

2023-2024



# TEMPLE MEMBERSHIP

*GETTING TO KNOW YOUR TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM COMMUNITY*



**We value all of our Temple members and are proud of our inclusivity and the warmth of our community. We look forward to including you in our Temple Family.**

**Rabbi Jordan Cohen & Cantor Baruch  
Educator Dora Ann Cohen Ellison  
Temple Leadership and Staff  
Membership Committee**



# TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM

First Congregation of Reform Judaism

## **RABBI**

Jordan D. Cohen, D.D.

## **RABBI EMERITUS**

Bernard Baskin, D.D., LL.D.

## **CANTOR**

Paula Baruch

## **DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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*Baruchim Habaim!* – It is my pleasure to welcome you to Temple Anshe Sholom.

Since 1850, Temple Anshe Sholom has been the First Congregation of Canadian Reform Judaism and the historic heart of the Hamilton Jewish community. Ours is a vibrant Jewish community committed to tradition, inclusion, social justice, egalitarianism, Torah learning, creative spiritual expression, meaningful relationships and a strong identification with Israel. There is a place for you at Anshe Sholom.

I encourage you to get involved. Join us for one of our joyful musical Shabbat services or Festival celebrations. Bring your young ones to our Family Friday Shabbat programs or Holiday experiences. Attend one of our many learning, social or cultural programs, join one of our working groups, participate in a social action project, or sing in our choir. The members of our diverse and welcoming community look forward to meeting you.

I invite you to join us. Please review the materials in this membership booklet and explore our website to learn more about our community. And please, contact me directly if you have any questions or want to know more about who we are as a congregation. I look forward to seeing you soon at a service, program or celebration and personally welcoming you to Temple Anshe Sholom.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Jordan D. Cohen



# Temple Anshe Sholom

## Our Vision

An active  
caring and inclusive  
Reform Jewish  
community that is healthy  
and sustainable

קהילה קדושה • Kehillah Kedoshah – We raise our voices in song and prayer, united within our sacred community to mark life and celebrate social events

בעלם אלוהים • B'tzelem Elohim – We extend our hands to the stranger and recognize that each individual is created in the image of God

ושננתם לבניך • V'shinantem L'vanecha – We study Torah; it is a part of our life-long journey of learning

תקון עולם • Tikkun Olam – We pursue justice for all through social and personal involvement

עבודה • Avodah – We honour our past while creating anew

אהבת ישראל • Ahavat Yisrael – We love and support our Hamilton Jewish community, the People, the Land, and the State of Israel

Temple Anshe Sholom is the first congregation of Canadian Reform Judaism. Since 1850, our congregation has pioneered a lasting imprint through its abiding love for God, Torah and Jewish life and through its proud contributions to Hamilton.



A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

Art by Susan Levine





# A HISTORY OF ANSHE SHOLOM

One hundred and sixty-nine years ago, 16 German Jewish families gathered over a store on Hamilton's James Street South when they decided they needed some form of Jewish communal life. Three years later they incorporated under the name of the Hebrew Benevolent Society Anshe-Sholom of Hamilton. Canada's first Reform Jewish congregation was born.

How these families ended up in Hamilton will probably never be known, but why they left Germany is pretty clear. In 1848, the March Revolution took place in the states of the German Confederation. This largely working class revolution stressed pan-Germanism. Liberals, intellectuals and others deemed to be "counter-revolutionary," were forced into exile to escape political persecution. Not a comfortable political environment for Jews.

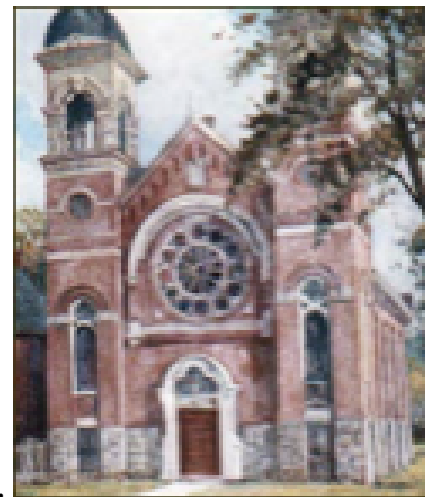
Citizenship had been conferred on the Jews of Prussia as early as 1812, although this by no means resulted in full equality with other citizens. Jews remained barred from holding official state positions. In Austria many laws restricted Jewish trade and Jews were burdened with heavy taxes and forbidden to settle in many territories. The revolution made it even more uncomfortable.

These post-enlightenment educated Jews recognized that their pursuit of modern culture would not assure them the civic status they desired. It was time for a change. Many who were able decided to immigrate to North America, bringing with them the Liberal Judaism that they had come to know at home.

Once settled in Hamilton, early meetings of the members of Anshe Sholom were held in members' homes and religious services were, at first, largely restricted to the High Holy days. Regular religious services began to be held in 1856 and, within the next year, a half-acre plot was purchased as a cemetery site.

In 1866, a room was rented above a leather goods shop in downtown Hamilton to be the first formal synagogue location for Temple Anshe Sholom. Less than 20 years later, a site was chosen at 143 Hughson Street South, at the southeast corner of Hughson and Augusta Streets, and the necessary funds were raised to construct a synagogue. Often referred to as the Hughson Street Temple, this building was dedicated in 1882. This Temple building served as the congregation's home for almost 70 years.

