

Rabbi Andy Green
RabbiAGreen@gmail.com
RabbiGreen.com

RABBINIC EXPERIENCE

Congregation Beth El, Voorhees, NJ

Associate Rabbi **August, 2018 – present**
Assistant Rabbi **August, 2015 – July, 2018**

Congregation Beth El is a vibrant 850+ family congregation in suburban Philadelphia, with a dynamic senior leadership team including a Senior Rabbi, Hazzan, Executive Director, Educational Director, Engagement Director, Controller, and ECC Principal. The Associate Rabbi position has afforded me the opportunity to foster and build deep relationships, to re-design and create a wide array of engaging programs, and to explore and apply in-depth learning impacting all spheres of congregational life.

MAJOR RABBINIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serve as a spiritual leader to a large, engaging, and compassionate multi-generational community in coordination with Senior Rabbi and Hazzan.
- Assume all rabbinic leadership and pastoral responsibilities while Senior Rabbi on vacation, attending conferences, and other extended congregational absences.
- Rabbinic duties include all aspects of the worship experience – planning and leading Shabbat Services, *b'nei Mitzvah*, High Holy Day Services, other holiday services, twice daily minyanim, and delivering sermons and *divrei torah*.
- Create meaningful and transformative lifecycle events for members: funerals, shiva, weddings, *brit milah*, baby namings, *b'nei mitzvah*, *bikkur cholim* (hospital visitation), and conversions.
- Serve as a passionate educator in our Religious School, Hebrew High, Adult Education Program, and Early Childhood Center.
- Prominent leadership roles in fundraising and development campaigns.
- Serve as staff liaison and supervisor with oversight for numerous committees.

MAJOR RABBINIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Membership Engagement:

- **Neighborhood Walks**
 - Walked community neighborhoods and knocked on member doors, visiting live while socially-distanced with more than two-thirds of congregant families, deepening personal and communal bonds, pastoring to those disinclined to seek out clergy, and reducing pandemic-related member attrition.
- **Daily Lift**
 - In rotation with other clergy, prepared daily video messages, inspiring, uplifting, and strengthening our member's commitment to the congregation.
- **New Member Welcoming Ceremonies**
 - Created moments of meaning for new members to connect with clergy, staff and other new members. These deliberate onboarding gatherings oriented new members to Beth El's programs, learning, worship, values, vision, and facilities, empowering participants to experience the power of our sacred space and ritual.
- **Haddonfield Neighborhood Outreach**
 - Facilitated monthly family gatherings in Haddonfield, an affluent and under-shul-ed area approximately 6 miles from Beth El, fostering new friendships and attracting new members.

- **Summer Engagement**
 - Introduced community-building local summer activities -- donning an ice-creamery apron to hand-scoop hundreds of cups of ice cream, dancing with toddlers in the splash pad, and listening to our most talented members sing their hearts out -- fundraising, sparking new friendships, and attracting families to our congregation and ECC.
 - Greeted, taught, and played with our campers at local and overnight camps. Texted selfies with children to their parents.
- **Relational Judaism Applications**
 - Spearheaded Ron Wolfson visit on Relational Judaism to Southern New Jersey to teach his guiding principles to lay leaders and staff.
 - Convened Welcoming Committee engaging congregants to evaluate and improve synagogue signage, marketing literature, forms, mailings, greeter training, and new member stewardship, resulting in many significant improvements from signage to redesigned literature to orienting resources for volunteer greeters.
 - Regularly hosted member families at my home for Shabbat and Yom Tov meals, deepening our relationships and their commitment to the congregation.
 - Fostered new groups within Beth El, including Kavod, a community of LGBT+ Jews and Allies, and Achim Sheli, exploring ethnic and cultural diversity within our congregation.
 - Made phone calls and sent text messages expressing well wishes for congregant birthdays and other celebrations. Integrated Temple RMS software to track contact with congregants.
 - Redesigned new member outreach literature to highlight congregant testimonials resulting in increased membership, and introduced seasonal postcard mailings and hyperlinked e-mail signatures increasing awareness and participation in varied programs.
 - Expanded Mishloach Manot program to ensure deliveries to every local congregant family.

Fundraising & Organizational Leadership

- **Shomrim**
 - In partnership with key lay leaders, developed and launched Shomrim, a dues plus model benefactor program, increasing budgeted giving by \$500K+ per year.
 - Enlisted young families to host parlor meetings to promote the program, and spoke to the congregation's need and vision, resulting in record giving among younger members.
- **Major Gifts**
 - Participated with senior clergy in successful solicitation meetings with key donors.
- **Ritual Policy Changes**
 - Facilitated introduction of mi shebeirach healing prayers at every daily service, a new siddur for shiva services, musical instruments at Shabbat evening services, and Cookie/Coffee breaks between Shacharit and Torah Service on Saturday mornings.
 - Explored opportunities for greater engagement with interfaith families through interfaith task force and town halls, enabling for the first time, non-Jews to stand on the bimah at family celebrations, and approval of congregational bylaws changes enabling non-Jews with Jewish family to become synagogue members.

Youth Education:

- **Early Childhood Center (ECC)**
 - Built intentional relationships with ECC students, families, and educators, sharing stories and songs at Friday morning ECC Shabbat Party, greeting children by name during the hug line.
 - Led weekly all-ECC Tuesday morning Havdalah and moved this service from the chapel to the Foyer, enabling students to gather more closely to one another and the flame, making the weekly ritual more impactful.
 - Visited all ECC classrooms for biweekly Jewish show and tell, helping our ECC students more deeply discover and appreciate Jewish ritual objects, Torah stories, and Hebrew letters.
 - Introduced Friday evening Prayers & Pajamas service for ECC families, building community among our ECC parents.

