



# Mission Statement

*“My house shall be called a House Of Prayer for all peoples.”*

—Isaiah 56:7

*Temple Beth Shalom is a warm and inclusive congregation whose members are inspired to explore and express Judaism within the broad and dynamic framework of Reform beliefs and practices. We seek to provide Jewish spiritual, educational, and social opportunities which encourage personal development and social responsibility as well as promote greater knowledge of our Jewish history and culture.*

## Our Guiding Principles

We will maintain a community that is respectful of all our members, centered by a caring and friendly focus, and consistent in our inclusion of ALL people.

We will continually maintain an environment to inculcate the love of God and provide the means for the celebration of the covenant between God and the Jewish people, as originally revealed in the Torah and as it has evolved throughout history.

We will inspire individuals, families and our community to live moral and ethically based lives grounded in Jewish values in our relationship to God, as well as our relationships to each other and the world about us.

We will maintain high quality programs to include, among others, religious services, life cycle events, religious school, adult education and social and cultural activities.

We will maintain an institution that attends to our members' overall welfare by being attentive to the needs of all our members, effectively governed, financially sound, and fiscally responsible.

# Overview

Temple Beth Shalom is a 450+ member Columbus-area Reform Jewish Congregation offering weekly Sabbath Services, religious and Hebrew schooling, Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutoring, personalized lifecycle observances, family and adult educational programming, conversion, pastoral counseling, social, charitable, and cultural activities, and much more.

Temple Beth Shalom was organized in December 1977 and is affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. Rabbi Benjy A. Bar-Lev has been with the congregation since 2008 and serves as TBS's Senior Rabbi. In 2017 Rabbi Lenette Herzog joined the congregation as our Assistant Rabbi and Director of Education. Cantorial soloist Gail Rose and musicians provide music for services, the religious and Hebrew schools, and other Temple events and activities. Rabbi Howard L. Apothaker, Ph.D. has served as TBS's Rabbi since 1980 and is now Rabbi Emeritus.

## Membership Ideals

*“By Torah, worship, and acts of loving kindness – By these three things does the world persist.”  
—Avot 1:2*

Membership in Temple Beth Shalom:

- Reflects one's support of an open, accepting, and creative Jewish experience with a community eager to grow spiritually and promote education in the learning, lore, and lifecycles of Judaism.
- Provides for learners of all ages opportunities for religious instruction, insight, and inspiration, both formal and informal, utilizing newsletters, email, and our website to emphasize a learning-enriched atmosphere.
- Enables individuals to rediscover the experiences of their religious forbearers and open new ways to develop their own paths to spiritual fulfillment.
- Enables individuals to increase the social and religious vitality of the Greater Columbus Jewish Community; become partners with socially responsible agencies; and support regional, national and international institutions of the world Jewish Community.