

MEET THE 2021 CONGREGATION ALBERT ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Administrator Search Committee (ASC) Chair



Charna Lefton

Many of you know Charna as a long-time member of Congregation Albert (CA). Born and raised in Albuquerque, Charna is a life-long CA member; she was named, attended Hebrew and religious school, celebrated becoming Bat Mitzvah and was confirmed all at Congregation Albert. While she spent a number of years living and working in other locations, she has been back in Albuquerque and an active member of CA for the past 16 years. Last year she co-chaired our CA Rabbi Search Committee, for which she and her co-chair won the 2021 Congregation Albert Volunteer of the year award. Her professional background in executive leadership, communications, facilitation and consensus building makes her skill set an excellent fit for our CA ASC Chair.

Administrator Search Committee Members



Robert Rosenberg

Judiasm has always been an important part of Rob's life, so it should come as no surprise that he and his family have been members of Congregation Albert (CA) for over 30 years. As you know, Rob has just begun his first term as President of the CA Board of Trustees. Rob's new responsibilities include working regularly with the CA administrator to help monitor CA operations and serve as one of the advisors and supervisors to the CA administrator. Rob is also a physician. He currently works part time as a Radiologist specializing in mammography.



David Simon

Dave Simon's 36-year professional career has included leadership positions in the non-profit and public service sectors, focusing most on the field of parks, conservation, and recreation. Dave is presently Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, City of Albuquerque, a position he has held since March 2018. Dave was Executive Director of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque (2012-2018), where his work to strengthen the JCC was recognized when *New Mexico Business First* named him "CEO of the Year" (Non-Profit category) in 2016. He also served as Director of New Mexico State Parks, Assistant Commissioner at the New Mexico State Land Office and worked 16 years with the National Parks Conservation Association in Washington, D.C. and the Southwest. Dave holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of New Mexico and a Bachelor of Arts from Yale University. He lives in Albuquerque's North Valley with his wife of 24 years, Ann Simon, who is the Village Administrator for Los Ranchos, NM. They have two children, Katie (22) and Jenna (20).



Rabbi Celia Surget

Rabbi Celia Surget (Rabbi Celia) has just joined Congregation Albert as its new rabbi (much to her joy and excitement). She was ordained in 2007 at the Leo Baeck College in London and is passionate about making Judaism accessible to all. She has worked in congregations in Paris and London and just concluded her tenure as the chair of the Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors in England. During her term as the chair of that organization, Rabbi Celia led the development of an ethics code and an adjudication process. She is excited to be living in the sunny southwest and looks forward to pursuing her hobbies of running and hiking in New Mexico. Congregation Albert is delighted to welcome her to our community and our synagogue!



Kathryn Weil

Kathy is an Albuquerque native who attended Congregation Albert's religious school and was confirmed at Congregation Albert. She has a life-long commitment to Jewish continuity having served as the Head of School at Solomon Schechter Day School for eleven years. Her educational career included working for the Albuquerque Public Schools, Rio Rancho Public Schools, and the New Mexico Public Education Department. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin and has graduate degrees from UNM. Kathy has served on the boards of several nonprofit organizations including Congregation B'nai Israel and Congregation Albert. In her spare time she enjoys quilting and gardening.