Edmund Scheuer served as President of Anshe Sholom for thirteen years from 1873 to 1886. Scheuer was born in 1847 in Beincastel, on the Moselle River in Prussia. He came to Hamilton in 1871 to join his brother-in-law Herman Levy's jewellery business. At that time the congregation he joined consisted of 30 families totalling 131 people. The young Scheuer quickly became a leader of the congregation, organizing the Hamilton Sabbath School, the first Jewish religious school in Ontario. "That was crucial," he declared because, "If Judaism were to take footing in this new country ... Jewish children must be taught Hebrew, the history of their people and the tenets of their faith ..." In 1873, at age 26, Scheuer was elected president of Anshe Sholom and held that office for the rest of his 15 years in Hamilton. He was instrumental in building the Hughson Street Temple.



Scheuer, known as the "Father of Reform Judaism in Canada," was an early proponent of interfaith understanding. Under his leadership Anshe Sholom pioneered in introducing English into the service, both in prayer and in the sermons, which had previously only been given in German. Women no longer sat in a separate gallery; families sat together in pews and music was introduced into worship, both instrumental and vocal. In 1886 Scheuer moved to Toronto where he took charge of the Religious School of Holy Blossom Temple and soon became the President of that congregation, guiding it in its transition from Orthodox to Reform and serving as treasurer of the fund for the building of the Holy Blossom Temple building. Scheuer also served as the first president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Toronto. Scheuer died in Toronto in 1943 following a collision with a streetcar and is buried in the Holy Blossom Cemetery.





# A HISTORY OF ANSHE SHOLOM

Scheuer's sister, Camilla Levy, also had a profound influence on the development of Jewish life in Hamilton. She immigrated to Hamilton from Prussian with her new husband Herman in 1866. Camilla was widely respected for her work on behalf of the needy, serving on the executive of many aid societies and women's organizations. In 1870 she helped form the Deborah Ladies Aid Society of Congregation Anshe Sholom – the first women's group formed in Canada for the purpose "of uniting in a body for the purpose of assisting the poor, visiting the sick and dispensing general charity for those of Jewish persuasion." Camilla remained the president of the Deborah Ladies Aid Society, later the Deborah Sisterhood, until her passing in 1916. She is buried in the Temple Anshe Sholom Cemetery.

The great wave of immigration that swept into Canada in the late 19th and early 20th centuries brought many families, mainly Orthodox, to the community. During this period, men and women from Anshe Sholom were instrumental in founding such vital Jewish organizations as the B'nai Brith, Council of Jewish Organizations, Jewish Social Services and the Council of Jewish Women.

After the Second World War, Temple Anshe Sholom became the first synagogue in Hamilton to make the post-war move westward. Upon his arrival as the new rabbi in 1949, a young Bernard Baskin declared of the Hughson Street Temple, "Our present physical structure is shamefully antiquated and woefully inadequate for the needs of a progressive, growing and vital congregation." On April 15, 1951, the sod was turned for a new synagogue on vacant land at the corner of King Street West and what was then called Cline Crescent. In June of 1952, a dedication weekend saw the scrolls ceremoniously installed in the Ark. Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, the former Rabbi of Holy Blossom and President of the UAHC, preached the Dedication Sermon. Thirteen years later, the addition that houses the present Reiss-Frank Auditorium, Religious School classrooms, library, youth lounge and offices was erected, more than doubling the size of the building on its present site.

Throughout the years, Anshe Sholom has been blessed with capable and dedicated rabbinical leadership. Records of the congregation show that the following have served as spiritual leaders: Wolf Landau, Herman Birkenthal, Joseph Friedlander, Jacob Minkin, Julius Berger, Iser Freund, Arthur A. Feldman, Arthur Lebowitz, Emil Fackenheim, Luitpold Wallach, Bernard Baskin, Irwin Zeplovitz and Phil Cohen. Our current rabbi, Jordan D. Cohen, Anshe Sholom's first Canadian born Rabbi, began his service to Anshe Sholom on January 1, 2007.



Arthur Feldman, who served as rabbi from 1926 to 1941, was a gentle and kind leader, a great scholar and a personal friend of Sigmund Freud. He led the congregation throughout the difficult days of the depression and the rise of Hitler. He held a doctorate in philosophy from Vienna, and a profound understanding of Freudian psychology. Outspoken in his hatred of sham, bigotry and hypocrisy, Rabbi Feldman was a pioneer in interfaith activities and left an indelible imprint on the thinking of his congregation.

Rabbi Emil Fackenheim served the congregation from 1944 to 1949 before departing for a distinguished career as a professor of philosophy at the University of Toronto and the Hebrew University and exercised worldwide influence as a leader of Jewish thought. The depth of Rabbi Fackenheim's insight and the unique character of his spiritual message as well as his valuable work in the community won him a lasting place in the hearts of his congregants. During his incumbency, the first of the Interfaith Institutes was held at Anshe Sholom, with well-known Rabbis and church leaders on hand.



# A HISTORY OF ANSHE SHOLOM



Rabbi Bernard Baskin served as rabbi from 1949 to 1989. Under his wise and devoted leadership, the congregation grew from 100 to 475 families, attracting many members who had previously been unaffiliated. The congregation was extremely active and a wide variety of spiritual, educational, social and cultural events and programmes flourished. Family life cycle events and religious school enrolment increased dramatically. The congregation worshiped on the traditional side of Reform. Rabbi Baskin has served on and held office with countless local, regional and national organizations, both Jewish and non-Jewish, and built a genuine sense of goodwill, respect and understanding within our Jewish community and between the Jewish and general communities. Among the many honours he has been awarded are a Doctor of Laws degree from McMaster University and a Doctor of Divinity degree from HUC-JIR. A highly respected and distinguished speaker, writer, teacher and leader, we are privileged that Rabbi Baskin serves as our Rabbi Emeritus, and continued to play an active role in our community until his relocation to Toronto in 2018.

