** 

Capital Repair & Replacement Fund

Chai Fund (Rabbi Harold Kravitz Celebration Fund)

Charles Grossman & Elizabeth Smith Fund

Charles J. Frisch Adult Education Fund

Charlotte & Richard Berman Family Fund

Chevra Kavod HaMet Endowment Fund

Corinne & Robert Neuman Gan Enrichment Fund

Dan & Pearl Berdass Family Fund

David Marc Thaler Memorial Fund

Diane Jolson Legacy Fund

Dorothy & Martin Milstein Scholarship Fund

Dorothy Papermaster Scholarship Fund

Dr. Milton & Etta Fay Orkin Family Fund

**Education Programming Fund** 

Edythe & Burton Toles Fund

Elaine Gingold Fund

Ella & Alexander Chester Fund

Ellis & Ruth Peilen Family Fund

Esther & Bennett Goldberg Access Fund

Ezrilov Family Fund

Ferne & Edward Grosmann Social Action Fund

Fink Life Members Fund

Andy and Barbara Fishman Family Engagement Fund

Foundation General Fund

Fred & Margo Berdass Scholarship Fund

Gan Shelanu Scholarship Fund

Gan Shelanu Education Programming Fund

James and Judy Gaviser Fund

George & Ida Kleineman Family Fund

Geraldine & Herbert Fineberg Family Fund

Getzkin Kopman Family Youth Fund

Gilbert & Rita Greenberg Family Fund

Gisell & Richie Wien Family Fund

Grace & Morris Besner Gan Shelanu Fund

Greenstein Family Fund

Grone Family Music Fund

Gross Family Library Fund

Harold & Elaine Rubin Gan Shelanu Endowment Fund

Harold & Zelda Goldenberg Israel Experience Fund

Harry & Marilyn Karasov Family Fund

Hazzan Scott & Marcy Buckner Family Fund

Heddy & Max Levy Ritual Fund

Helen & Mike Sandler Fund

Henry & Fannie Farb Library Fund

Henry & Harriet Davis Family Fund

Howard and Marilyn Fischbein Family Fund for Teen

Engagement and Scholarship

Ida & Irving Greenfield Education Fund

Ira & Jacqueline Heilicher Interfaith Fund

Irving & Frances Herman Education Fund

Jack & Rochelle Sutin Fund

Janus Korczak Scholarship Fund

Jean & Philip Freeman Family Fund

Jeannie and Steve Gilfix Family Fund for Teen

Engagement

Jerome S. Solomon Scholarship Fund

Jerry & Sharon Zweigbaum Family Art Fund

Jewish Studies for a Better World Fund

Joe & Estelle Kane Family Fund

Joseph L. Linoff & Hyman & Edith Edelman Scholarship

Josephine Feingold Moss Family Fund

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## **Adath Jeshurun Foundation Funds**

Joy (Lumel) Sandler Family Hesed Fund

Jules & Gay Rosenthal Fund for Lifelong Learning

Jules & Rose Levin Building Fund

Kagin Family Fund

Karen Siegel-Jacobs Fund

Kellogg Family Fund

Ken & Sally Appelbaum Keruv Fund

Kopsi Family Hesed & Social Justice Fund

Kuperman-Aronauer-Sondell Family Scholarship Fund

Kurt & Lee Lindau Education Fund

Landscape Beautification Fund

L'Dor V'Dor Lumel Family Fund

Leah & Harold Davis Family Fund

Leon Naomi Phyllis Kaplan Gan Scholarship Fund

Leonard & Clara Savitt Youth Director Chair

Linda Weber Hesed Fund

Lorraine & Alex Astren Jewish Studies Fund

Lorraine & Sidney Sherman/Schwarfield Fund

Marion L. & John C. Gepner Family Fund for Youth

Markowitz Family Fund

Marlene & Sandy Goldberg Family Fund

Martin & Bonnie Bush Family Fund

Martin & Ginger Bell Jewish Enhancement Fund

Martin Miller Family Fund

Marvin & Sharon Bookin Fund

Max Newman Family Chair in Rabbinics

Maxine & Mike Ritt Fund

Mel & Beatsy Orenstein Teachers' Education Fund

Melzer Family Fund

MHN Fund

Millie & Norton Stillman Garden Fund

Minnie Weisberg Memorial Fund

Morton & Merle Kane Family Fund for Jewish Education and Camping

N. Bud & Beverly Grossman Foundation Fund

Nate & Claire Roberts Family Fund

Norman & Dee Silver Fund

Norman & Dorothy Pink Family Leadership Fund

Norman Cohen Family Education Fund

Numero Steinfeldt Lecture Program

Orbuch Family Tikkun Olam Fund

Parish Family Fund

Paul Salloway Camp Scholarship Fund

Paula & Norman Fox Family Fund

Perl Family Fund

Phillips Family Foundation Fund

Phyllis & Dan Heilicher Fund

Phyllis W. & Rabbi Barry D. Cytron Lectureship Fund

Prentice & Marion Shapiro Family Music Fund

Red & Irene Goldstein Simcha Fund

Ronna & Victor Goldsteen Fund

Rose & Jay Phillips Fund

Rosella M. and Morton Lent Gan Shelanu Scholarship

Fund

Russell & Sylvia Schwartz Israel Scholarship Fund

Ruth King-Smith Family Israel Education Fund

Ben and Ruth Liman Family Fund

Ruthie & Elliott Gensler Memorial Fund

Saad - Schoenberger Scholarship Fund

Saba and Savta Fund

Sally Leafman Appelbaum Life Members Fund

Sandra & Irwin Mandel Family Fund

Saul Winton Fund Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund

Schanfield - Schwartz Family Fund

Schneider Family Tenuah Fund

Sheila & Steven Sigel Family Fund

Shirley & Zollie Baratz Scholarship Fund

Sidney & Irene Levin Scholarship & Education Fund

Stephanie Sargent Gan Shelanu Fund

Sussman Family Shabbat Fund

Tennebaum Family Social Justice Fund

The Hesed Fund

The Masorti Fund

The Michael Paul Family Fund

The Scholarship Fund

Toby & Maurice Silverman Family Programming Fund

Weisbuch Family Fund

William & Ruth Seltz Youth Fund

Women of Adath Fund

Women of Adath USY Fund

Zvi & Miriam Liberman Memorial Fund