

# Welcome to Temple Israel

1301 Prince of Wales Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario K2C 1N2

Phone 613-224-1802

Fax 613-224-0707

Temple Israel Religious School

T.I.R.S. 613-224-1802 #225

[www.templeisraelottawa.ca](http://www.templeisraelottawa.ca)

SHALOM! WELCOME!

Temple Israel is a Jewish community dedicated to Torah (study), Tzedakah and Avodah (worship). Temple membership is an opportunity for you to reflect on your Jewish identity and pursue your personal spiritual pathway within a supportive and caring community.

We hope this information package will answer some of the questions you have about Temple Israel. Please feel free to contact our Executive Director, Heather Cohen, for more information.

## A Message from Our Rabbi

Temple Israel occupies a unique position in Canada's National Capital. Founded in 1966, Temple Israel is Ottawa's only Reform Jewish Congregation. We are united with nearly one thousand congregations in North America through commitment to a progressive approach to Jewish religious life. Temple Israel is committed to Jewish worship, Jewish practices and Jewish values infused with sensitivity to our people's traditions. We realize that Judaism is a significant religious force in our lives when it acknowledges the wisdom which each generation uncovers.

At Temple Israel you will find that our worship services are participatory, conducted with warmth and dignity. We share a commitment to *Keva*, the fixed component, as well as *Kavannah*, the opportunity for personal, original expression of prayer.

Temple Israel is a sacred community. It is a home for families of all constellations, for individuals whose life choices are varied, and for all age groups. What unites us is a personal commitment to pursue the sacred in a community of like-minded Jews.

Baruchim Habaim! Welcome to Temple Israel!

B'Shalom

*Rabbi Steven Garten*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Worship Schedule:

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Fridays at 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services

Saturdays at 10:15 a.m.

All Hagim (Festival) morning services begin at 9:00 am.

Rabbi

Steven Garten

Executive Director

Heather Cohen

[execdir@templeisraelottawa.ca](mailto:execdir@templeisraelottawa.ca)

Executive Assistant

Annie Garmaise

[annie@templeisraelottawa.ca](mailto:annie@templeisraelottawa.ca)

T.I.R.S.

tirs@templeisraelottawa.ca

## LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

We at Temple Israel understand the significance of life cycle events in your life. Our Rabbi, Baala Tefilah Rishon and administrative staff work closely with each family to insure a meaningful and personal simcha. In addition to our Rabbi, we have a mohelet and a corp of service leaders who bring our tradition to moments of joy and moments of sorrow.

## EDUCATION

Temple Israel is committed to the ongoing Jewish learning of the entire community. We offer learning opportunities for children and adults.

### Religious School

Our Religious School is unique for a number of reasons. We provide religious education from a Reform perspective. We have the only religious school in the city allied with a congregation. From Consecration for the Kindergarten class to Confirmation for Grade 10 class, we offer a rich programme of Hebrew, Tefillah (prayers), history, customs, music, Israel, life cycle, holidays and much more. Our programme is for all children including those with special needs.

Our Religious school follows the premise that education is a shared endeavor between home, synagogue and classroom. It is our task to provide the students and their families with the knowledge and skills necessary for significant and joyful Jewish life experiences and identity. This learning process is enhanced by a welcoming environment which gives the young people the opportunity to be creative and to share the beauty of our Jewish heritage. All classes lead services during the year and take part in activities outside the synagogue as well.

The school is staffed by a professional educator, a fine teaching staff and Hebrew specialists. The operation of the school is assisted by a committee which is responsible to the Board of Directors and the congregation.

## ADULT LEARNING

There are weekly sessions devoted to the learning of sacred text. We hold Sunday morning lectures. Temple is committed to rich and varied learning opportunities, including visiting scholars, guest lectures, classes on Hebrew including cantillation, trope, the weekly Parasha, Talmud and Jewish meditation.

### Youth Group

Temple Israel's Youth Group, FROSTY (Federation of Reform Ottawa Senior Temple Youth), provides young people in Grades 8 to 12 with a social, cultural and religious

perspective. Programmes are held in Ottawa and throughout Canada and the U.S.

## Social Action

A great emphasis is placed on social action by the Reform Movement. Our Social Action Committee has been involved with various initiatives at the local, national and international levels.

## VISION STATEMENT

Who we are is best defined by this Vision Statement. Program offerings flow from this statement.

Temple Israel is a sacred Jewish community. This means we are different than businesses, Social clubs or other organizations because we emphasize the holiness and spiritual nature of our community and we put an emphasis on being Jewish.

We provide our members with opportunities to strengthen their identities as Jews and to discover and pursue their personal pathways to the Divine.

The traditional holy congregation was a house of prayer, house of study and house of assembly.

We aspire to be all three. We recognize our important role in linking Jews to their heritage and to one another so that all of our members have opportunities to pray, learn and engage each other. One of our primary purposes is to help people find personal ways to relate to God.

We aspire to be a large diverse group whose members volunteer their time and see their efforts bearing fruit. Together with our professional staff we want to create a vibrant community whose members are connected in multiple and overlapping ways - Where members know that they will be there for one another when the need arises.