With the strong foundation established by Rabbi Baskin, Rabbi Irwin Zepowitz arrived in 1989. The congregation was fortunate to enjoy this dynamic and caring Rabbi. His family-based innovations enabled the synagogue to grow in a number of ways, ranging from enriching educational opportunities and congregational dinners to involvement in mitzvah projects and challenging issues of the day. He encouraged the congregation to be more inclusive and promoted greater participation of young people in congregational life. He played an important role in the decision to hire a full-time educator in 1992 and worked with our educators to revitalize our school. Deeply committed to social action and interfaith understanding, Rabbi Zepowitz also strengthened our ties to the people and land of Israel. He introduced liturgical and ritual changes, including increased use of Hebrew, and innovations to make services, life cycle events and ritual observance more engaging and meaningful for people of all ages and backgrounds. He combined a respect for the past with optimism for the future.

At this time, Temple Anshe Sholom is traditional yet innovative in its worship and ritual observance. Under the dedicated leadership of Rabbi Jordan Cohen, Cantor Paula Baruch and Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison, our Director of Religious Education, the congregation is welcoming, inclusive and embracing of diversity. Its core values include pluralism, education, social justice, egalitarianism, creative expression, con-gregational participation in prayer and leadership, strong identification with Israel and dynamic, relevant spirituality. There are joyful music based Sabbath and Holy Day services, vibrant religious education programs for students from Kindergarten through High School, popular youth groups and camp programs, family retreats, seniors programs, and a multitude of adult learning opportunities. The Temple building also serves as home to the Temple Playhouse Multicultural Enrichment School and the Kehila Jewish Community Day School, and hosts many community organizations such as a Storytellers Group, The Shalom Community Teaching Garden, The Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program, The Jewish Genealogical Society of Hamilton, various community meetings and gatherings and several youth arts and activities programs and summer camps. The members of the Anshe Sholom congregation are actively involved in all Jewish communal activities and are committed to every aspect of the life of the greater Hamilton community. At Temple Anshe Sholom, we strive to create a place for everyone..







# WORSHIP at TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM

Prayer is a language that each of us speaks and hears in a different way. When we pray together, we try to find meaning within the chorus of diverse voices. With engaging sermons, meaningful stories and stimulating teachings, Rabbi Jordan Cohen shows us how the lessons from the past are relevant to our lives today. Worshiping through music is a long tradition at Temple Anshe Sholom and in Reform Judaism. Our services are filled with melodies and music that help to raise our prayer and elevate our souls. Cantor Paula Baruch selects music with intention and connection to the liturgy and season to elevate our worship.

Through a wide range of truly meaningful spiritual experiences, we offer something for everyone, including Kabbalat Shabbat Services and Saturday's Shabbat Shelanu, which presents a variety of Shabbat Morning worship and learning experiences. YOFI gatherings to engage young children with Jewish songs and stories. First Friday Shabbat Services are for families with tots and school age children, grandparents too! These are offered every first Friday of each month and feature a Family Shabbat Dinner together. Religious School Shabbat Services, Summer Garden Services, Services in the Round, and special Musical Services such as Jazz Shabbat Services. These are all wonderful ways we gather and create a special experience for everyone.



Our services are fully egalitarian (men and women participate equally) and families sit together. We believe we have found a healthy balance between the traditional and the creative. Services are a balance of Hebrew and English, spoken, chanted and sung. We use both traditional, classic and contemporary melodies. People who attend vary from those with Orthodox backgrounds to Jewish by choice. No matter what story you arrive with, we welcome you and help you weave it together with ours.





# WORSHIP at TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM

## Shabbat



### Friday Night – KABBALAT SHABBAT

Friday evening, we join together for an Oneg Shabbat reception at 6:15 PM followed by our Kabbalat Shabbat service at 7:00 PM. Services are led by Rabbi Jordan Cohen and Cantor Paula Baruch with the involvement of our members. Special Shabbat services are enhanced by extra musicians and our TAS Temple Singers. You will be most welcome at our services. Please join us!

### Saturday Morning – SHABBAT SHELANU

Shabbat Shelanu - “a Shabbat for all of us” - is our Shabbat Morning program of services and programs that provides options to suit the various groups within our Temple family. Our Minyan offers a more traditional worship experience and our Family Shabbat service involves our Religious School students and their families. In addition to the worship opportunities, every Shabbat we offer Torah Study with Rabbi Cohen and other enrichment programs. At the end of the morning, everyone gathers together to enjoy a community kiddush at 12:15 PM.



## Holidays

Festivals and Holidays are a joyful time at Temple Anshe Sholom and we offer an extensive array of services, celebratory events and learning opportunities for each holy time. From elaborate Purim Spiels, fun and engaging community Passover Seders, joyful Chanukah Dinners and deeply meaningful and soul-stirring High Holy Day services and program, holiday celebrations at Temple Anshe Sholom are certain to be memorable as we weave celebration and tradition into our community. We are pleased to have you celebrate with us!







# LIFECYCLE EVENTS at TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM

## Brit Milah

The Torah commands us to circumcise our newborn sons on the eighth day of their new lives. This powerful ceremony celebrates new life, and also brings our sons into Judaism's sacred covenant. Rabbi Jordan Cohen can put you in touch with a Mohel (ritual circumciser), help the parents understand the ceremony, and co-officiate, along with the Mohel.

