



Annual Meeting

Congregation Albert

June 6, 2021–26 Sivan 5781

Annual Membership Meeting Agenda

June 6 / 26 Sivan 5781

by ZOOM MEETING

*Please turn off or silence cell phones, pagers,
and other electronic devices.*

	<u>Person</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Call to Order	President	10:00am	<i>None</i>
2. Opening Prayer	Rabbi	10:01am	Religious
3. D'var Tora	Rabbi	10:05am	Religious/ Learning
4. Awards	President	10:10am	<i>None</i>
4. Adoption of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes	President	10:20am	Vote
5. President's Annual Report	President	10:30am	<i>None</i>
6. Rabbi's Annual Report	President	10:40am	<i>None</i>
7. President's Financial Report	President	10:50am	<i>None</i>
8. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget	President	11:20am	Discussion/Vote
9. Election of Officers and Trustees	President	11:40am	Discussion/Vote
13. Good & Welfare	President	11:50am	Information
14. Installation of Officers & Trustees	President	12:15pm	Information
15. Adjourn	President	12:30pm	Vote

Congregation Albert
Annual Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2020

1. Call to order – 10:03 AM
2. Opening Prayer – Cantor Finn
3. D'var Tora – Rabbi Rosenfeld
4. Volunteer Awards – Dale Atkinson announced the awards
 - a. Volunteer of the Year award was given to Linda Weiss
 - b. Kaufman Service Award was given to Ron Taylor.
5. Voting Procedures – Dale Atkinson outlined voting procedures for the annual meeting
6. Approval of the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting - A motion was made by Michelle Fromm-Lewis/seconded by Linda Sandstrom, to approve the 2019 Annual Meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
7. President's Annual Report (see published meeting document) – Dale Atkinson gave his annual report. Items covered included finances, embezzlement management, fund balances, membership, pandemic policies and actions and praise for the clergy and staff for working effectively under the current Covid pandemic.
 - a. Gordon Bronitsky inquired about pebble receptacles for the cemetery. There is currently pebbles available along the entry on the left. The Cemetery Committee is in the process of pursuing a specially designed sculpture that will be a pebble receptacle.
 - b. Carol Spizman inquired about the status of Camp Oranim. Rachel Sternheim stated that further announcements are forthcoming, but the tentative date is in three weeks, and that Camp Newman will be a virtual experience beginning mid-July.
8. Rabbi's Annual Report (see published meeting document) – Rabbi Rosenfeld focused his discussion on Covid-19 mandated changes in the delivery of services, programs and education. Scientific data and the Governor's directives are mandating the congregation operations. Rabbi announced the cooperation between Congregation Albert and several other congregations around the country in bringing a speaker series online.
 - a. There was a suggestion made to pursue outdoor services at a park. Rabbi mentioned that this is being looked at, but problems exist with an adequate outdoor sound system and daylight video screens.
 - b. Merilee Danermann expressed concerns with Congregation Albert functions being on Facebook and the ethical issues of Facebook not controlling misleading, racist and anti-Semitic content as well as advertisers' ethical conduct. The Rabbi recommended that Merilee take the issue to the Social Justice Committee.
9. Rabbi Search Committee – Charna Lefton and Joe Weiss co-chair the committee. Charna and Joe reviewed the search committee survey that was conducted. The top 5 rabbinic traits desired are scholarly knowledge, diversity, interfaith, youth involvement and the emphasis on family involvement. There are upcoming online focus groups for congregants to discuss the needs of the congregation.
10. Appointment of Vote Tellers – All voting is being tabulated online through the online voting function.
11. By-Laws Presentation – Dale announced that each revision would be voted on separately and the voting would be online and tabulated electronically.
 - a. Question 1, changing notification dates – Motion was made by Linda Lefton/seconded by Lindsey Silverman to accept the revision as presented. The motion passed.

Annual Membership Meeting Minutes June 7, 2020 (continued)

- b. Question 2, clarification of the Building Fund requirement – A motion was made by Steve Rogers/seconded by Jodi Sears, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - c. Question 3, suspension and termination for misconduct – After some discussion, a motion was made by Linda Sandstrom/seconded by Peter Weinreb, to table the item for further review. Motion passed.
 - d. Question 4, adding description of a member – A motion was made by Lindsey Silverman/seconded by Linda Sandstrom, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - e. Question 5, access to meeting records via congregation website and Archive Committee – A motion was made by Yale Silverman/seconded by Cheryl Hasse, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - f. Question 6, expanding the description of executive session – A motion was made by Daniele Williams/ seconded by Linda Sandstrom, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - g. Question 7, executive session procedures – A motion was made by Jodi Sears/seconded by Daniele Williams, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - h. Question 8, Removal of a member of the Board of Trustees – A motion was made by Lindsey Silverman/seconded by Linda Lefton, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - i. Question 9, changing number of nominations for vacancies from 1 to a minimum of one and maximum of three – A motion was made by Linda Lefton/seconded by Yale Silverman, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - j. Question 10, clarification of financial reviews and audits – A motion was made by Linda Lefton/seconded by Jodi Sears, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
 - k. Question 11, establishing the Building Fund requirement and procedures for payment – A motion was made by Linda Sandstrom/seconded by Linda Lefton, to approve the revision as presented. The motion passed.
12. Budget – Following a review of the budget, a motion was made by Linda Sandstrom/seconded by Evie Slotkin, to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed.
13. Presentation and vote on slate of Officers and Trustees – A motion was made by Charna Lefton/seconded by Evie Slotkin, to approve the slate as presented. The motion passed.
14. Good and Welfare
- a. Charna Lefton expressed her appreciation for the large number of congregants participating in the Rabbi search survey.
 - b. Evie announced her granddaughter just graduated from High School without a live ceremony.
 - c. Merilee thanked the Board members for their hard work this year during the embezzlement and pandemic.
15. Installation of Officers and Trustees – Rabbi Rosenfeld offered a prayer for the board and congregation. He expressed his prayer for an easier year ahead.
16. Adjournment – A motion was made by Linda Sandstrom/seconded by Evie Slotkin, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:44 PM. Dale Atkinson conducted a question and answer session following adjournment.

Jeffrey Paul
Jeffrey Paul
Board Secretary

FY2021 President's Annual Report

Shalom.

My last year as President of the Board of Trustees of Congregation Albert has continued to be eventful and, I believe, very productive.

First and foremost, we've dealt with the continuing pandemic throughout the year. Everything has continued online. Overall, I think we've done well during this crisis.

The Board continued to focus on improvements this year to the building and our safety, security, and accessibility. We also had wonderful donations this year to support new shade structures, equipment, and a safe fence for the playgrounds. I continue to thank Ruth Mondlick for this use of the Leonard (Lenny) Mondlick fund. We also got anonymous donations for a shade structure for the outdoor chapel as well as additional security and accessibility improvement. And, to meet the state's requirements for our ECC to operate during the pandemic, we purchased and installed a washer and dryer in the school wing. They've been asking for this for more than a decade – and now they are ecstatic!

Because of these donations we were able to upgrade the loop system in the Sanctuary. In the future, we hope to be able to add loop systems for the Social Hall and the Board Room so that all our major areas for events, programs and services are accessible to our members who are hearing impaired. This year we continued to provide American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters on request for any service, event, or program. We have used this service multiple times this year and are pleased to be able to be more accessible to our members.

Together, the Board, our Administrator, Educators, and I are dedicated to making our synagogue accessible and safe for the entire membership and the children in our Religious School, ECC, and Youth programs – leaving no one behind.

Our building is now 36 to 37 years old depending on which wing you're in. It is really showing its age. We continue to have window problems which are both safety and energy efficiency issues. Our HVAC systems continue to fail and must be replaced, typically at a cost of \$25,000 or more each. We have five more that are beyond their end of life; we continue to pray that none fails any time soon.

With all the security, safety, and maintenance expenses this year, the Building Fund balance is getting very low. Over the next year, we hope to start raising money to replenish our Building Fund and support and prepare for new repairs and needs.

We had many excellent programs this year and worked jointly with many other congregations across the country to get online programs. I believe these have been very interesting. It is exciting that we are working with congregations in so many places, including in Israel. (cont. on next pg)

FY2021 President's Annual Report (continued)

Our Rabbi Search Committee, led by Charna Lefton and Joe Weiss, found our next Rabbi for us. Rabbi Surget will be starting on July 1st and Rabbi Rosenfeld will step back and become our Rabbi Emeritus at that time.

