



# Temple Shalom of Central Florida

Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein – Spiritual Leader

13563 County Road 101  
Oxford, FL 34484-2430

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[www.templeshalomcentralfl.org](http://www.templeshalomcentralfl.org)

January 2025

Welcome to Temple Shalom of Central Florida — an inclusive Reform Jewish Congregation and center of Jewish life in the Tri-County area surrounding The Villages.

I am delighted to know you are considering joining our warm and welcoming congregation. Our members, who are predominantly seniors, bring a wide range of experiences, backgrounds and interests to Temple Shalom. We strive to bring our congregation and the Jewish community around us a variety of services and programs in addition to our traditional joyous Shabbat worship services and delicious friendly Onegs. As a new member you will find many opportunities to make new friends, learn something new, participate in our social and cultural events, enjoy our concerts and celebrate all the Jewish holidays.

Temple Shalom always includes and welcomes all members of our community to join us for Shabbat worship services and holiday celebrations. However, there is a special feeling when you are a member of our congregation to know you fully belong to Temple Shalom. We strive to create a congregation where every person feels like they are an integral member of our “family of friends.” For us at Temple Shalom belonging is not just welcoming you in — it is making sure you are here to stay.

In this New Membership Packet you will find information about us, our Sisterhood and Brotherhood auxiliary organizations, the Highlights of Temple Shalom and our New Member Forms. Also included is financial information about our Full Time and Seasonal Membership options as well as the details about our annual dues.

After reading the enclosed material and viewing more details on our Temple website about ongoing and upcoming events including how we are supporting Israel, I hope you will decide to make a commitment to become a member of our sacred Reform Jewish Congregation.

To become a member of Temple Shalom, please complete the enclosed three (3) page Membership Form and the Emergency Contact Sheet with your payment. Then return them to the Temple Office for processing.

I look forward to answering any questions you may have by phone or email. Please look for me at Friday evening Shabbat services where I will be happy to meet you and answer your questions in person.

L’Shalom,

*Lynn Sindoris*

Lynn Sindoris  
Chair, Membership Committee  
[membership@tscfl.org](mailto:membership@tscfl.org)

# Temple Shalom of Central Florida

13563 County Road 101  
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tscfl.org



## 2025 MEMBERSHIP



## Message From Rabbi Sonnenstein

Looking back over the past year and seeing the great programming that we achieved and the growth we encountered, I am proud and excited to be part of this wonderful congregation, this family of friends. We have overcome what some may call obstacles and turned them into opportunities; we have continued to expand our reach to those who may not yet have had the opportunity to experience and enjoy the warm and caring congregational life that Temple Shalom has to offer, and I anticipate that it will continue.

As we enter 2025, we look forward to a year of celebratory and spiritual occasions, enhancing our spiritual home and community. Here at Temple Shalom, we continue to strive to be a beacon of light in our community and in the world around us. We acknowledge and work toward keeping our Temple a sacred place where Jewish learning, spiritual healing, supportive community and warmth of tradition inspires us to lead lives filled with compassion, love, meaning and joy.

Your continued support of Temple Shalom this year will be an enthusiastic expression of confidence and faith in the bright future that lies ahead of us. As our congregation's membership continues to grow, the valued dedication of you, our Members, helps solidify the foundation upon which Temple Shalom was built and will continue to build for decades and beyond. Your continued support ensures that we remain the sacred spiritual center of Judaism here in the tri-county area.

Thank you for being a dedicated benefactor of this holy community that means so much to us all.

Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein, Spiritual Leader

## Message from the President

Enclosed with this letter is your 2025 Financial Commitment form, a reflection of the ongoing dedication and vibrancy that make our Temple a cornerstone of Jewish life in Central Florida's Tri-County area. Our commitment to being a warm, welcoming and spiritually uplifting home for all is made possible by your steadfast support and partnership.

### Our Shared Commitment

Your generous contributions enable us to fulfill our essential mission of nurturing Jewish identity, education and community. Despite recent financial challenges, we have successfully navigated this landscape thanks to your unwavering support and our prudent management of resources. Every dollar contributed has been thoughtfully allocated to maintain the integrity and vitality of our Temple, ensuring that we continue to serve as a beacon of Jewish life in our region.