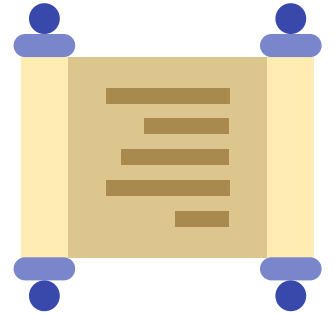


## Baby Naming/Simchat Bat

Just as we rejoice in the birth of our sons, we celebrate the great blessing of a newborn daughter with a ceremony that brings her into the covenant and confers upon her a Hebrew name. Rabbi Jordan Cohen can help you think through and design this ceremony, which can take place either at home or at the synagogue, on Shabbat or a week day.

## Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Bar/Bat Mitzvah students are moving from childhood to adulthood, from learning to be responsible to being responsible. As son or daughter of the commandments, you commit yourself to be proud membership in our ancient people. Rabbi Jordan Cohen and Cantor Paula Baruch, along with our outstanding B'nei Mitzvah tutors and teachers, will guide your child and their family through this milestone event.

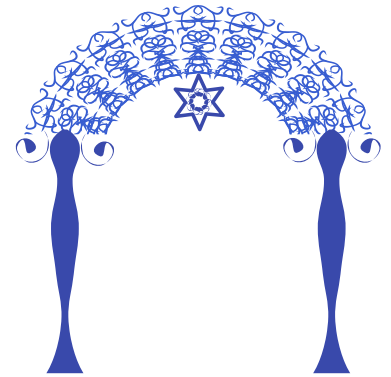


## Confirmation

Confirmation students continue their Jewish learning from grade 8 through grade 10, exemplifying the goal of lifelong learning. This is a powerful time of transition for our young people as they truly become independent thinkers and are ready to engage in adult study. Rabbi Jordan Cohen and our Director of Religious Education, Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison will guide your child through this impactful time.

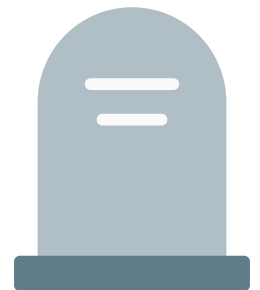
## Weddings

Rabbi Jordan Cohen can help you prepare for this wonderful, joyous occasion, by teaching brides and grooms the meaning of the traditional ceremony, from Ketubah (marriage document), to Kiddushin (Engagement) to Chuppah (Marriage Canopy) to Nissuin (marriage ceremony) to breaking the glass. We also offer counselling, offering Jewish wisdom in preparation for a life dedicated to love and companionship. We also work with you in designing the ceremony, providing our knowledge, experience and creativity. Our Cantor, Paula Baruch, enhances your wedding with traditional wedding melodies and chant.



## Funerals

Our tradition offers several powerful end of life rituals - Kriah (tearing of a garment), Levayah (funeral procession), Hespel (eulogy), Kevurah (burial) and Shivah (seven days of mourning). Rabbi Jordan Cohen will advise you on these and other related rituals and will work with the mortuary to support you making the funeral arrangements during a very difficult and challenging time. Rabbi Cohen and Cantor Baruch officiate at the funeral service, will arrange leadership for all Shiva Minyanim, and will help you understand and implement other meaningful Jewish mourning practices.



## Sponsoring a Service, Oneg Shabbat or Kiddush

If you are marking a significant occasion, or want to remember or honour someone special, please consider sponsoring a Service, Oneg Shabbat or Kiddush. Our office staff can assist you with all the preparations. Please contact us for more information.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## What Is Happening At Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School?

### Important Dates

*Throughout the year, we invite our parents and extended family members to join our students for special events.*

*We welcome new students at our consecration service, explore holidays and traditions at Shabbat Family programs, and make visits to the residents at Shalom Village Nursing Home.*

### School Times

Students in Jk through Grade 7 attend classes on Wednesday 4:30-6:15 pm and Saturday 9:15 am-12:15 pm

Tot-Shabbat: A drop-in program offered Saturdays @ 11 am for toddlers through age 4 and a caregiver. Songs, games & more!

B'yachad Students in Grade 8, 9 & 10 attend classes on Thursday evenings 7:00-8:30 pm.

**Parents are encouraged to join our students at 10:30 or 11:40am for Family T'fillah.**



We Welcome All Families



## Shalom!

*We look forward to meeting you and your family this school year!*

Welcome to the Temple Anshe Sholom Community!

### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

The goal of Jewish education within the Reform Movement is the deepening of Jewish experience and knowledge, in order to strengthen faith in God, love of Torah, and identification with *Klal Yisrael*, the Jewish people. We believe that Judaism meaningfully addresses the challenges and questions confronting the human spirit. Only through knowledge can a Jew successfully seek these answers. Included in the body of knowledge which a Jewish student should be taught are:

Familiarity with Jewish sources, an appreciation of the Jewish calendar and life cycle, a deepened understanding of Jewish culture and heritage, and an awareness of our relationship with Israel and Jews around the world.

Hebrew is also essential for enabling the student to understand and participate in communal prayer.