In addition to Rabbi Surget, the Cantor started her new contract with us on July 1, 2020. We now have a contract with her that will keep her with us through June of 2023.

As part of our Transition Team, Debbie Greenhood stepped forward and organized an outstanding retirement weekend for Rabbi Rosenfeld. I want to thank her for the wonderful job.

The rest of the Transition Team, led by Linda Lefton and Diana Paul, have been planning for Rabbi Surget's arrival. This will include Welcome events and Rabbi Surget's Installation. Keep your eyes open for more information on these events.

Another thing that I am proud of is the implementation of the ShulCloud system to replace our 20+ year old Membership Management 2000 membership management system. While our team is still implementing all the changes, we have already seen substantial improvements in efficiency and quality and reliability of the data.

Of course, the thing that kicked off my Presidency was what we would come to know was the complex embezzlement and fraud scheme perpetrated by our prior Administrator, Crystal Lucero. By manipulating our books and reporting systems, as well as the basic underlying records within QuickBooks, Crystal wrote and cashed 422 checks for \$652,960.13. She misused our Congregation Albert credit cards for personal purchases. Together, these accounted for a total of \$749,564 that she stole from our Operating Fund Reserves.

This year we were awarded a Summary Judgment against Crystal for the full amount. We have spent the past year pursuing recovery of our money from Crystal. In addition, the New Mexico Office of the Attorney General continues to investigate and interview individuals. I've learned a lot about these types of investigations and have learned that they take time, lots of time, to fully develop the evidence that will stand up in court to prosecute and convict someone of these types of crimes. When this case first started, I was told that the Attorney General's case will probably take two to three years. It definitely will be more than two years. It is going well and as they expected and planned.

I thank my Board for such a productive year and all of you for your inputs and thoughts about how to continue to improve our synagogue.

Be safe and be well.

Shalom

Dale Atkinson

Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld Annual report to the Board of Trustee 5781:

On June 5, 1981, at the Plum Street Temple in Cincinnati, Ohio, Dr. Alfred Gottschalk placed his hands on my shoulders and asked if I was ready to assume the status of being an ordained Rabbi. I said yes, he blessed me, Dr. Samuel Greengus handed me my Semicha (ordination certificate.) Twenty-six days later, Wednesday July 1, 1981 I began my career as the Assistant Rabbi at Temple Israel in Memphis, Tennessee under the mentorship of Rabbi Harry Danziger. By Friday July 3, 1981 I realized that not only was I not ready to be a Rabbi, my internships, schooling and life experience, did not, could not prepare me for the realities of rabbinic life.

As I reflect back over these past 40 years, nothing could have prepared my classmates and me to assume this mantle. Time and experience taught us. How could school have prepared me for that Shabbat in August, 1981 when the electric ark doors broke and had to be opened by hand while Rabbi Danziger was out of town. By the time he returned on Monday, there was a stack of messages asking him why he hired an Orthodox rabbi who would not use electricity on Shabbat.

Nothing prepares one for the reality of officiating their first wedding, conversion, baby naming, or funeral. In Memphis, after officiating at over 50 funerals, within two days, a baby died and a twenty-something committed suicide. Nothing prepares you to sit with those families and their pain.

After five years of training, ordination and performing dozens of weddings, what could ever prepare you for the wedding when the five year old son of the bride yells "Mommy you can't marry him!", grabs his mother's skirt and pulls it off her and onto the floor.

Nothing could prepare someone for their first Sukkot in Anchorage. We put up the Sukkah in the freezing rain of a Sunday morning. What could prepare someone for the phone call an hour before the Sukkot evening service when a neighbor tells you that your entire building had been picked up in the wind like Dorothy's house, flew around and around and around and landed in pieces back on the same spot, and those moments of panic until you realize they meant the Sukkah, not the synagogue, and then the moments of panic wondering how to conduct Sukkot services without a Sukkah. What could prepare one for standing in the rebuilt Sukkah, looking up and seeing the most brilliant reds, greens, purples, and yellows of the northern lights while singing Kiddush.

What could ever prepare you to stand on the Bema in New York on Rosh Hashanah 2001, just six days after 9/11, needing to bring comfort to an angry, scared, confused, devastated congregation? What could ever prepare you for needing to quantumly change what it means to be a community because of a pandemic, or being asked to do the invocation at the inauguration of a woman you have known for a decade as she assumes the office of governor.

What could ever prepare you to be in the "desert" of New Mexico and the couple married for more than 20 years who walks in your office to tell you how happy they are just so you can say someone came in to talk about their marriage and didn't complain.

No amount of training could ever prepare a person for receiving a call from a child you named asking to you to do her/his wedding, and then their child's naming. Could any new Rabbi imagine the awe of seeing a Jew by Choice praying in Jerusalem, the grandchild of a Holocaust survivor at the U.S. Holocaust Museum, being in the room when a baby is born, or a person releases a last breath, seeing a student, young or old, grasp a concept you are teaching and taking it to a deeper level you could never imagine.

What could prepare someone to be so blessed as to be a part of your lives for these past ten years?

On June 5, 1981, I believed I answered Dr. Gottschalk honestly. In reality, I had no idea. Thank-you for being my teachers. Thank you for being my students. Thank you for letting me into your lives. (continued on next page)

Congregation Albert's Assets and A Thank You

What is it that makes Congregation Albert so special to so many of us? The answer is as varied as the number of people who are a part of our extended community. Here are a few of Congregation Albert's assets:

Cantor Barbara Finn. No one, and I mean no one, cares more about Congregation Albert and you than Cantor Finn. Forget her vocal and teaching talents, it is her heart that is bigger than all of ours combined.

Our Education Team, Rachel Sternheim, Dale Cooperman and every single teacher. I have worked with many education teams these 40 years and none care as much about their students learning and well-being than our team does. I know what they get paid, and I can assure you, they are not doing it for the money. They go so far above and beyond to benefit our kids and ensure the future of Judaism that I am in awe.

The Administrative and Building Teams. I can only begin to describe how much these men and women care about you and the Congregation as a whole. They work hard every day to ensure that Cantor Finn, Rachel, Dale and I have everything we need to provide the best for you. They walk in our doors as strangers. They quickly become family. Being part of a synagogue workforce is not the easiest job in the world. Our administrative and building teams handle their jobs, and us, with grace, kindness and caring.

Our Lay Leadership. These past two years would have been daunting for any group of lay leaders. In addition to all the pressures that face a synagogue, they have had to guide us through the embezzlement and the transition to a new Rabbi. Led by our president, Dale Atkinson, our board, committees, and countless volunteers, have not only kept us "afloat" but enabled us to thrive.

I know that Rob Rosenberg and our incoming board will take us even farther.

Rabbi Celia Surget. As I have gotten to know Rabbi Surget, I am excited about her being our Rabbi and specifically my Rabbi. She is smart, wise and caring. I know she will take the congregation to great places.

YOU! The clergy, education team, administrative and building staff, and lay leadership, are here for one purpose only, to bring meaningful Judaism into your lives. We, and especially I, are so blessed that you have given us the privilege of doing so. You thank us when we succeed, and you call us out when we fall short. You are both Congregation Albert's greatest asset, and Congregation Albert's greatest blessing. Thank you all!

And now the thank you to my wife, Michele Hope. For 36 of my 40 years in the rabbinate, she has been by my side through the highs and the lows. Even after dating for two and a half years before our engagement, she had only the slightest clue of what it would be like to be the spouse of a rabbi. Without her support, love, care, and power to heal my soul, I could never have had the incredible life and rabbinate that I have. God only knows what would have been without her ability to keep my head from getting too big. There are not enough words to express my love and appreciation. Thank you!

As I segue into being Rabbi Emeritus, this is not goodbye but only see you soon. You and Congregation Albert will remain a part of our lives into the future.

Shalom uv'racha,

זֶה הַיּוֹם עָשָׂה יי נִגִּילָה וְנִשְׂמְחָה בּוֹ

Zeh hayom asa Adonai nagila v'nism'cha vo

This is the day the Eternal has made, rejoice and be glad in it!

What a year this has been! Hasn't everyone said that at least once during this difficult time. The saying above tells us that there is a blessing in each and every moment. We are all struggling through this challenging time AND we are blessed to have our congregational family.

תפילה *T'fila* Worship

In planning and preparing the music and liturgy for all services, the Rabbi Rosenfeld and I endeavor to create services and traditions that will reach out to all generations and constituencies. We look for inspiration and creativity as we plan Shabbat, Festival, Holiday and High Holy Day services while maintaining many of our wonderful traditions. We remain committed to keeping our community together virtually until it is safe and healthy to be together physically, with continued worship and study as we navigate through these challenging times.