- **Religious School and Young Families**
 - Facilitated B'Yachad Family Learning programs where parents and siblings accompany a Religious School class for a day of learning and crafting homemade Judaica together, giving the tools to bring Jewish ritual home.
 - Coordinated and led Young Family Group Shabbat Retreat, and congregational Seders for young families (in person and then on ZOOM).
 - Shared brief words of Torah at weekly Junior Congregation, a learner's service for children and adults, elevating relationships with the clergy and shul.
 - With fellow clergy, led Service from the Heart worship for children with special needs and their families.
- **B'nei Mitzvah Program**
 - Fostered personal connection with B'nei Mitzvah family cohorts through Tallis and Tefillin class series, and with B'nei Mitzvah teens by teaching weekly 7th grade Hebrew High courses. Also, met with families individually to personalize each celebration, discussing passions, hobbies, and secular interests.
 - Created personalized D'var Torah templates to guide b'nei mitzvah in selecting a tzedakah project and sharing meaningful and relevant words of Torah and gratitude.
- **Beth El Junior College**
 - Created Beth El Junior College, a two-year post-confirmation program for eleventh and twelfth grade students, resulting in a fivefold increase in students continuing their formal Jewish education beyond Confirmation.
 - Redesigned format and curriculum for Hebrew High (7th-10th grade program) mirroring the Beth El Junior College model, resulting in increased attendance and participation.
- **USY & Kadima**
 - Supervised Youth Director, staffed and hosted USY conventions and Shabbat dinners, and supported youth leaders and Youth Commission.
- **College Connection**
 - Expanded College Connection thrice yearly gift mailings containing a Rabbi's message as well as treats linked to the Jewish calendar season doubling participation to over 120 packages distributed per mailing.
 - Initiated annual springtime High School Senior Send-Off gathering to honor and sanctify the moment of transition as High School Seniors graduate and prepare for College.
 - Visited our students on their college campuses, hosting lunch, pastoring, and deepening relationships.

Adult Education:

- **Torah Learning**
 - Initiated regular weekly adult education "Live and Learn" class series, now in its second year, resulting in dramatic increase in congregational attendance of adult education classes as few as five to well over 60.
 - Explored the weekly parsha and fostered lively discussions through "Torah Talk," a community-building alternative to hearing the Torah and Haftarah readings.
 - Led monthly conversational "Torah on Tap" sponsored by Men's Club in local pub and breweries, and annually for Steak and Scotch in the Sukkah and Scotch and Latkes dinners.
 - Shared Torah reflections over breakfast following minyan on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- **SULAM for Emerging Leaders**
 - Guided two cohorts of USCJ SULAM SEL program, cultivating young leaders through engaging curriculum, and transitioning these lay leaders to roles on Board of Trustees and other key committees.

Israel Action and Advocacy:

- **Nachshonim Confirmation Israel Trip**
 - Led annual two week Confirmation Class (10th grade) trip to Israel.

- Provided for the physical, social, psychological, and spiritual well-being of 30 teens.
- Sent detailed daily updates, connecting family members to the shul through this once-in-a-lifetime experience.
- Worked to enhance and refocus this longstanding trip, introducing new destinations with greater exploration of contemporary Israel.
- Raised scholarship funds to ensure every Confirmand could participate regardless of financial circumstance.
- **AIPAC**
 - Hosted AIPAC speakers for congregational briefings, deepened congregational commitment to pro-Israel political engagement, and grew the synagogue's Policy Conference delegation from fewer than 10 to more than 50.
 - Initiated and grew congregational teen delegation to the annual AIPAC Policy Conference, and successfully solicited donor to fully cover program costs.
 - Honored to speak to more 18,000 from the 2018 AIPAC Policy Conference main stage.
- **Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey Israel Trips**
 - Only clergy invited to join Jewish Federation Israel Mission in October/November 2018 celebrating Israel at 70. Created powerful meaning-making moments and built deep and lasting bonds with community leaders, many of whom subsequently joined my congregation.
 - One of two local rabbis selected to accompany diverse faith leaders on a Jewish Community Relations Council sponsored trip to Israel in January 2018. Built relationships with neighboring clergy, and subsequently invited those clergy to share loving wisdom and reflection with my congregation.

Student Rabbinic Pulpits

Student Rabbi	Temple Beth Sholom	Las Vegas, NV	2012 – 2015
Rabbi in Residence	Joint Distribution Committee	Novosibirsk, Russia	2014
Rabbinic Intern	Kehillat Magen Avraham	Omer, Israel	2013

EDUCATION:

- 2015** **Rabbinical Ordination**, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, American Jewish University, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2008** **Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs**, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2007** **Bachelor of Science**, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA.
Major in Mathematics - Economics with Minor in Political Science.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS:

- 2018 Man of the Year, Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Middle Atlantic Region.
- 2015 USCJ Award for Congregational Leadership, American Jewish University.
- 2007 Chancellor's Service Award, UCLA.
- 2006 Outstanding Senior Honoree, Hillel at UCLA.
- 2005 Rabbi Liebman Award, Sigma Alpha Mu.
- 2005 Phillip & Susan Rudd Cohen Student Exemplar of Excellence, Hillel International.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

- Tri-County Board of Rabbis / Jewish Clergy, President, 2018-2020.
- Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey, Board of Directors, 2018-2020.
- Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey, Board of Directors, 2017-present.
- Coalition of Religious Leaders of New Jersey, Member, 2017-present.
- Hillel at UCLA, President, 2005-2006 & Board of Directors, 2009-2012.
- Associated Students of UCLA, Chairman of the Board of Directors, 2005-2007.
- Member of The Rabbinical Assembly, Greater Philadelphia Region.

References available upon request