

Committee Reports for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Nominating Committee

The following members of Temple Ohev Sholom have been nominated for the Board of Trustees:

- Steve Davidheiser, Secretary (2026-2028)
- Ari Nepon, Treasurer (2026-2028)
- Carolyn Green, Trustee (2026-2028)
- Nick Spies, Trustee (2026-2028)

One additional nominated trustee will be announced at the meeting prior to voting to serve on the board for Steve Davidheiser's remaining year since he is stepping up to be Secretary.

Voting will take place at the annual meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2026 at 11am in Sisterhood Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
April Hutcheson & Jonathan Hjelm
Nominating Committee Members

Investments Committee

Investments Committee Report - Prepared by Ari Nepon on May 27th, 2026.

Each year, we've increased transparency in how Ohev Sholom reports on investments and balances. Last year, for the first time in many years, we made the full detailed investment report from Morgan Stanley available to every member of the congregation. And now that it is tradition, we're doing it again this year.

Additionally, we'll share the balances of both restricted and unrestricted funds held at Morgan Stanley and the Jewish Community Foundation, and then compare year over year balances.

As a primer, **Unrestricted funds**, which can be used for general purposes, are held in two main places.

Designated Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA:

Year	Balance (2-3 weeks prior to annual meeting)
2024	\$604,000
2025	\$650,000
2026	\$727,986 (+\$77,986)

Growth is thanks to interest, dividends, and market gains. There were no new donations to or grants from this fund.

Annual Giving Fund at Morgan Stanley

Year	Balance (2-3 weeks prior to annual meeting)
2024	\$750,000
2025	\$569,000*
2026	\$484,612** (-\$84,388)

*2024-2025 \$181,000 reduction was against \$200,000 budgeted withdrawals for operating expenses, offset by interest, dividends, and market gains.

**2025-2026 \$84,388 reduction is against \$200,000 budgeted withdrawals for operating expenses, offset by interest, dividends, and market gains.

Restricted funds, which are earmarked for specific purposes, also saw some movement.

Building Fund:

Year	Balance (2-3 weeks prior to annual meeting)
2024	\$162,000
2025	\$143,000
2026	\$43 (-\$142,957)

now stands at **\$42.61**, down from \$143,000 this time last year.

Other **named funds** at Morgan Stanley

Year	Balance (2-3 weeks prior to annual meeting)
2024	\$446,000
2025	\$439,000
2026	\$540,048 (+\$101,048)

Restricted endowment funds managed by the Jewish Community Foundation

Year	Balance (2-3 weeks prior to annual meeting)
2024	\$581,000
2025	\$613,000

2026	\$697,236 (+\$84,236)
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These funds continue to provide essential, steady support for programs like religious school trips, music, and remembrance listings.

In summary: we saw **growth in our long-term funds, a depletion of our building fund, planned and responsible use of our unrestricted funds**, and we have continued to ensure that every member has access to the full financial picture.

Thank you to the members of the Investments Committee, the Board, and all of you for your continued trust in and support of Ohev Sholom's investments.

Life Long Learning Committee

The Life Long Learning Committee is excited to begin programming this summer with our Adult Hebrew School series, teaching beginning Hebrew to members of the congregation. In the Adult Hebrew School series, we plan to progress to learning the meaning of various prayers and then to learning how to decode and chant Torah. We also have a survey we are planning to send out this summer to determine what other areas of interest there are in both the Temple family and the larger HBG Jewish community, and to begin finding members for the committee to help plan and teach classes.

Respectfully submitted,
Yonah Jasper

Membership & Outreach Committee

Temple Ohev Sholom has had a wonderful year of growth. As of 6-1-2026:

- 10 New Families
 - 14 New Adults
 - 9 New Children
- 4 Families who resigned
 - 6 Resigned Adults
 - 3 Resigned Children

Respectfully submitted,
Elissa Arch, TOS Board of Trustees Secretary
Amanda Monaco, Administrator

Religious School Committee

This year has been one of growth, engagement, and meaningful connection for our religious school community. Through a combination of holiday celebrations, innovative programming, and new

initiatives, our students and families experienced a vibrant and enriching Jewish educational environment.

Throughout the year, our school community came together for a number of memorable schoolwide events. Highlights included a community Tu B'Shvat seder, where students and families explored themes of nature and renewal, and a creative and engaging chocolate seder for Passover that brought tradition to life in a fun and accessible way. These shared experiences strengthened our sense of community and deepened students' connection to Jewish rituals and values.