למוד *Limud* Lifelong Learning

Dedication to Lifelong Jewish Learning both formal and informal is the key to the future of the Jewish people. Working closely with the Education Staff has always been a pleasure. I am devoted to supporting the continuation of a stable and progressive school and will continue to give all I can to guarantee its success.

Working with *B'nai Mitzvah* students and families is one of the highlights of my day. I am grateful for both student and parent devotion to learning and dedication to celebrate with their Congregation Albert Family. Special acknowledgement goes to Ronni Sims who works with all of our *B'nai Mitzvah* students as they prepare and write their *D'var Torah*. She has continued the legacy of her late husband Alan Sims ז"ל who created this program when they first came to Albuquerque.

I am privileged to teach courses for the Adult Education program. Every other year I have the great pleasure of working with an adult *B'nai Mitzvah* class. I have enjoyed working with The *N'shei Mitzvah* class of 5780 as they became the *N'shei Mitzvah* class of 5781. They celebrated on *Parshat Sh'mini*, April 10, 2021. I am committed to promoting and maintaining this wonderful program.

I support the activities of our youth on many levels. I continue to support and work with special youth programs including Shabbat Club as well as Camp Oranim where I advise planning, programming and curriculum for camp. Sadly, this year we, once again won't be having camp and we won't get to teach, lead and hang out with the campers.

I am delighted to be a consistent presence and a familiar face in the Early Childhood Center by teaching weekly music sessions and leading the ECC Shabbat Sing on Friday mornings. Excitement displayed from these children is a special blessing even virtually!

נגינה *N'ginah* Music

Music, on all levels is one of our extraordinary connections to God. Our amazing musical volunteers, from teens to adults, from shofar and guitar players to percussionists and singers, are devoted, consistent, dependable and caring, valuing their commitment to enhance the *t'filah* (prayer) experience for our entire congregation. When we are allowed to return to choral singing we look forward to planning a variety of activities. While things are still moving slowly for ensemble music we make recordings to put together and I check in via zoom with our wonderful volunteers.

חיים Chayim Life Cycle/Pastoral Care

Visiting those in need of healing is a sacred task which needs no title. It is my blessing to be able to reach out to those who are in need. I am very fortunate to officiate at wedding ceremonies as one of my official duties at Congregation Albert. The joy of babies brought into the covenant renews our faith in our future and our heritage and officiating at *Brit Milah* (ritual of circumcision) & Baby naming rituals is always a blessing. Conversion Rituals which include the *Mikveh*, ritual immersion ceremony is a sacred and beautiful ritual of which I am honored and delighted to be a part.

I have officiated at many funerals, memorial services, *shiva* services and unveilings. I am grateful to have been able to offer bereavement support and comfort for those who needed it. I have prayed with families and held the hands of many who need support in making difficult life choices.

Visiting with congregants formally and informally offering counsel and support on a variety of issues is often a private but much needed task. Often for those who are in years of change and transition many hours are spent offering support to individual congregants.

In this time of pandemic we have altered our approach but we are nonetheless available virtually to assist anyone in need.

I am honored to be the clergy liaison to our Caring Committee which is very active and remains dedicated to supporting everyone in our congregational community continuing the important work, when safe, of seeking volunteers willing to bake, cook and deliver soup and challah; visit the homebound, and console the bereaved.

קהלה K'hilah Community

During the past seventeen years I have had many opportunities to represent our congregation locally, regionally and nationally. I serve in an advisory capacity for many community organizations, events and programs. I am a founding member of RACAA – The Rabbinical and Cantorial Association of Albuquerque and currently serve as Facilitator. I previously served as its President for three years. Along with the Rabbi, I represent our congregation to the community and help coordinate a variety joint worship services and events. I am an active member of The American Conference of Cantors participating in seminars, attending conferences and webinars.

תודה Todah Acknowledgements

Our leadership, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, the many congregational committees and the Board of Trustees under the guidance of **Dale Atkinson** work hard to make this congregation a welcoming place. Dale has faced a challenging term with respect and tenacity. I admire him so much.

The values of Congregation Albert are reflected by its wonderful support team, **Lisa, Alysha, Renee, Vernon, and Ray.**

I am grateful to the **faculties** of *Limud* and *Machon*, Adult Education and the ECC. Their devotion to learning and to our congregation is a blessing. It is a pleasure to work with our Early Childhood Center Director, **Dale Cooperman**. She guides our youngest students and promotes good relationships with families in our congregational community. It is always a joy to work with **Rachel Sternheim**, our Education Director. Her experience, enthusiasm and creativity have been a blessing in every way possible. She continues to create a happy and vibrant Jewish learning environment. **Joell Ackerman**, our Congregational Administrator has been a champion for our congregation in so many ways through great organization and dependability. Her commitment, professionalism, and great sense of humor are a blessing to our team and our entire congregational community.

We honor those who work every day with care and love for our congregation. We thank our extraordinary **volunteers** who work daily, weekly, monthly, on various projects and who are ever present when we need them. We look forward to a healthier time when we may once again “see” them regularly.

I have been blessed to work alongside of **Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld** for the past ten years. He has been a delightful colleague with whom to share learning, teaching, prayer and laughter, guiding the congregation to the best of our ability. I have treasured each moment this year especially as he prepared for his much deserved retirement.

I look forward with great anticipation to the arrival of our new Rabbi and my new clergy partner, **Rabbi Celia Surget**. I have had the pleasure of regular visits with her already, and I know she will be an inspiration and guide to us all. We welcome her new ideas and leadership as only Congregation Albert can do!

I am so lucky to have the support of my husband, **David**, my best friend and life partner. What a blessing he is to me and to our entire congregation. I'm blessed he loves being Jewish as much as I do.

We all have had a great opportunity to explore new things, particularly new technology and to challenge ourselves to reach outside our comfort zone. We can be curious to learn new things, open to new ideas and processes and optimistic that when this passes we will be better for our persistence. Rabbi Rosenfeld (until June 30), Rabbi Surget (starting July 1) and I, along with our entire Congregation Albert Team, are here for you to talk, to email, to encourage you if you're feeling need of support. I encourage you to "tune in" to all our offerings.

As I complete my seventeenth year, I look forward to more years together.

It is my honor to serve as your Cantor.

B'shirah, (in song)

Cantor Barbara R. Finn, R. J. E.

June 6, 2021 --- 26 Sivan סיון 5781



Congregation Albert

Nominated Slate of Officers for 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 Nominating Committee, consisting of John Folkner, Joyce Phillips-Symes, Richard Hammer, and Verrity Gershin, is pleased to nominate the following individuals for election at the June 6, 2021 Annual Meeting of Congregation Albert:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nomination</u>	<u>Term</u>
President	Robert Rosenberg (Incumbent Trustee)	2 year
VP Finance	<vacant>	2 year
Treasurer	Daniele Williams (Incumbent Treasurer)	2 year
Secretary	Linda Lefton (Incumbent Trustee)	2 year
Trustee	Barry Gaines	2 year
Trustee	Simeon Hauptman	2 year
Trustee	Jenny Moran (Incumbent)	2 year
Trustee	Jessica Paul-Ward	2 year
Trustee	Deborah Seligman	2 year
Trustee	James Spigel (incumbent VP Security)	2 year
Trustee	Scott Steinberg	2 year
Trustee	Rebecca C. Trujillo-Bennett	2 year
Trustee	Nancy Winger (Incumbent Sisterhood Rep)	2 year

Elected Incumbents remaining in office until July1, 2022

Trustee	Patrick Stewart
Trustee	John Thomas Folkner
Trustee	Carol Spizman

Unelected Positions

Past President	Dale Atkinson (Incumbent President)	2 year
Brotherhood Rep	Jeff Paul (Incumbent Secretary)	2 year
Sisterhood Rep	Adele Williams	1 year

Incumbents Leaving Office on July 1st, 2021

Trustee	Jodi Sears
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Congregation Albert Board of Trustees Nominee Bios

Robert 'Rob' Rosenberg - President

Rob has been a member of Congregation Albert for over 30 years and spent four years on the Board in the early 1990s. In addition, he has been the Religious Practices Committee Chairman from about 1998 to present day. Rob has two children, Zachary & Leah, who are now adults and were both B'nai Mitzvah at Congregation Albert. CA has been important to the lives of his entire family and he understands on a personal level how important it is to our community. Reform Judaism has been a part of his entire life, and it is a tradition he wants to help continue. His longevity within the movement and the connections he and his family have allows him to understand its core values as well as its evolution. Rob has more time currently and wants to contribute to Congregation Albert and help continue its service to our community.