## **TAS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT**

Our school provides complementary Jewish education from Junior Kindergarten (*Ganon*) through Grade 12. Our curriculum covers three basic areas:

- 1) The Jewish people (including Torah, the Prophets, Jewish history, Israel, the Holocaust, Jewish culture, current events and community responsibility);
- 2) The Jewish religion (including prayer, mitzvot, Jewish texts, the holidays, life cycle, ethics and values)
- 3) Hebrew language (including basic conversational language, reading, and basic comprehension of the prayers and blessings).

Through creative and experiential learning activities, project-based learning, songs, stories, family learning programs, prayer experiences, study and discussion, our students gain not only knowledge but also a sense of commitment to the Temple Anshe Sholom community and the Jewish people as a whole.

## **CURRICULUM OUTLINE**

**HEBREW:** Our youngest students learn Hebrew using the Hebrew Through Movement curriculum. (Feel free to check out the HTM website: [www.hebrewthroughmovement.org](http://www.hebrewthroughmovement.org)). We have had GREAT success with this new fun and very active approach to learning. As our students grow, their core learning is reinforced with Hebrew literacy centres (Hebrew letters & sounds games, prayer practice, "word attack", vocabulary work, listening centres, and a variety of reading activities) on a weekly basis.

**JEWISH LEARNING:** Our students rotate through 4-8 week units on Torah Study, Shabbat and Jewish Holidays, Jewish Symbols, Jewish Ethics, Jewish Community, Jewish History, Jewish Life Cycle, and Israel. They learn Jewish music (songs and blessings) with our song-leader on a weekly basis. They participate in activity-based units on Jewish cooking, Jewish storytelling, Israeli dancing, global Jewish awareness, and exploring Jewish themes through visual arts and drama. They learn how to recite Jewish prayers (in both Hebrew and English) and have many opportunities to practice.

**B'NAI MITZVAH PREPARATION:** Our grade 7 students learn how to chant Torah and Haftarah (as well as the blessings for both), how to lead a service, how to navigate through Jewish text, study a Torah portion and write a d'var Torah, and more. They complete a 4-part mitzvah project in preparation for their b'nai mitzvah, and they also participate in four special family programs during the grade 7 year.

**B'YACHAD:** Grades 8 to 12 meet together on Thursday evenings. Hot topics in Judaism, current events, and Jewish themes in a variety of media form the basis of their discussions. B'yachad students also apply the Jewish values they have learned through fulfilling community projects and volunteer experiences.

**CONFIRMATION:** Grade 10 students have the wonderful opportunity to learn each week with our Rabbi. "Why I will confirm my Jewishness" is the underlying theme of the classes. The year culminates in a moving Confirmation ceremony, just prior to Shavuot.

For more information, please contact our Director of Religious Education - Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison through email [dacellison@anshesholom.ca](mailto:dacellison@anshesholom.ca) or phone 905-528-0121 Ext 30

WE WELCOME ALL FAMILIES

# Family Programs



## Programs for Families with Young Children?

Look for the YoFi logo!



## Programs for School Age Children

These programs are often hosted by our Education Committee or occur as Holiday Events.



## Weekly Shabbat Programming

We offer Shabbat School for students in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12.

## Shabbat and Torah Study

Family Shabbat is the 1st Friday of each month @6pm

Parents of our JK-4 students are invited to Family Shabbat Service at 11:40 am Parents of Grade 5-7 students, join Rabbi Cohen & Cantor Baruch for Shabbat services at 10:30 am.

## LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY PROGRAMS AT TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM?

Cantor Paula Baruch - Cantor and Program Director

[pbaruch@anshesholom.ca](mailto:pbaruch@anshesholom.ca)

Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison - Director of Religious Education

[dacellison@anshesholom.ca](mailto:dacellison@anshesholom.ca)



### SUKKOT

Throughout the week, we host programs in the sukkah or virtual from your home. Dinners, family games,

### SIMCHAT TORAH

Join us as we dance with the Torah!

### CHANUKAH

A special service and event in our Temple Community!

### PURIM

Costume Parade, Shpiel, & Activities!

Each year is new and exciting!



# TAS YOUTH GROUPS

At Anshe Sholom our Youth are a priority. Our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism connects us with NFTY - North Federation of Temple Youth. NFTY is a movement that builds strong, welcoming, inspired communities through teen-powered engagement. Together, we pursue *tikkun olam*, personal growth, youth empowerment, and deep connections, all rooted in Reform Judaism. NFTY's Northeast Lakes Region includes Ontario Canada; northern New York; Cleveland, OH, and its suburbs; and Erie, PA. We provide opportunities throughout the year to gather together as a larger regional group.



**LEARN MORE**

<https://nfty.org/>



**LEARN MORE**

<https://nfty.org/nel>



Yael Morais leading songs at Camp George

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

### Temple Anshe Sholom has a new Youth Advisor

Meet Yael Morais, our new Youth Advisor. Many of our young people will know Yael from URJ Camp George, where she has served on staff and now as Song Leader. Yael is moving to Hamilton this Fall and is delighted to serve as our Senior and Jr Youth Advisor.

Temple Anshe Sholom has both a Senior and a Junior Youth Group. TASTY - Temple Anshe Sholom Temple Youth is our Senior Group and TASTY JR is our Junior Group. Cantor Paula Baruch supervises Youth Group activities.

## Making NFTY a Safer Space

NFTY is committed to creating a safe and respectful space for all teens with every teen agreeing to abide by our NFTY's Brit Kehillah – Our Community Covenant. If a NFTY teen has broken this promise we make to one another, please speak to an adult in charge of the program or use this form to notify our staff leaders. If you are a NFTY teen and are interested in being a part of our ongoing ethics work, please email [nftymvp@nfty.org](mailto:nftymvp@nfty.org).