Holiday celebrations remained a cornerstone of our program, providing hands-on opportunities for students to engage with Jewish traditions. Students collaborated to decorate the Sukkah, bringing creativity and teamwork into the celebration of Sukkot. During Chanukah, excitement filled the halls as students participated in the Chanukah gift shop, practicing giving and making thoughtful choices for loved ones. These activities helped reinforce the joy and meaning of our holidays in tangible ways.

This year also marked the introduction of our new incentive system, "School Shekels." Students earned shekels through consistent attendance, participation in services, and active engagement in the classroom. This initiative encouraged responsibility, enthusiasm, and a sense of accomplishment, while fostering positive habits and reinforcing the importance of being active members of our school community.

Student leadership flourished through our student-led services. Younger students in grades K–3 led a spirited Purim Shabbat, while students in grades 4–6 took on leadership roles during Education Shabbat. These experiences provided students with the opportunity to develop confidence, strengthen their skills, and take ownership of their Jewish learning and practice.

Our Israel education program was enriched by the presence of our ShinShin, Evyatar, who brought Israeli culture and perspectives directly into the classroom. Through hands-on activities such as baking challah and pita, creating grass heads for Tu B'shvat, learning about historical figures like Golda Meir, and participating in a simulated shuk (marketplace), students gained a deeper and more personal connection to Israel.

Older students also engaged in meaningful and age-appropriate learning experiences. Seventh grade students studied the Holocaust, culminating in a visit to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC in February. This powerful experience provided an opportunity for reflection, understanding, and the development of historical awareness and empathy.

In addition, we enhanced our communication with families by launching web-based monthly updates through ShulCloud. This new system allowed us to share timely information, highlight student activities, and keep families more connected to the life of the school.

Overall, this year has been marked by strong participation, creative programming, and a continued commitment to fostering a dynamic and supportive learning environment. We are proud of our students' growth and look forward to building on this year's successes in the future.

While we recharge our batteries over the summer 'break', we are also looking forward to reviewing and updating the curriculum to ensure alignment and progression across grade levels.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Davidheiser
Chair, Religious School Committee

Ritual Committee Year-End Report (2025-2026)

Ritual Committee Members: Linda Stewart, Andy Brown, Gloria Kaplan, Teresa Dorritie, Julie Ham, Susan Symons, Miriam Siegel, Judith Heckert; Chair: Monica E. Baturin

The Ritual Committee was busy this year continuing to volunteer to usher at services and planning for the transition of and welcome, along with the rest of the Temple congregation, our new clergy, Rabbi Tzvia Jasper.

Rabbi Jasper began in July of 2025, and has since shared many ideas on what she would like to implement at the Temple in conjunction with the Ritual Committee. To date, the committee has met quarterly to discuss Rabbi's Jasper's suggested initiatives, special events and services taking place at the Temple as well as to deliberate certain changes in service times, location and content.

To summarize:

The 2025 High Holidays were well attended and many of our congregants were introduced to Rabbi Jasper for the first time as she led the congregation in solemn prayer, song and thoughtful D'var Torah. Ushers of the Ritual Committee along with volunteers from the Brotherhood assisted as Shalom Greeters. There was one important change made by the Executive Board for security and safety purposes, and this was to lock the front doors about 10 to 15 minutes after the services began. Congregants who arrived a little later could still enter through the side entrance by the elevator. All in all, this adjustment went smoothly with little to no disruption of the services, and to date, will continue to be the way the Temple is secured during the High Holidays.

There were some new melodies and observances that Rabbi Jasper introduced to the congregation during services while still retaining the more traditional ones that our congregation enjoys. Several interesting Themed Shabbat services also took place again this year, such as the Eclipse Project, Veteran's Shabbat, Repro Shabbat, Sisterhood Shabbat, and Education Shabbat as well as an enlightening Leil Shavuot "All Night of Learning," that was newly introduced to our Temple and

organized by Rabbi Jasper. It was a successful event that was open to all community members, Rabbis and congregations. Approximately 100 community and Temple members participated.

We experimented a bit in the Spring 2026, with alternate service time changes (6 p.m. and 7 p.m.), so as to accommodate all congregants and allow them the opportunity to be able to get to Temple to worship on Friday nights. Summer service times will now be a constant at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel and we will begin "First Fridays" again in the Fall 2026, where on the first Friday Shabbat of each month, there will be a family/congregational potluck dinner at 6 p.m., and a service at 7:00 p.m.

There were a good number of joyful Bar/Bat/B' Mitzvah's this year but no Confirmation. Rabbi Jasper enjoyed working with the B' Mitzvahs and assured the Committee that she is eager and able to teach a Confirmation class next year.

The Ritual Committee was in unanimous agreement to allow Rabbi Jasper to move forward and request permission from the Board to purchase approximately 115 new Congregational Passover Haggadah books for use at our Congregational 2nd night Seder, entitled "In Every Generation." The Temple Board approved this purchase and the Haggadah books were handily used by congregants for the first time at our Temple's Seder on April 2, 2026.