Daniele Williams - Treasurer

Daniele C. Williams "discovered" Judaism in 2015, and completed her conversion in 2016, adopting the Hebrew name Chava Tiqvah, meaning "life," and "hope." Daniele is active in Congregation Albert's choir, Zamir, and is enthusiastically involved in other creative and social endeavors at Congregation Albert. She is an avid learner of the Hebrew language (although nowhere near fluent yet), and zealously learning about complex Jewish culture and the compelling history thereof. She finds that her life has been re-energized by the Jewish faith, and by the community and clergy of Congregation Albert. She strives to contribute this rediscovered energy and exuberance back into her religious community.

Linda Lefton - Secretary Linda is a lifetime member of Congregation Albert. She grew up in the Congregation attending Religious School and becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Growing up, she was active in TASTY as well as B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. She earned both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from UNM. Linda worked for APS for 30 years beginning as a classroom teacher at West Mesa High School and ending her career as the Director of Extended Learning and District Liaison to Charter Schools. She believes strongly in supporting both her secular and religious communities and has "walked the talk" at Congregation Albert in a variety of roles including starting the Family Promise Program (Formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network - IHN), serving on the Cemetery Committee, providing and maintaining a potted garden on the east patio for a number of years, volunteering with Sisterhood and, up until recently, serving as the person responsible for most Oneg Shabbats and Café Shabbats. Linda is hoping to continue serving Congregation Albert as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Barry Gaines My name is Barry Gaines and I am interested in serving on the Congregation Albert (CA) Board of Trustees. My wife Janet and I have been members of CA since we arrived in Albuquerque in 1979.

I am a Professor Emeritus of English Literature at UNM; my specialty was the plays of Shakespeare. My wife taught "Bible as Literature," also at UNM where she directed the Hillel Program for 14 years. She, too, has retired. We have taught adult education courses at CA; I served as President of CA in 1990-91 and lived to tell about it. You can see a younger picture of me on the wall of presidential photographs.

I am just turning 79 and volunteered to become Librarian of CA, but the Covid lockdown limited my usefulness. I have the desire and the time to serve the Congregation and incoming President Rob Rosenberg is one of my oldest and closest friends. I feel certain that we can work well together. I thank you and the Board for your consideration of my application.

Simeon Hauptman - VP Finance My interest in the position is quite simply to give back to the Congregation that has been an integral part of me and my family's life for the last ten years. I have volunteered on other committees in the past, but never on the Board of Trustees. I look at this opportunity as the next step on my journey with the Congregation. In light of some of the pressing issues that the Congregation is facing (the Crystal issue, the pandemic, the retiring of Rabbi Rosenfeld and our new Rabbi Celia coming on board) I cannot think of a better time to roll up my sleeves and do my part in helping our Congregation move through and emerge successfully on the other side of the immense sea of change that we face.

(continued on next page)

(Simon Hauptman continued) In my current job and in the industry that I have been involved with since 2005, one, if not the most critical part of my job, is to compare my solution hypotheses to the status quo. Meaning that the solution that I present on behalf of my employer, Ryder, needs to be scrutinized and vetted against the current model employed by my prospect. This requires an in-depth analysis of the true cost structure of their current solution vs my proposed solution, including but not limited to tax implications, time value of money analysis and uncouneted for "soft" costs. I am not going to be the perfect candidate; as I am not a certified public accountant, nor am I an expert in the field of finance, but I do possess a strong acumen in both of those disciplines. My most valuable attribute is my ability to convince, persuade and win over people and organizations to a different line of thinking and changing the status quo. Just because "we have always done like this" does not mean that there isn't a better and more efficient way to do it.

Virginia (Jenny) Moran Jenny Moran has been a member of Congregation Albert since 2014 and completed her conversion path in 2016. Her two youngest daughters have grown up as part of the ECC community and as students of CASJS. Jenny has been an active member of the Caring Committee since 2016, acting as coordinator for soup and challah deliveries. She currently supports JASI as team lead overseeing all clothing donations. Jenny married Jason Moran in 2007 at Nahalat Shalom. Jenny has worked as a government contractor for the past 17 years. She's held roles in contracts administration, project controls, and portfolio management. Her current position is Strategy Manager. She enjoys performing analytical research on new business opportunities as well as business system assessment for compliance and sustainability. Her degree is in Business Administration. Jenny is passionate about nurturing Jewish community in Albuquerque. She is committed to the growth of a vibrant community she hopes to be a part of for the next 30 plus years.

Jessica Paul-Ward I am a licensed social worker and have worked in the field of children and families since 2001. I work for Presbyterian Healthcare. I also work part-time for All Faiths Children's Advocacy Center and their contract with CYFD/foster adopt program. In my "free time" I also contract with Constellation Consulting on their behavioral health grants. Finally, I fill in at Advocacy Inc., as a court appointed social worker in adult guardianship cases. As for my hobbies outside of my family, I enjoy volunteering in the community. I am the co-chair for the Social Justice Committee at the congregation. I also volunteer with Pet-a-Bulls, which is a foster and adoption bulldog charity. I am interested in joining the Board as a trustee because it fits into my purpose. I want to help support and advocate for the best interest of our community and being a trustee can help me accomplish that. I think the congregation could also use a fresh face at the table. This community is MY community and has been since I was a child. My child has attended the preschool at CA when she was 2-5. She has attended the Sunday school program since she was old enough to, and she also attends the summer camps here. I know many families at this congregation, and many that have left for various reasons over the years. I have never served on the Board so I think it would be a learning experience for me, and that is why I said I would be willing to step-up, when asked. I have a lot to learn so it could be good for me!

Deborah S. Seligman Deborah S. Seligman is an attorney with her own practice, whose roots go back to the very beginning of New Mexico statehood when her grandfather, Sigfried Seligman was a pioneer merchant in Bernalillo, and her father, Milton Seligman was born when the state was only 2 years old. She graduated from Highland High School here in Albuquerque, left the state to attend Washington University in St. Louis, MO where she graduated Magna Cum Laude - Phi Beta Kappa, and then received her JD at the University Of New Mexico School Of Law.

Her law career is extensive, and she was selected in 2011 by New Mexico Business Weekly as Best of the Bar - Commercial Practice. She has lead a life of community service as well, serving on multiple boards serving many Jewish, civic, and community causes, as well as supporting the arts.

She grew up in Albuquerque, attended Congregation Albert, was confirmed here, has an extensive family history here, and was confirmed here. She has maintained almost 4 decades of membership at Congregation Albert.

[James Spigel](#) James grew up in Philadelphia, PA, and celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at Congregation Mikveh Israel. He graduated Swarthmore College in 1974 and Jefferson Medical College in 1980. James moved to Albuquerque in 1983 following three years of training at Montefiore Hospital and work at Central Medical Center in Pittsburgh, PA. He did his Residency training in Pathology at UNM 1983-1987 and joined Pathology Associates of Albuquerque (PAA) in 1987. James became President of PAA in 2010 and still holds that office today. James is married to Dinorah Gutierrez. James is the proud parent of Kate, Jacob, and Carlos and the proud grandparent of Elena Jean and Derrick Joseph Dugan. The Spigel/Gutierrez family has one dog named Sadie, who loves challah. James has been a member of Congregation Albert since 1996.

[Scott Steinberg](#) Scott Steinberg has been a member of Congregation Albert since 1989. Scott attended UNM and operates a successful business. He and his wife Robin have been married for 37 years and are the proud parents of three grown children, Marc, wife Amy and Sarah and proud grandparents of Ethan, Noah and Dylan. Scott and his wife are both active in congregational life.

[Rebecca C. Trujillo-Bennett](#) Rebecca C. Trujillo-Bennett joined Congregation Albert after completing her conversion to Judaism in July of 2018. Since then she has enjoyed being an active member of the Jewish community.

In a professional capacity, she has worked as a registered nurse and a public health educator. Personally, she is a passionate advocate for social justice work and community building. She enjoys being a member of Congregation Albert's Social Justice Committee, working with The Jewish Asylum Seekers Initiative, volunteering for Family Promise, as well as volunteering in the greater Albuquerque community.