<https://nfty.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2016/05/Resolution-to-Affirm-NFTYs-Stance-on-the-Rights-of-Transgender-and-Gender-Nonconforming-Peoples-FD-6.8.2016.pdf>

# TAS YOUTH GROUPS



Engaging Jewish Experiences and Learning for Grades 8 through 12

TASTY Senior Youth Group members have access to a Youth Lounge at Temple Anshe Sholom. This is a space to gather any time for meetings, games, homework, pizza and more. You'll have free access to wifi, loads of board games and books. Each month a gathering will be planned and supported by your Youth Advisor, Yael Morais. You'll be in touch with other Youth Groups in our Northeast Lakes region and may plan get togethers with Oakville and Mississauga. During the year, 4 NFTY Region events are scheduled. We've even applied to host one of them right here in February 2023! Come out and get involved...this is going to be a great year!

**SIGN UP!**



Engaging Jewish Experiences and Learning for Grades 4 through 7

TASTY Junior Youth Group welcomes Youth grades 4 through 7 to come out to fun monthly activities. You'll meet your Youth Advisor, Yael Morais, and have input into what activities and events the group would like to do. Cupcake Wars and a trip to SkyZone were two popular events in the past. We also enjoy movie nights and games. Bring your joy and interests to this amazing group that is a little like being at camp from home!

**SIGN UP!**







# Adult Learning Opportunities

At Temple Anshe Sholom, we believe strongly in the concept of Life-Long Jewish Learning. Our congregation has a proud and active legacy of scholarship and study. Throughout the year we offer many engaging and informative learning opportunities for adults including guest speakers, scholars-in-residence, movie and book discussions, continuing courses, lifestyle workshops, Hebrew classes and holiday study events. Notable on-going opportunities for study include:

## **Torah Talk**

Saturday Morning at 10:30 AM

Every Shabbat morning throughout the year we gather for *Parashat HaShavuah* – an examination of the weekly Torah portion. We look at commentaries both classical and contemporary to help guide our discussion, which is open and wide-ranging. Torah is the most precious and sacred text of our Jewish tradition, but many of us have never studied it with the sophistication of an adult mind. Join us as we explore the extraordinary wisdom and mystery of Torah.

## **Jewish Information Course**

Thursdays, 7:00-10:00 PM, from September through May

Sponsored by the Beit Din of the Reform Rabbis of Greater Toronto and taught by experienced teachers and rabbis from throughout our community, the Jewish Information Course is for adults considering conversion to Judaism or who just want to learn more about Judaism and Jewish tradition. This year-long program, presented in cooperation with Solel Congregation in Mississauga and Shaarei Beth El Congregation in Oakville, familiarizes students with Hebrew, Jewish prayer, holidays, customs, core values, history, current issues, and more. New students can enter the course in September and January, only by registering through a sponsoring rabbi. For more information about JIC, please contact Rabbi Jordan Cohen at [rabbijc@anshesholom.ca](mailto:rabbijc@anshesholom.ca).

## **Rabbi Cohen's Monday Night Shiur**

Join with Rabbi Cohen for a series of thematic, text-based courses offered on Monday evenings throughout the Fall, Winter and Spring, beginning at 7:00 PM. Past courses have included: "Stories of the Sages," "Pirkei Avot," "A Time for War and a Time for Peace," "A Time to Grieve," "Ten Essential Jewish Ideas," "Why Pray?" and many others. All texts are provided and all you need to bring with you is an eagerness for study and a desire to learn more about what our Jewish tradition has to teach us about our lives today.

## **Breakfast Club**

Running for over 70 years, the Anshe Sholom Sunday Breakfast Club is a long-standing congregational tradition. Over ten Sunday mornings throughout the year, the Breakfast Club presents interesting and engaging speakers on topics of Jewish and general interest. When we return to social programming in our building, we invite you to come at 10:15 AM to enjoy a delicious breakfast for only \$10.00 per Sunday or purchase a year's subscription for just \$80 and save! Stay to nurture your mind and soul as well.

How can we involve you?

COME SING WITH US!



PURIM SCHPIEL



YOFI SHABBAT AND YOUTH SERVICES



YOUTH GROUP AND CAMP SONG LEADERS

## Music at Temple Anshe Sholom



The Temple Singers



Outdoor Garden Shabbat



Cantor Paula Baruch



The Jam Band

**"Come to any Friday night service at Temple and you will be amazed by the quality and enthusiasm of our congregational music!" - Cantor Baruch**



# Musical Opportunities

## YOUTH MUSIC

At Temple Anshe Sholom, we believe that singing Jewish songs and learning to pray through music from a young age are critical to the development of lasting Jewish identity. All of our young congregants sing, pray, and dance at YoFi Shabbat, Religious School T'filah, Family Shabbat Services, and at our youth events. Children in our Religious School, grades K-7 have opportunities to sing for the residents of Shalom Village and at services each year. Youth music is under the direction of our Religious School Song Leader.

## SHABBAT LIVE! CHOIR

This active choir rehearses weekly to prepare for our monthly Shabbat LIVE! Services. They are accompanied by professional musicians and are always learning new repertoire to enhance our services at Temple Anshe Sholom. Our youngest member is 16 and our oldest is 87 and we currently have 25 members in this choir. We are always expanding and looking for new ways to develop a lively and joyful, singing congregation. We believe that when we sing, we pray twice! Our choir is under the direction of Cantor Paula Baruch.