### Investing in Our Future

Over the past few years, we've prioritized the health, safety and well-being of our congregants. We've made investments in security, technology and building upgrades. In addition to infrastructure enhancements, our Rabbi, Sisterhood, Brotherhood and committees have reintroduced beloved programs and initiated new, enriching experiences. If you've been following our weekly flyers, you've seen the diverse array of opportunities available—2025 will bring even more exciting offerings.

### Financial Transparency and Stability

The resurgence of our 2024 programming and the strong response to our Yom Kippur appeal have provided a needed financial cushion. We remain mindful of the economic pressures on our members and through careful management of expenses, we are pleased to announce that there will be **no dues increase for the 2025 fiscal year**. Given the continuing concerns surrounding the Israel-HAMAS conflict and the rise in antisemitism, we continue to prioritize security, ensuring the safety of our members and guests. Despite these necessary enhancements, we are proud to report that there will be **no increase in the annual security fee**.

### Supporting One Another: Join the CHAI Society/Tzedakah Donation

As we strive to make membership accessible to all, we invite you to consider joining our **CHAI Society**, an enhanced membership program aimed at assisting those who may need some financial support with membership. No one should be denied the opportunity to participate in our vibrant Jewish community due to special financial circumstances. All Tzedakah Donations are also welcome.

### How You Can Help

We ask that you complete the enclosed 2025 Financial Commitment form and return it with your payment in the provided envelope as promptly as possible. If you are experiencing special circumstances that affect your ability to fulfill your 2025 financial commitment, please reach out to me at [president@tscfl.org](mailto:president@tscfl.org).

### Gratitude and Hope for the Year Ahead

The Board, Rabbi, and I sincerely thank you for your support and commitment. Your generosity and involvement keep our sacred community strong and thriving. May this new year bring hope, health and the joy of sharing services, celebrations and programs together.

L'Shalom,

Samantha Sherman, President

## Membership Categories

**FULL-TIME MEMBERSHIP** at the Standard Financial Commitment (Dues) payment provides funding for our Rabbi, Shabbat and Holiday Services, celebrations, enrichment programs, social events, maintenance and support staff.

**SEASONAL MEMBERSHIP** is an opportunity for Members, who are residing in our area for 6 months or less and are not celebrating the High Holidays with us, to join Temple Shalom for a 50% reduced Financial Commitment (Dues) and Capital Improvement Pledge payment.

## Enhanced Commitments

**CHAI SOCIETY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP** is an opportunity for an individual member, who would like to contribute more, to enroll in an Enhanced Financial Commitment to Temple Shalom. CHAI Society Membership will include a celebratory acknowledgment of the additional financial support at a special Oneg.

**CHAI SOCIETY FAMILY MEMBERSHIP** is an opportunity for a family, who would like to contribute more, to enroll in an Enhanced Financial Commitment to Temple Shalom. CHAI Society Membership will include a celebratory acknowledgment of the additional financial support at a special Oneg.

**VOLUNTARY TZEDAKAH DONATION** is a contribution of any amount, large or small, that helps keep our Standard Membership Financial Commitment (Dues) affordable and supports community activities and program initiatives.

# 2025 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Temple Shalom of Central Florida  
 13563 County Road 101, Oxford, FL 34484  
 (352) 748-1800 office office@tscfl.org  
 www.templeshalomcentralfl.org



Full Time Member  Seasonal Member

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Please Print Clearly

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name (A)</b>	<b>Nickname</b>
Birthdate	Hebrew Name	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	
Email		
Magnetic Badges are the default option unless <b>Pin</b> or <b>Clip</b> is checked ➡ <input type="checkbox"/> Pin-on <input type="checkbox"/> Clip-on		
<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name (B)</b>	<b>Nickname</b>
Birthdate	Hebrew Name	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	
Email		
Magnetic Badges are the default option unless <b>Pin</b> or <b>Clip</b> is checked ➡ <input type="checkbox"/> Pin-on <input type="checkbox"/> Clip-on		