As a member of the minority community, Rebecca hopes to bring the perspective of a Jew of color to the table. In addition, Rebecca considers herself a life-long learner and will celebrate her N'shei Mitzvah in April 2021. Task oriented, she enjoys tackling complex problems using creative and open-minded solutions. Currently she serves on the Rabbi Transition Team Welcoming Committee.

She looks forward to using her skills, passions, and desire to learn, to serve the Congregation Albert community.

[Nancy Winger](#) Nancy is active in any community she is a part of. She has been a Registered Nurse, an elementary school educator, and has served in several positions on the High Desert Board of Directors, working to protect this large and affluent homeowners association from crime, and working to ensure that members on the BOD were best managing its multimillion dollar budget. Nancy also helped resolve homeowner conflict and volunteer committee issues in the HOA with her typical kindness and patience.

Nancy has been a member at Congregation Albert for the past 5 years, serving as the co-manager of the Judaica Shop and is an active Sisterhood Member. She values our Jewish heritage, and is excited to use her professional, volunteer and life experiences to serve on Congregation Albert's Board of Trustees to help it grow and evolve into a thriving community.

Education Director Report--Rachel Sternheim, M.A.Ed.

rachel@congregationalbert.org



Congregation Albert School of Jewish Studies *Limud/Machon* Program

The Congregation Albert youth education program, also known as *Limud*, serves students in pre-K through high school with classes on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. The curriculum includes several key areas of study: Jewish Values, T'filah-Prayer/Spirituality, Jewish Peoplehood (History), Torah and Text Study, Holidays, Life Cycle, Israel, and Hebrew-both as a language and as part of the study of *T'filah* (Liturgy).

We have a dedicated and caring faculty who create interesting and meaningful activities in the classrooms that connect the students to Jewish tradition and culture. This past year, since the shutdown a year ago in March, the school was entirely on Zoom. With the support of the board, the school adopted the online religious school platform, Shalom Learning, which focuses on Hebrew reading, study of the service liturgy, and core Jewish values including Jewish holiday practices that can be practiced in the home and in the synagogue.

Hebrew study continues to be a priority for all grades. The youngest students learn some Hebrew words, play games and become familiar with the Hebrew alphabet. By the end of 3rd grade most of the students have learned how to read Hebrew phonetically. 4th-6th grades practice phonetic Hebrew reading and learn some Hebrew words and phrases. As students' progress, they are introduced to conversational Hebrew through a comic book style magazine that includes common conversational phrases. In 6th or 7th grade, the students learn how to communicate by reading and acting out dialogs in Hebrew with typical day-to-day conversations.

Enrollment this past year was much less than prior years, when we were in person. Some families chose not to attend CASJS in order to manage the number of hours their children were online and/or on Zoom. The plan for next year is to return to in-person classes with some options for online Hebrew or school-wide Zoom programs that allows for innovative use of technology. It has been a time to reflect on the needs of our families and students, and included a review and update of the curriculum initiated by a subcommittee of the Board of Trustees. Surveys were created for parents and for students, and the teachers met with the Rachel mid-year and are scheduled for an end of year meeting.

Lifelong Learning Council

The lifelong learning council, has a new chairperson, long-time member of Congregation Albert and a public school teacher, Cheryl Haase. The council is seeking volunteers that represent the vibrancy and variety of stakeholders in our community. The council works together to plan and suggest education programs and classes that will be of interest to the membership and to the Jewish community at large.

If you are interested in participating in being part of the planning committees or want more information about the council, please contact the education office or email Rachel directly.

Camp Oranim

Camp Oranim will not take place again this year. After receiving the results of a survey sent to all current families, it seemed wiser to wait until next year to restart our summer camp program.



Submitted by Dale S. Cooperman, Early Childhood Director

Much like last year, this annual report will be different than reports in years past. March, 2020 began an experience like no other for our ECC, for our temple community, our families and our world. The ECC successfully navigated its way through these uncharted waters, and determined a path to thrive even as COVID's impact touched almost every facet of our lives. Turning it on its head, perhaps COVID has helped us to become more reflective of our practice, and our collective community of teachers, young learners and their families have been the beneficiaries.

In March, 2020 our ECC – in the span of one week – went from in person to virtual learning for our students, 2 – 6 years of age. Our educational experiences moved to Zoom, and were:

- Family friendly (as parents now had to be the support teachers)
- Project based
- Filled with both secular and Judaic content, including developmentally appropriate curriculum and,
- Included our “normal” weekly music and Shabbat fun with our clergy, with continued celebrations of holidays and traditions.
- We continued through the summer, and had 8 weeks of Zoom camp.

After spending the summer of 2020 preparing state mandated and stringent safety plans, protocols and processes, our ECC opened on September 9 (and might I add, with much joy from our families), and we have had a successful year. We have adhered to state guidelines and have made this experience a meaningful one for our entire school community.

I have said this before: We can all learn a great deal about flexibility and resiliency from young children.

In order to make this all come together rather seamlessly, we needed a talented and dedicated faculty. I would like to recognize this extraordinary group of teachers – Jessica Adkins, Bonnie Bernstein, Karen Cantoja, Katelyn Clark, and Adina Sternheim - for their hard work and commitment to both the safety and continuous education of our young learners. Our families have demonstrated their commitment, as well.

It's been a great year! This has truly been a team effort; the strength of this team is palpable.

Compliance with State guidance also required COVID testing every 2 weeks. I was able to procure the services of a mobile unit called Medic Buddy, who visits the temple on the bi-monthly mandated schedule and provides nasal swab PCR testing for the entire ECC faculty, the administrator, the administrative staff, and the custodians.

As Early Childhood Director, I applied for and was awarded 5 grants this year:

- Region X: Teacher planning grant
- Childcare Stabilization and Recovery Grant
- CARES Act Grant
- All Together NM Fund
- ECECD Health and Safety Mini Grant

We are deeply grateful to the following people and organizations for their generous donations and unflagging dedication to our ECC, to the Cooperman/Beracha Fund and/or the Sizemore Scholarship Fund:

- Ruth Mondlick
- The Segel Family
- The Abel family
- Sisterhood
- The Blaylock family
- The Meyers/Gallegos family
- The Kaiser- Janik Family
- The Gonzales – Lubar Family

Monthly family newsletters from the director continued this year in a variety of formats. They include:

- Information about upcoming temple, CASJS, and ECC events.
- Information about Jewish holidays, as a component of family engagement and education. This information is taken from my co-authored published early childhood curriculum called “Drops of Honey,” published by Torahaura.

In the interest of informing the congregation about the ECC, these newsletters are also sent to Rabbi Rosenfeld, Cantor Finn, Rachel Sternheim, temple administrator Joell Ackerman, the board and the board president.

This spring, the ECC families participated in a family project, decorating large, paper butterflies at home, returning their works of art to school and sharing them with their peers. These colorful butterflies are now hung in the school wing, brightening the walls.

Ongoing marketing/advertising has been in these local publications:

- New Mexico Kids
- Mom’s Club/Blog of Albuquerque
- The LINK

Community outreach programs designed to enhance curriculum visited the ECC via Zoom:

1. Albuquerque Bio Park
2. Hawks Aloft
3. Albuquerque Natural History Museum, “Science with Ms. Misty”
4. Explora

As an active member of the ECE-RJ (Early Childhood Educators of Reform Judaism), I sit on the Membership and Nominating committees. I also write for their publication, usually for articles focused on the Director’s page.

In collaboration with the JCC, I again was able to implement for a drawing for a free, 90 family membership as part of an Early Bird enrollment for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

Last, but certainly not least I thank Rabbi Rosenfeld, Cantor Finn, Rachel Sternheim, President Dale Atkinson and the Board for their support of the ECC. I thank Administrator Joell Ackerman, the amazing administrative staff and our much appreciated custodial staff.

Deepest gratitude goes to my faculty and all the families of our ECC for helping to make our school community the warm and sweet place it is to learn, play and grow together.

Family Promise Annual Report—An Evolving Family Promise Program

The past 15 months have brought enormous challenges to Family Promise of Albuquerque. Prior to the Covid19 outbreak families rotated on a weekly basis from one congregation to another, while volunteers provided meals and supplies, as well as staying overnight at the congregations and interacting with the families. Family Promise has always considered the interaction between the families and volunteers an integral part of its mission. Changes needed to be made with the outbreak of the pandemic, as volunteers could no longer safely spend time with the families. Families could no longer travel from one congregation to the next, so the program needed to find a safe and extended space for its guests. The Church of the Good Shepherd was able to offer space for the program and for over a year that is where the program was housed. However, the role of volunteers was greatly reduced due to Coronavirus concerns. Family Promise hopes that, once the safety of those involved can be assured, volunteers will once again play a crucial role in the program.

