



Temple Shalom of Central Florida

Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein – Spiritual Leader

13563 County Road 101
Oxford, FL 34484-2430

352-748-1800
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www.templeshalomcentralfl.org

January 2026

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 knowing you fully belong to Temple Shalom. We strive to create a congregation where every person feels 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. Then return the forms with your payment 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

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2026 MEMBERSHIP



MESSAGE FROM RABBI SONNENSTEIN

Welcome! I am delighted to greet you on behalf of our entire spiritual family, our family of friends. Our doors are open to all who seek a meaningful connection with Judaism, tradition, and community. Being part of a congregation is more than just signing up-it is an embrace, a commitment, and a beautiful step forward in your spiritual journey and we are delighted that you have chosen to make Temple Shalom your home.

The heart of Temple Shalom is a spirit of warmth, acceptance, and belonging. We celebrate the diversity and richness of every individual's journey and honor all who walk through our doors. We are a supportive environment where lasting friendships are built, where you can bring your whole self-your joys, hopes, questions, and dreams.

This past year brought both joys and challenges, and being part of this sacred congregation has been a profound source of strength and comfort. We have come together to celebrate milestones, support one another in times of loss and uncertainty, and seek inspiration from our shared heritage. Through moments of collective prayer, compassionate action, and learning, I have witnessed the depth of connection that unites us. The warmth and resilience of our congregation continues to inspire me, reminding me daily of the blessings found in community and belonging.

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.

I encourage you to explore the many opportunities for worship, study, volunteering, and fellowship. Your presence enriches us, and I hope you will find this a place of belonging and inspiration.

Please know that my door is always open. If you have any questions, hopes, or concerns-or just to chat-I am here for you.

Rabbi Zev Sonnenstein, Spiritual Leader

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you review your 2026 Financial Commitment form, I want you to know that this letter comes from a place of deep appreciation for everything that makes 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. We've 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 mission, 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 and will continue to do so. In addition to infrastructure enhancements, our Rabbi, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, and committees have offered beloved programs and initiated new, enriching experiences. If you've been following our weekly flyers, you've seen the diverse array of opportunities available - 2026 will bring even more exciting offerings.

Financial Transparency and Stability

Our 2025 programming and the strong response to our Yom Kippur appeal have provided a needed financial cushion. However, we remain mindful of the economic pressures on our members, and through careful management of expenses, we're pleased to announce that there will be **no dues increase for the 2026 fiscal year**. Given the concerns surrounding the Israel-HAMAS war and the unfortunate 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 for 2026**.

Supporting One Another: Join the CHAI Society/Tzedakah Donation

As we strive to make membership accessible to all, we also invite you to consider joining our **CHAI Society**, an additional 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 circumstances. All Tzedakah contributions are also welcome and appreciated.

How You Can Help

We ask that you complete the enclosed **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 2026 financial commitment, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at 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.

2026 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

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

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

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

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 : _____ Date: _____

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

2026 MEMBER FINANCIAL COMMITMENT DUES FORM

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

(A) _____

(B) _____

(C) Dependents: _____

B. Standard Membership Financial Commitment Dues (SMFC**): \$500 per person annually

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.

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

C. Capital Improvement Pledge (CIP) \$1,250 Per Person One Time Payment in Full

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 per year payable with Member's first SMFC Dues 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 February of each year at the same time as memberships are renewed.

☐ Full Payment Option: \$1,250 per person one-time payment with Member's first SMFC Dues.

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

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 per person (SMFC): _____

Capital Improvement Pledge (CIP) Amount (5-Year or Full Payment): _____

Annual Mandatory Security Fee Amount (ASF): _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Check No _____ Credit Card No _____ Expire Date: _____

Note: A 3% convenience fee will be added by the office to credit card charges

Make Checks Payable to: **Temple Shalom**

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 _____