## HIGH HOLIDAY ADULT CHOIR

The High Holiday choir provides music for services on S'lichot, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur. Leading music for the holiday season is a profoundly moving musical and spiritual experience, deeply appreciated by our congregants. The group is composed of volunteers from our Temple family who prepare all summer long to be ready to fulfill this sacred task. Rehearsals take place on Mondays and Wednesday evenings beginning approximately three months before Rosh Hashanah. **JAM BAND**

Amateur musicians who are members of Temple Anshe Sholom are invited to join our Temple Jam Band. We rehearse monthly and occasionally lead "Shabbat in the Round" services or Jam nights.

We invite you to contact Cantor Paula Baruch to get involved.

## Shabbat Music



**SHABBAT LIVE!** 6:15 PM  
3rd Friday Each Month!  
We dare you to keep from tapping your toes!

Temple Singers, Cantor & Amazing Musicians

Guest musicians and our Temple Choir raise their voices to celebrate Shabbat and your spirits for a wonderful Shabbat. Bring the whole family to this joyous experience. We know we will send you home singing and dancing!

Temple Anshe Sholom  
215 Cline Ave North, Hamilton, ON L8S 4A1  
905-528-0121



Throughout the year, we offer our congregations many opportunities to experience Shabbat musically, with different styles of music and melodies!

# Social and Volunteer Opportunities



**There are many social groups and volunteer opportunities available at Temple Anshe Sholom.**

**Though this is not a comprehensive list, we hope you will discover an opportunity that may be of interest.**

**We encourage you to contact the Temple Office for further information on how you can take part.**



**Hospitality** - Welcoming new and existing congregants at Shabbat Services and events, and presenting welcoming baskets to new members. They also support other committees and TAS functions by shopping, set up and plating for the Oneg Shabbat, Festivals and the Breakfast Club.

**Social Action** - Engaging the Temple Community in programs, activities and initiatives that make positive impacts on people and the environment.

**Caring** - Visiting congregants who are ill or socially isolated, through our Bikkur Cholim team. They also provide rides to appointments and Temple events, for those who require transportation assistance.

**Education** - This committee works with our Director of Education and the Rabbi, to develop and maintain education policy. They also plan and execute parent education programs, social programs for our youth and fundraising events for our Temple Religious School.

**House** - A committee of members dedicated to the maintenance, updating and preservation of our building and property

**Cemetery** - A committee of members that care for the grounds and structures of our Temple Cemetery. They are involved in the many aspects of the Jewish Funeral practices at Temple Anshe Sholom.

**Ritual** - Together with our Rabbi and Cantor, this committee works to guide and inform ritual experiences and events. They meet to reflect on services and activities, in order to maintain a standard of practice, as well as to allow our congregation to evolve spiritually.



What more can I do at Temple Anshe Sholom?

## Deborah Sisterhood

The Deborah Sisterhood of Temple Anshe Sholom has been an integral part of our Temple for over 167 years and was the first group of Jewish women organized for charitable purposes in Canada. Our mission is to enhance and support all aspects of Temple life - socially, financially, and spiritually. We also support charitable endeavours in our greater community. Membership in Sisterhood is open to all.

Some of our activities include:

- Coordinating the Flower Fund
- Providing financial assistance to send children to camp
- Providing flowers for the bimah for High Holiday and special occasions
- Coordinating latke making for Temple's annual Chanukah Dinner
- Operating the Judaica Shop
- Providing financial assistance to Temple's Religious School
- Fundraising for Temple Special Projects
- Host monthly member meetings
- Host member events



The Deborah Sisterhood is a proud member of Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ), the Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, an affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism, which serves Jewish and humanitarian causes throughout Canada, the United States, and thirteen other countries. WRJ is the collective voice and presence of women in congregational life, Stronger together, WRJ supports the idea, and enhances the quality, of Jewish living to ensure the future of progressive Judaism in North America, Israel, and around the world. Sisterhood membership dues include a yearly contribution per member to WRJ.

Sisterhood holds monthly member meetings where we plan and organize various Sisterhood member events throughout the year, We also organize fundraising efforts for Sisterhood, and help with some Temple events,

Sisterhood is a strictly volunteer based group. Our strength is our dedicated volunteers. So many of our activities are made possible because members have decided that what we do is important to us, our children, and our grandchildren. With our member's support and involvement the quality of Temple life will be assured. We encourage all women who are members of Temple or who are thinking of joining Temple to get involved. Your level of participation is up to you. Whether you attend meetings, help with our events, or just contribute your dues, you are choosing to support Sisterhood.

Please consider joining the Deborah Sisterhood. Make a difference in your community, have some fun, and develop friendships through Sisterhood,

For more information, or to get involved, please see our announcements in the weekly This Week in Temple Bulletins, or send us a note at [TAS.Sisterhood@gmail.com](mailto:TAS.Sisterhood@gmail.com). We look forward to meeting you!

Synagogue Life... What is in it for me?

## How Does Being a Synagogue Member

### Make My Life Better?

#### Rabbi Paul Kipnes

I invited a former synagogue member - a wonderful and very pleasant person - to rejoin the synagogue after a few years away. She said she had thought about it and wondered "How would being a member make my life better... or different?"

I thought about her question a lot and struggled. I'm wondering how YOU would answer. My answer was:

Depends on what you mean by "better".

If you mean physically healthier, it won't... Join a gym.

If you mean more beautiful physically, it won't, go to Nordstroms or a make-up artist or...