Our programs and activities reflect a deep commitment to thoughtful implementation of Jewish tradition.

We have a liberal orientation to Jewish practice. We do not bind ourselves to strict adherence to halakhah. Instead we thoughtfully consider ways of making our Jewish tradition relevant and meaningful in our current world. We belong to the Union of Reform Judaism. Nevertheless, the value we place on being thoughtful and intentional in our practices prevents us from uniformly binding ourselves to Reform doctrine.

We are committed to providing a warm and inclusive environment for all of the members of our diverse community.

We make sure that all of our members have the same opportunities to participate in all that we do – regardless of previous religious affiliation, gender, sexual

preference, nationality, or age. In this spirit, we honour, affirm and celebrate all loving relationships between Jews regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

We support each other on our personal journeys through communal programs of Learning, Prayer, Music and Social Action.

Learning, Prayer, Music and Social Action are the primary program areas where we will focus our resources and efforts. The goal of each is to help our members grow and to deepen their experience of being Jews and to support their experience of the Divine. We strive to ensure that each program area reinforces the experiences and learning in the other program areas. We will structure our programs to overlap and to give members of our diverse community opportunities to connect with each other in a variety of ways.

Together we celebrate, console, build friendships and explore our Jewish identities.

Temple Israel is the place where our members and their families celebrate life cycle events that are both joyous and not. It is also a place where people with different backgrounds and histories can explore and deepen their Jewish identities and practices. We want a community where members know that they can count on each other for support and help in times of personal challenge or in carrying out various volunteer activities.

We place great importance on our relationship with the State of Israel and its people.

We are proud to be part of the larger Ottawa Jewish community and are dedicated to playing our part in ensuring that Ottawa continues to maintain a flourishing and vibrant Jewish present

Temple Israel  
 1301 Prince of Wales Drive  
 Ottawa, Ontario K2C 1N2  
 (613) 224-1802; Fax (613) 224-0707  
[execdir@templeisraelottawa.ca](mailto:execdir@templeisraelottawa.ca)  
 Membership Application Form

1 <sup>st</sup> Adults name _____ Title you prefer: Mr___ Mrs___ Ms___ Dr___ Hebrew name _____  Address _____  City _____ Postal code _____  Home phone _____ Work phone _____ Email address: _____ Last Synagogue affiliation _____  Marital status: married__single__other__ If married, date of marriage mo__day__year__ Date of birth mo__day__year__ Occupation _____ Are you a Jew by Choice: if so, please note date of conversion & name of attending Rabbi	2 <sup>nd</sup> Adults name _____ Mr___ Mrs___ Ms___ Dr___ Hebrew name _____  Address same unless otherwise noted  Work phone _____ Email address: _____  Last Synagogue affiliation, _____  Date of birth mo__day__year__ Occupation _____ Are you a Jew by Choice: if so, please note date of conversion & name of attending Rabbi
--	--

Do you own a cemetery plot? _____ At Temple Israel _____ other _____	Do you own a cemetery plot? _____ At Temple Israel _____ other _____
---	---

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Children 25 and under:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth: month \_\_\_ day \_\_\_ year \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth: month \_\_\_ day \_\_\_ year \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth: month \_\_\_ day \_\_\_ year \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Your interests:

Please note your interests and hobbies. Are you interesting in working with a committee or activity?  
 Please indicate your area of talent and interests. \_\_\_\_\_

Yahrzeits

The Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Ritual Committee has agreed that the Rule of Seven is to be used for Temple observances of Yahrzeits. This applies to the following deceased: Father, Mother, Sister, Brother, Daughter, Son, Husband or Wife. Please list all of the above Yahrzeit information that is applicable to you. Other relatives' names may be called out on a particular Shabbat by calling the office to request same. Thank you for your cooperation.

1. English Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hebrew Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 (and the deceased's parents' names, if known)  
 English date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew date, if known \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note if death occurred before or after sundown \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship of deceased to member \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you wish to observe only the English date, please mark yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note to which adult deceased is related to assure correct information \_\_\_\_\_

2. English Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hebrew Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 (and the deceased's parents' names, if known)  
 English date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew date, if known \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note if death occurred before or after sundown \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship of deceased to member \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you wish to observe only the English date, please mark yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note to which adult deceased is related to assure correct information \_\_\_\_\_

3. English Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hebrew Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 (and the deceased's parents' names, if known)  
 English date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew date, if known \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note if death occurred before or after sundown \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship of deceased to member \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you wish to observe only the English date, please mark yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note to which adult deceased is related to assure correct information \_\_\_\_\_

4. English Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hebrew Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 (and the deceased's parents' names, if known)  
 English date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew date, if known \_\_\_\_\_  
 Note if death occurred before or after sundown \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of deceased to member \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to observe only the English date, please mark yes \_\_\_\_\_

Note to which adult deceased is related to assure correct information \_\_\_\_\_

*On bottom of this form, please list additional Yahrzeits following above format.*