Anniversary (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Community or Village Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Address (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Home City/ Town/State \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Temple Shalom?  Friend  Print Media  Google Search  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**To help us know you better, please provide some personal information you feel comfortable sharing with the Membership Committee. Please Indicate A or B**

Professional and Personal Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What Temple committees and social activities interest you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Positions held in your previous Temples or volunteer organizations: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Talents, hobbies and abilities you would like to share with us: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What aspects of Temple Shalom are important to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Yahrzeit Notification:**

Jewish custom calls for observing the anniversary of the death of parents, children, spouse and siblings according to the Jewish calendar.

Please complete the information below, if applicable, so that we may remind you of Yahrzeit dates.

<b>Loved One's Name</b>	<b>Relationship To You</b>	<b>Date of Death (Secular/Jewish date)</b>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I/We agree that Temple Shalom may use photographs in electronic and print form in which my/our family may appear in our newsletter, posters and web pages.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return these forms to the Temple Shalom office: Attn: Membership Committee**

## 2025 MEMBER FINANCIAL COMMITMENT FORM

### A. Name of Each Member (From Page 1):

(A) \_\_\_\_\_

(B) \_\_\_\_\_

(C) Dependents: \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Standard Membership Financial Commitment Dues (SMFC): \$500 per person annually<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

Annual SMFC (Dues) is \$500 per person for Membership Year: January – December  
Dependents under the age of 26 living in Member's household are included with annual SMFC.

### Special Reduced SMFC Dues Payment Schedule for New Member\*\*Joining After February 28:

JAN - \$500    FEB - \$500    MAR - \$400    APR - \$400    MAY - \$400    JUN - \$300

JUL - \$300    AUG - \$300    SEP - \$250    OCT - \$250    NOV - \$500\*    DEC - \$500\*

\*Members joining in November and December will have their SMFC credited as full payment for the upcoming year.

\*If there is an increase in SMFC for the upcoming year, Members will receive an invoice for the difference.

\*\*A former Member, who is re-joining after a lapse in membership, pays a full year SMFC.

\*\*\*All SMFC, Capital Improvement Pledge, ASF payments and donations are non-refundable.

### C. Capital Improvement Pledge (CIP) \$1,250 Per Person <sup>\*\*\*</sup>

The Capital Improvement Pledge supports Temple improvements and investments in upgraded technology.

#### Available Payment Options: *Please Select One*

5-Year Plan Option: \$250 per person payable with Member's first SMFC payment and \$250 per person per year for each of the next 4 years. Members may pay in full at any time. Payments are payable in January of each year at the same time as memberships are renewed.

Full Payment Option: \$1,250 per person payable with Member's first SMFC payment

### D. Annual Security (Police) Fee (ASF): \$50.00 per person. <sup>\*\*\*</sup> Due to the importance of police protection and physical security measures in today's world of increased antisemitism, our ASF is needed.

### E. Other Membership Options: (1) A Seasonal Membership is available for a 50% reduced SMFC and CIP payments for those who reside in our area for six (6) months or less and do not celebrate the High Holy Days here. (2) If a Member has special circumstances affecting their ability to pay the SMFC, please contact our Treasurer, Sandee Horowitz, horowitz2843@gmail.com, for a confidential conversation.

### F. Please Complete This Payment Form:

Standard Membership Financial Commitment Dues (SMFC): \_\_\_\_\_

Capital Improvement Pledge (CIP) Amount (5-Year or Full): \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Security Fee Amount (ASF): \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Check No\* \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card No\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Expire Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>\*\*</sup>Note: A 3% convenience fee will be added by the office to credit card charges

Make Checks\* Payable to: **Temple Shalom**

\* Checks are the preferred form of payment

Need Help? Have Questions? Please call the Office and ask to speak with the Membership Chair.

Please return these forms to the Temple Shalom office: Attn: Membership Committee

# Emergency Contact Information Sheet

Please complete the following form so that we have the information.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Home Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Home Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Home Cell \_\_\_\_\_