As a result of the changed circumstances the Board of Directors decided that the program would need to be restructured. After much deliberation the Board decided that Family Promise would purchase a permanent site. Finding a suitable property was a long and arduous process, but a site was found and the offices of Family Promise are now housed at the new location. Services provided at the Day Center include help in finding employment and housing. Guests learn how to locate job opportunities, how to write successful resumes and how to conduct successful interviews. Families receive counseling as needed, including parenting classes. Families spend the day there working on their goals of permanent housing and employment. Children receive transportation to their schools as needed and the smaller children receive day care. All these services equip parents to succeed in their goals. Families remain in the program for a maximum of 90 days, and the successful graduation rate has remained at about 85% to 90%. Once families have graduated Family Promise stays in contact with them to help address any issues that come up.

The permanent site for Family Promise is located at 1516 San Pedro NE. Currently Family Promise is occupying a significant part of the building, which houses staff offices and working areas for the guests. Families are unable to remain overnight at this time, as renovations will need to be completed to safely house guests. A fire sprinkler system needs to be installed, as well as showers and laundry facilities. Family Promise has secured a mortgage on the property but is still in need of funds to pay for the necessary renovations. It is the goal of the Board of Directors to raise enough to pay for the renovations and also to pay down the principal amount of the mortgage as much as possible. This is an ambitious undertaking and has required a leap of faith on the part of the Directors. Family Promise is committed to its goal of helping struggling families as they seek to improve their lives, believing that in doing so they strengthen the community in which we all live. Please consider making a donation to Family Promise so that it can continue to support those in our community experiencing homelessness. Donations should be sent to:

Family Promise of Albuquerque—www.familypromisealbuquerque.org

1516 San Pedro NE Albuquerque, NM 87110

The Fundraising Committee is looking for fresh faces and new ideas as we plan for the future. Our committee is devoted to raising funds, engaging and strengthening our community, and helping build a financially sound and sustainable tomorrow. Fundraising is an identified growth area as we move forward. We are excited and looking forward to the changes ahead, the reopening of our synagogue, and the arrival of Rabbi Celia Surget.

The Board is supportive of a large fundraiser for early 2022, and the planning will start this June. It is sure to be fun, as we dream big, and bring together the best of our community to host something memorable. Is there a special skill that you can bring to the table? Do you have experience with planning fundraising events? Do you enjoy attending fundraisers? Do you have ideas for fundraisers that you think would be successful for our community? Do you have experience in marketing, communications, or sales? We would love to have you join the team! Please email us at CAfundraisingteam@gmail.com and let us know you're interested in learning more. We'll put you on our distribution list. Looking forward to hearing from YOU!

Congregation Albert Meditation Shabbat

This year our report begins with the words of our traditional Passover Seder, why is this year different from all other years? In all other years, our meditation Shabbat was held in the Sanctuary, parallel to the Shabbat morning service being held in the Chapel. This year, our monthly meditation, led by Paula Donahue and Paula Amar Schwartz took place on zoom. This innovative setting allowed individuals separated by vast distances to participate together. In particular, we had regular attendees in places other than Albuquerque, joining us along with our local participants. During a time when isolation and separation were the norm, meditation provided a glimpse of normalcy, a time for coming together in acceptance and joyfilled quietness.

Attendance averaged about as it had when we were meeting in the Sanctuary, with 10-20 attendees; some were newcomers who joined our core group of regulars. Shabbat meditation is always open to all; those with advanced meditative skills as well as beginners curious about Jewish Meditation, and its practice. Newcomers often include some who are new to Congregation Albert. In this sense we serve as both an additional path for our members, and as a gateway for those exploring Jewish practice.

Meditation is not new to the Jewish tradition. King David is said to have had a breath meditation, which he taught. References to these practices remain in Psalms and in our liturgy. "May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable.....". Over the centuries of Jewish history, meditation was passed down orally. In later centuries the mystical tradition of Kabbalah recorded and refined many of these practices. For many years the Reform movement offered an annual Meditation Kallah where meditation leaders came together to share information, pray together, learn from our teachers and each other, and deepen our own practice.

Congregation Albert is unique in being one of a handful of Reform Congregations offering meditation opportunities. Initially, our meditation program was offered prior to Shabbat morning service, and ran parallel with Torah Study. Ten years ago, a Shabbat morning parallel service meditation was offered twice as an experiment. Evaluated and reviewed by our Religious Practices committee, they were well received by both participants and by those attending the traditional service. Since that time, the number of Meditation Shabbat Services has increased to a monthly routine, with the caveat that we would not compete with a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. We continue to make that commitment.

Meditation is a spiritual practice: a way to still the body, quiet the mind, and open the soul to deeper levels of consciousness. Linked to our sacred texts, language, and images, meditation has an important place alongside prayer and study as a pathway to that which is holy. An important part of our meditation practice includes chanting, led by Paula Donahue, who often composes a new chant for a particular Parsha. The core is a guided imagery meditation derived from the Parsha of that week. The format includes a breathing meditation, a practice of repetition of a sacred phrase, and a chant, ending with a meditative Shema at the end, after the guided imagery.

An innovative part of this year's practice has been to allow time at the start for people to greet one another, and a brief time at the end to exchange greetings, and socialize.

The goal of meditation, Judaism suggests, is not to escape the world, but to become a vehicle for perfecting it. As taught by the Baal Shem Tov, meditation can open us to approach our daily lives with compassion and joyous expression of gratitude. Meditation enables us to quiet our thoughts and concentrate on the marvel of God's world, and the blessings of life. During this time of social isolation due to the Pandemic, a time to practice gratitude and compassion could not have been more relevant or needed. We invite anyone interested to join us. Both Paula D and Paula S are willing to hear from, or take questions from participants and potential participants.

Paula Amar Schwartz

Congregation Albert Green Team

Annual Report – 2020-2021

Co-Leads Paula Donahue and Judy Smith

Green Team Mission: “Help Congregation Albert continue the work of tikun olam by becoming a community leader in environmental education and action.”

Education and Outreach:

The focus for the year 5781 has been on pollinator protection and on planting trees in Albuquerque/Bernalillo County to replace the urban canopy lost through age, disease and improper watering. Much of our tree loss was an unintended consequence of the City’s rush into xeric landscaping without information about tree care and watering needs.

Tu b’Sivat - The Tu b’Sivat drive-through event was postponed until Purim when the Green Team’s detailed information about tree selection for private properties, information about planting flowers for pollinators and wild flower seeds packets were handed out before spring planting time.

Earth Day - For Earth Day month, the Green Team hosted two renowned arborists, Eric Bishop and Joran Viers of Root to Shoot Urban Forestry. During April 23rd Friday night services they spoke briefly about how to appropriately plant trees. On April 29th, the Green Team hosted a practical tree planting Zoom Class called “Better Success with Tree Planting” featuring these same arborists.

Ma Yesh - Every month we write an article for Ma Yesh. During Covid we solicited and featured many nature photos and reflections from congregants and also shared information about the dangers of herbicides and pesticides.

Jewish Outreach - We have been in contact with Nahalat Shalom and B’nai Israel and hope to deepen those connections.

Youth Participation - This coming year, we hope to invite CA youth to join the team or to help them form their own team.

Partnership with NM Interfaith Power and Light:

Judy Smith continues to represent Congregation Albert on the board of NMIPL.

Paula Donahue and Judy Smith both represent Congregation Albert on the NMIPL interfaith Green Team discussion group and served on a panel to share information about how our Green Team formed and has changed since 2010. We also shared “The Congregation Albert Sustainability Plan” with all NMIPL members.

One of the joys of the Interfaith work is to share our Jewish perspective with others and also to learn about the many ways that our values are shared across the community and the state. A reminder that we have more in common than we have differences.

Pollinator Meadow and Congregation Albert Grounds:

The meadow will start to get more attention now... but thankfully it survived the benign neglect during Covid.

.We met twice with CA Administration, the CA Memorial Garden Team and the Yellowstone Landscaping group to discuss watering needs and future plans for all of the CA grounds – once by Zoom and once outside in person.

We unearthed the preliminary plan done in 2012 for the grounds and will use it as a spring board this coming year to discuss grounds improvements for the future.