The Ritual Committee received concerns from viewers at home over the live stream effectiveness during Shabbat Services. Not all congregants could see the Rabbi and/or participants clearly within the screen. We believe that this has been rectified. There is admittedly still work that needs to be done in the Chapel regarding the acoustics.

As always, the committee welcomes feedback and/or suggestions and will always accept new volunteers to help serve the Temple we love.

In conclusion, the Ritual Committee has worked as dependable Shalom Greeters during yearly Shabbat and special services and will continue to ensure that Rabbi Jasper always has support when needed. Each person on this committee (Andy, Linda, Teresa, Gloria, Judith, Julie, Miriam, and Susan) is always willing to step up and volunteer at a moment's notice. It has been a great pleasure to serve as the Chair for this Ritual Committee these past three years. What a committed and dear bunch you are. Thank you, thank you, and thank you from all of us here at Temple Ohev Sholom.

Respectfully Submitted,
Monica E. Baturin-Lutkins
Ritual Chair

Temple Life Committee

- **Book Club – Submitted by Bernice Hausman**
 - In 2025-26, the Ohev Book Club read the following books:
 - *Long Island Compromise*, by Taffy Brodesser-Akner

- *Melting Point: Family, Memory, and the Search for a Promised Land*, by Rachel Cockerell
- *Fear No Pharaoh: American Jews, the Civil War, and the Fight to End Slavery*, by Richard Kreitner
- *Vera, or Faith*, by Gary Shteyngart
- *Breadgivers*, by Anzia Yezierska
- *Heart of a Stranger*, by Angela Buchdahl
- *Ms. Lilienblum's Cloud Factory*, by Iddo Gefen (trans. Daniella Zamir)
- *The Weight of Ink*, by Rachel Kadish
- In 2026-27, we plan to read the following:
 - September: *The First Salute: a View of the American Revolution*, by Barbara Tuchman (Random House 1989)
 - October: *The Queen's Fool*, by Philippa Gregory (Atria Books, 2004)
 - November: *Palestine 1936: The Great Revolt and the Roots of the Middle East Conflict*, by Oren Kessler (Rowman and Littlefield (2025)
 - December: *Kissing Girls on Shabbat*, by Sara Glass (Simon and Shuster 2024)
 - January: *Eminent Jews: Bernstein, Brooks, Friedan, Mailer*, by David Denby (Holt Paperbacks 2026)
 - February: *As a Driven Leaf*, by Milton Steinberg (Behrman House Publishing 2025—note: there are other previous editions that might be available as well)
 - March: *The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl*, by Marra Gad (Agate Bolton 2019)
 - April: *The Talented Mrs. Mandelbaum: The Rise and Fall of an American Organized-Crime Boss*, by Margalit Fox (Random House 2025)
- I am working on the actual schedule (i.e. specific dates) with the Rabbi and Reyna soon.

Sisterhood Annual Report 2026

Sisterhood had a busy year with activities virtually every month. We are excited to welcome our new board that includes Amy Labella as president and Doreen Evrard, Carolyn Green and Gloria Kaplan as vice presidents.

We thank Jodi Neuschwander and Jeanette Krebs for their leadership as co-presidents over the last two years for Jodi and four years for Jeanette. They will continue on with the board as advisors to the new president.

Sisterhood was happy to make a large donation to the temple to help defray the costs of changes required in the Sisterhood Hall kitchen.

Here is a list of activities that took place during the fiscal year:

- Designer Bag Bingo

- Mah Jongg lessons
- Several donation events for clothing and personal supplies
- Stuff the Truck donation event
- Challah-making lesson at Susan Symons home
- Guest speaker PennLive Columnist Nancy Eshelman
- A meet the new rabbi event at the general meeting
- A latke sale fundraiser at Hanukkah
- Sisterhood brunch featuring physicians who spoke about women's and men's health
- The Susan Symons Book Event at Midtown Scholar with author Gary Shteyngart
- A Sisterhood board pizza dinner in August

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Krebs

Sisterhood Co-President 2024-2026

Brotherhood Annual Report 2026

This past year we did a bowling event, Stumpy's Axe throwing, cooked hot dogs for religious students, a spaghetti luncheon, helped feed homeless downtown, helped with Stuff the truck, and helped usher for services when needed.

Brotherhood is still a new organization and trying to organize things. On the docket for this year, we are having a Brotherhood Shabbat on June 12th with an Oneg, grilling for the temple picnic, offering an automobile class, playing poker on Sundays, and planning a mini golf outing in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hivner

Brotherhood President