If you mean richer, it won't, get a higher paying job.

If you mean more mentally stable, it won't, go to a shrink.

If you mean more knowledgeable, it won't, take a class at a community college.

If you mean... Then go ...



But being part of a synagogue allows you to be part of a larger community... of YOUR people.

Being part of a synagogue means promulgating values that your tradition, and you, hold dear.

Being part of a community is like ensuring that your "room" is still there even if you go away to college. You can always come home. Or if you are an adult, you cannot show up but we are still here.



## Synagogue Life... What is in it for me?

Being part of a community teaches future generations that being a Jew matters, even if you aren't a power user of the synagogue at the moment.

Being part of a community means that there will always be High Holy Day services for you and the community.

...That you have a place to turn if you are in need.

...That there is always Torah in your community

...That you have a spiritual home.

...That your values are played out through social justice

...That you have a place to go to sing Mi Shebeirach...

...That Israel has an advocate in the community.

...That you take responsibility for the next generation, like the previous one did for yours.

It's not about money, because everyone can join regardless of wealth or lack of money. It's about commitment to community.

We live in a world that speaks of consumer values. What do I get if I pay. Judaism is a people/ religion/nation/culture/ethnicity/more that transcends that, asking what will being part of a community do for OUR world, ALL people, OUR people, OUR community. That's how I think and it is how I want my children to think.

If it is how you want to think, come home. If not, home will still be here for you if you ever decide you want to come home.



(Oh, and Judaism, synagogue and community can make you more beautiful because you feel better about yourself when you are spiritually centered. You will be richer because you will have enriched your life and those of others. You will be smarter because you will be able to partake in 5000 years of Jewish knowledge. You will be mentally more stable because you will have adjusted the balance of the mind, body, spirit. Of course all this presupposes that not only do you join but you also connect in and come.)

So, that's my answer. The shofar's in your court...



# Our Affiliations

When you become a member of Temple Anshe Sholom, you are not just joining a congregation. The Temple is a part of the global Reform Jewish movement and a key institution of the Hamilton Jewish community. When you join Temple Anshe Sholom, you become associated with:



**The World Union for Progressive Judaism** -The WUPJ, established in 1926, is the international network of the Reform, Liberal, Progressive and Reconstructionist movements, serving 1,200 congregations with 1.8 million members in more than 50 countries. Headquartered in Jerusalem, the WUPJ represents the largest body of Jews in the world who seek a traditional yet contemporary expression of their Jewish spiritual, cultural and religious identity. Learn more at [wupj.org](http://wupj.org).



**The Union for Reform Judaism** - The URJ provides vision and voice to build strong communities that, together, transform the way people connect to Judaism and change the world. More than 1 million Americans and Canadians are affiliated with Reform congregations, making the URJ the largest Jewish denominational organization in North America. Learn more at [urj.org](http://urj.org).



## **ARZA Canada and ARZENU - ARZA**

Canada is the Zionist Organization of the Canadian Reform Movement and is a member of ARZENU, the international federation of Reform and Progressive religious Zionists within the World Zionist Organization. ARZA Canada reaches out to all Reform Jews in Canada to help foster a better understanding of Israel and to support the Reform Movement in Israel. No matter what our political views are, Israel is a central part of our identity. Learn more at [arzacanada.org](http://arzacanada.org)



**URJ Camp George** - Since 1951, when the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) opened its first camp in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, Reform Jewish camping has been an integral part of the Reform Jewish experience in North America. In 1999, a 15-year-old dream became a reality when the URJ opened its first and only Canadian camp - Camp George. Since 1999 Camp George has served thousands of campers and has played a significant role in strengthening the Reform Jewish movement in Canada. At Camp George, Jewish youth from all over Canada and the United States participate in a unique camping experience that blends the best of Reform camping with the historic traditions of Ontario camping. Learn more at [campgeorge.org](http://campgeorge.org).





# Our Affiliations



**The Hamilton Jewish Federation** - The Hamilton Jewish Federation has been central to Jewish life in Hamilton for more than 80 years. They are the organizational hub of the Jewish community, representing the full spectrum of Jewish life. They are a catalyst for new projects and initiatives that meet and address the community's current and future needs. The HJF provides a helping hand during difficult times. Through our beneficiary agencies, we feed the hungry, comfort the sick, care for the elderly, educate our youth, fight against anti-Semitism, and advocate for Israel. Learn more at [jewishhamilton.org](http://jewishhamilton.org).



**Hamilton Jewish Family Services** - The HJFS is a non-profit multi-service agency. Since 1929, HJFS has been identifying and responding to the needs and challenges of the local Jewish Community. Specifically, but not exclusively, we are committed to the delivery of social services that reflect Jewish values and traditions. A small agency by size, HJFS provides a full range of social services traditionally offered in a large Jewish community including services for newcomers and helping the poor through the Kosher Food Bank, financial counselling, employment counselling and emergency casework. Learn more at [hamiltonjfs.ca](http://hamiltonjfs.ca).

Temple Anshe Sholom also has wonderful ongoing partnerships with **Shalom Village** ([shalomvillage.ca](http://shalomvillage.ca)), the **Kehila Heschel Jewish Community Day School** ([kehilaheschel.com](http://kehilaheschel.com)) and numerous faith groups, social service agencies and community organizations throughout the city of Hamilton. When you become a member of Temple Anshe Sholom, you become a part of something much bigger!



Kehila Heschel  
School



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215 Cline Ave North  
Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4A1  
905-528-0121

## Contact Us:

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