Membership:

We are lucky to have the following team members who each bring special gifts and energy to our work: Susan Citrin, Buck Creel, Sylvia Goffe, Susan Keith, Marcia Rosenstein, Stacy Zlotkin and Sari Jensen. Most of the members participated in the Rabbi Search focus group and were consulted with for Ma Yesh articles and other decisions.



We are always in need of more members. There are many ways to get involved and you don't have to do them all – Sustainability Plan revision, projects, events, education, outreach, maintaining the pollinator meadow and more. If you are interested in joining the Team, call Paula Donahue at 266-3954.

We thank the Clergy, Education Director, Board President, the Administrative Leadership and Staff for your help and support for all the work described above.

Sisterhood Judaica Shop

The Judaica Shop is making a comeback! We were idle through much of 2020 due to the pandemic quarantine. But in December, just in time for Hanukkah, we lit up with an idea of having a Hanukkah Sidewalk Sale in front of Congregation Albert. Following Covid-safe protocols we were able to provide a fun and revitalizing three-day shopping experience, prompted by the introduction of Grab-N-Go Hanukkah bags. In February, motivated by our success, we designed Mishloach Manot boxes filled with Hamentaschen and other goodies suitable for gift giving, and named them PPE - Purim Pack Essentials. We sold out of these pre-ordered festive boxes that were picked up curbside in the front of Congregation Albert. A quick, outdoor Pop-Up Pesach sale in March was followed by extended Passover shopping-by-appointment-only through the first week in April.

We are now working on a promotion to expand our Heritage Collection of Judaica. Contributors are invited to donate gently used, treasured pieces of ritual art to be sold to Judaica Shop customers who shop for and appreciate the history of legacy pieces. We are forever grateful to Joell Ackerman who enthusiastically supports our ideas and advises us on health order protocols. We are also appreciative of the rest of the staff who are always ready to lend a helping hand. All these events could not be possible without the Judaica Shop volunteers. Each volunteer is very committed, works hard and shares the optimistic attitude that as the pandemic becomes more manageable, our retail services can become more readily and regularly available for our cherished customers.

Diana Paul

Nancy Winger

Co-chairs of Sisterhood's Judaica Shop



Brotherhood *Annual Report: Past, Present and Future*

Past

- Congregation Albert Brotherhood has been in pandemic hibernation for over a year. Planned activities including monthly brunches, family group activities, Isotopes games and more were cancelled. The cancellation of all activities, including the cancellation of all indoor services and programs, saved lives. By religiously (pun intended) adhering to all scientific evidence and CDC guidelines, Congregation Albert was able to prevent the spreading of the virus.

Present

- The recent "Brotherhood Drive-thru Coffee & Schmooze" was a success as many members came to the Temple to grab coffee and a donut and schmooze with friends. With social distancing and masks, participants were able to park and gather to visit, share family stories, and catch up on each other's happenings.

- The Brotherhood Weekly Newsletter, "The Insider", was born this winter and is delivered by email every Sunday morning to all Brotherhood members. The newsletter includes an activity schedule, articles on Jewish culture, arts, sports, politics, finances, and more. Local and congregation programs and events are also highlighted.

****Breaking News! The Weekly Insider will now be published to Brotherhood members every Sunday AND to the entire congregation by eblast twice a month starting in June. AND a page 2 will now be added for business ads. The first ad page will go out on June 6th and incredibly special pricing will run through September 1st. Watch for details.

- A monthly Brotherhood Coffee Hour was started this winter and is held one Sunday a month on zoom for members to meet, have coffee, and visit together.

Future

- While this summer's Isotopes Night will not be held, there are other events in the planning stage including the popular Utility Shack Trading Post tour and lunch, a family picnic and tour of the Wheels Museum, and our monthly Brunches.

Brotherhood dues may now be paid online at [Home 1 Congregation Albert Brotherhood \(square.site\)](http://Home1.CongregationAlbertBrotherhood.square.site)

Businesses interested in placing an ad in the Brotherhood Weekly "Insider" (published weekly to Brotherhood members and twice a month to all congregation members) should contact Jeff at 505-259-3190 or jbartonp@comcast.net to set up your ad. Fantastic pricing for 3 months is now available as low as \$10 for a business card size ad. That's your ad in 18 newsletter printings for just \$10. Such a deal.

Paul Tanenbaum, President
Jeffrey Paul, President-Elect

CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Cemetery Committee is a long-standing committee that handles the day-to-day property management issues of the cemetery, "sells" burial rights, keeps burial records with the help of temple staff and organizes, along with the Educator, an occasional educational event pertaining to the cemetery and Jewish funeral traditions.

Congregation Albert's cemetery was originally founded by the local B'nai B'rith chapter in 1889. The historic section is the final resting place for many notable pioneer merchant Jewish families. It's the oldest established Jewish cemetery in Albuquerque.

Although the Committee operates "behind the scenes," it fills a crucial need of the Congregation and may be called upon to make decisions at anytime.

The Committee is comprised of a well-rounded group of professionals that work with the Temple Administrator and staff on an on-going basis. Members meet monthly, or as needed, to update each other on progress with landscaping, issues related to personnel and property, development of the new section, financial management, sales and inquiries of persons seeking to purchase burial rights.

The Committee works with the clergy, Fairview Cemetery, local funeral homes and families of the deceased at the time of death in an effort to ease the funeral planning and grieving process. When no pre-planning has been done and arrangements need to be made immediately, Committee members are available to meet with the family. Committee members can help with selecting a burial right and make sure financial obligations are met and paperwork needed by the Temple and the management of Fairview has been completed.

This year, the strong winds have reeked some havoc at the Cemetery, bringing down old trees and often disrupting irrigation lines. The committee has done their best to stay on top of those issues and get them repaired as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Committee members are: Scott Steinberg, Committee Chair, Gail Rubin, Committee Secretary, Linda Lefton, Jenny Moran and Diana Paul. Please feel free to contact any committee member if you have questions about burial rights or the cemetery.



CARING COMMITTEE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT

The Caring Committee of Congregation Albert plays a pivotal and critical role in the lives of our congregation. In the spirit of *tikkun olam* and, following the mitzvah of *gemilut hasadim* (acts of loving kindness), the Committee's primary objective is to reach out to congregants who are ill, bereaved, homebound, or undergoing other difficult life transitions. To accomplish this, volunteers reach out to members of our congregation with both practical and emotional support.

Caring Committee makes soup, delivers containers of soup and challah to the sick and bereaved, makes regular visits to the homebound, provides letters of support, prayers and reading material to the bereaved and follows up until the *yahrzeit*, purchases grocery gift cards for the clergy to distribute to congregants who need emergency help with purchasing groceries and sends get-well cards, deliver baskets or meals for the Holidays and organizes at least one educational event.

This past fiscal year, the activities of the Caring Committee were curtailed by the Covid regulations in the State of New Mexico to maintain interactions to a minimum. As such, in the first ten months of the fiscal year, nine deliveries of soup and challah were made, a few get well cards were sent, several grocery cards were given to congregants in need and, in collaboration with JCP nine meals were delivered to our congregants. A thorough review of volunteer list was done, showing 34 active volunteers, including 8 Caring Committee board members. A Zoom Education Lecture "Self-Care" was delivered by Dr. Joyce Phillips in April

In March the Caring Committee started gearing up for post Covid activities. The Committee expanded outreach to congregants that have been lonely and isolated during the pandemic to bring them soup/challah to offer kindness and caring. Also, Homebound has already identified 9 congregants that want to be visited; the visitors will receive training previous to relaunching the program. In the past month, we have delivered soup and challah to 11 congregants and we have cleaned and reorganized the freezer with over 20 soups made by our soup-chefs. Pre-school will decorate again bags for the deliveries. Challah is being purchased at the moment until our Challah bakers return

The Caring Committee is clergy driven; we receive information from the Cantor and rabbi regarding congregants who need our services. The Cantor attends our monthly Core group meetings and communicates with the Chair and sub-committee chairs.

The Caring Committee operates solely and independently through funds in the Kern-Hayon Fund—and through donations from congregants and although we have not had a budget since 2011, as we get the requested information from the bookkeeper, we will reinstate this practice in the next fiscal year. Having a budget, and a detail of donations and expenses allow for more transparency and planning.

Respectfully,

Marina Rabinowitz, Chair
Joyce Phillips, Secretary and Corresponding Secretary
Wendy Gallaher and Karen Taylor, Soup and Challah
Susie Citrin, Homebound
Ellen Goldstein, Bereavement

	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 18-19	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 19-20	APPROVED BUDGET 20-21	ESTIMATED ACTUAL 20-21	PROPOSED BUDGET 21-22	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Budget/Budget	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Actual/Budget
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SUMMARY

OPERATING							
Total Income	751,502	751,345	781,140	615,912	866,700	85,560	250,788
Total Expense	1,333,023	1,156,827	935,595	971,335	957,512	21,917	(13,822)
Total Operating Profit/Deficit	(581,521)	(405,483)	(154,455)	(355,423)	(90,812)	63,643	264,611

SCHOOL, CAMP & YOUTH

Total Income	295,577	261,416	284,275	154,807	270,010	(14,265)	115,203
Total Expense	273,683	303,645	291,115	220,549	265,022	(26,093)	44,473
Total School, Camp & Youth Profit/Deficit	21,894	(42,228)	(6,840)	(65,742)	4,988	11,828	70,730

PROFIT/DEFICIT

Total Operating Profit/Deficit	(581,521)	(405,483)	(154,455)	(355,423)	(90,812)	63,643	264,611
Total School, Camp & Youth Profit/Deficit	21,894	(42,228)	(6,840)	(65,742)	4,988	11,828	70,730
Total Unrestricted Net Assets Transfers	559,770	448,027	224,095	140,131	85,824	(138,271)	(54,307)
Total Operating Profit/Deficit with Unrestricted Net Assets	143	316	62,800	(281,033)	(0)	(62,800)	281,033

	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 18-19	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 19-20	APPROVED BUDGET 20-21	ESTIMATED ACTUAL 20-21	PROPOSED BUDGET 21-22	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Budget/Budget	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Actual/Budget
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Income

Total 1401 · Membership Dues	627,848	641,272	625,000	550,000	687,500	62,500	137,501
Total 1405 · Building Fees	4,385	3,412	3,000	100	3,000	-	2,900
Total 1410 · Contributions	69,315	76,014	49,000	41,250	48,700	(300)	7,450
Total 1420 · Fundraising	33,261	13,731	14,500	23,060	116,500	102,000	93,440
Total 1450 · Program Revenues	-	-	1,500	-	-	(1,500)	-
Total 1460 · Other Revenues	16,692	16,916	88,140	1,502	11,000	(77,140)	9,498
Total 1400 · Operating Fund Revenues	751,502	751,345	781,140	615,912	866,700	85,560	250,788
Total 2001 · Adult Education	-	1,250	-	1,761	1,800	1,800	39
Total 2007 · B'Nai Mitzvah	3,925	2,928	3,000	3,000	4,800	1,800	1,800
Total 2010 · ECC Revenues	248,585	214,892	245,450	133,854	233,200	(12,250)	99,346
Total 2020 · Religious/Hebrew School Revenue	27,084	27,419	35,825	13,692	30,210	(5,615)	16,518
Total 2030 · Camp Revenues	15,983	14,927	-	2,500	-	-	(2,500)
Total 2000 · School, Camp & Youth Revenues	295,577	261,416	284,275	150,046	270,010	(14,265)	119,964
Total Income	1,047,078	1,012,761	1,065,415	765,958	1,136,710	71,295	370,752

Expense

	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 18-19	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 19-20	APPROVED BUDGET 20-21	ESTIMATED ACTUAL 20-21	PROPOSED BUDGET 21-22	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Budget/Budget	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Actual/Budget
Total Administration	189,183	201,035	181,481	180,197	171,974	(9,507)	(8,223)
Total General Services	103,194	208,299	197,120	199,548	202,340	5,220	2,792
Total Embezzlement	565,531	211,654	-	50,742	-	-	(50,742)
Total 1501 - General Services & Administration	857,909	620,988	378,601	430,487	374,314	(4,287)	(56,173)
Total 1620 - Fundraising Expenses	7,879	2,678	2,500	-	2,500	-	2,500
Total 1641 - Custodian Expenses	58,846	55,533	49,048	62,326	72,624	23,576	10,298
Total 1640 - Occupancy Expenses	38,111	49,674	45,033	37,033	42,448	(2,585)	5,415
Total 1663 - Utilities	28,988	30,401	39,500	36,500	37,000	(2,500)	500
Total 1660 - Occupancy & Utilities Expenses	125,945	135,608	133,581	135,858	152,072	18,491	16,214
Total 1670 - Program Expenses	100	1,082	1,000	-	-	(1,000)	-
Total 1690 - Committee Events	4,756	2,280	1,600	3,630	4,400	2,800	770
Total Clergy Expenses	319,070	368,120	387,913	385,532	383,876	(4,037)	(1,656)
Total 1850 - Music Expenses	7,044	19,722	14,000	8,296	9,000	(5,000)	704
Total 1860 - High Holy Days Expense	9,318	5,143	5,300	5,212	7,800	2,500	2,588
Total 1880 - Other Pulpit Expenses	1,003	1,206	11,100	2,320	23,550	12,450	21,230
Total 1800 - Pulpit Expenses	336,434	394,191	418,313	401,359	424,226	5,913	22,867
Total 1500 - Operating Fund Expenses	1,333,023	1,156,827	935,595	971,335	957,512	21,917	(13,822)
Total Education Management Expenses	84,917	90,772	89,930	90,734	52,801	(37,129)	(37,933)
Total Adult Education Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2549 - B'nai Mitzvah	407	625	500	42	250	(250)	208
Total 2560 - Early Childhood Center	151,125	181,351	179,833	121,883	183,772	3,939	61,889
Total 2600 - Religious/Hebrew School Expense	21,246	15,471	20,852	7,890	28,199	7,347	20,309
Total 2501 - School Expenses	257,695	288,218	291,115	220,549	265,022	(26,093)	44,473
Total 2660 - Camp Expenses	15,595	15,426	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2700 - Youth Activities	392	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2500 - School, Camp & Youth Expenses	273,683	303,645	291,115	220,549	265,022	(26,093)	44,473
Total Expense	1,606,706	1,460,472	1,226,710	1,191,883	1,222,534	(4,176)	30,651

Unrestricted Net Assets Transfers

	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 18-19	ACTUAL FOR PERIOD 19-20	APPROVED BUDGET 20-21	ESTIMATED ACTUAL 20-21	PROPOSED BUDGET 21-22	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Budget/Budget	Δ Dollars 20-21 / 21-22 Actual/Budget
Building Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Category Funds	46,906	81,604	49,000	14,414	35,726	(13,274)	21,312
Endowment Funds	20,864	15,423	112,595	63,217	50,098	(62,497)	(13,119)
Operating Reserves Fund	492,000	351,000	62,500	62,500	-	(62,500)	(62,500)
Total Unrestricted Net Assets Transfers	559,770	448,027	224,095	140,131	85,824	(138,271)	(54,307)

Congregation Albert would like to recognize the Pillar-Guardian-Pinnacle Circle Members

Carl & Linda Alongi
David Bernstein & Erika Rimson
Judith Bernstein
Clifford & Nancy Blaugrund
Dwight Burney III & Gwenn Robinson
Mary Carter & Gary Priester
Michael & Jana Druxman
Roger Felix & Sharon Cooperman
Daniel Friedman
Herbert & Miriam Friedman
Gary Goodman
Paul & Marcia Greenbaum
Adam & Hannah Greenhood
Richard Hammer
David Janik & Randee Kaiser
Norman & Linda Jones
Loren Ketai & Yuko Komesu
Stephen & Renee Klein
Martin & Sidney Kistin
Samantha Lapin & Dale Atkinson
Brook & Sarah Laskey
Gregory Levenson

Steven & Michelle Marks
Elizabeth McGuire
Dr. Ruth Mondlick
Mary Beth & Spencer Nelson
Stuart & Janice Paster
Jerome & Lynne Pfeffer
Stuart Rappaport
Ira Rimson
Rayme Romanik & Allan Boyar
Arthur Rosenberg & Stella De Sa Rego
Robert Rosenberg & Jane Wishner
Andrew Schultz & Deborah Good
Mel & Paula Schwartz
Paul & Susan Silverman
Rosalie & Stuart Simon
Toby & Elisa Simon
James Spigel & Dinorah Gutierrez
Scott & Robin Steinberg
Ron Stern
William Syme & Joyce Phillips
Peter & Mary Tannen
Peggy Werbner

**WE'RE DOING
MORE WITH YOUR
SUPPORT**

Thank you
..... FOR YOUR
DONATION