

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Mission

To negotiate a definitive agreement concerning the joining of Temple Beth El of Northern Valley and Temple Beth Or, and to take action towards the merging of the congregations.

Vision

A merged congregation of 450+ members in a new facility that is mutually convenient for all member families.

Subgroups have been created for developing and recommending strategic and tactical direction for Real Estate, Governance, Finance, Clergy, Ritual, Education, Membership, and other areas the committees deem appropriate.

Values

Reform Congregation with warm and welcoming environment

Clergy led with full-time rabbi, cantor and educator

Consistent Friday night and Saturday morning Shabbat services

Religious school curriculum with flexibility

Torah study and adult education opportunities

Teen community with flexibility

Tikkun Olam from social action initiatives

Location

Looking at available properties be it religious, retail or office mutually convenient to the membership of both congregations. Reaching out to other congregations that have moved from traditional structures to new spaces.

Clergy and Staff

Looking to build a congregation with the best possible clergy and staff so examining current contracts and future opportunities for all existing clergy and staff.

Ritual and Worship

Continuing favorite practices from each congregation and looking at new ideas for ritual and worship.

B'nai Mitzvahs

Reviewing assigned dates for 2018 and 2019 and combined class sizes and potential dates moving forward. Looking at each congregations' preparation and practices from 4th grade siddur distribution to b'nai mitzvah date distribution, and post b'nai mitzvah transition into teen program and confirmation.

Education

From Nursery School and Early Childhood to religious School, B'nai Miztvah, Teen programming, Confirmation, and Adult education. Examining current methodologies and best practices.

Finance

Creating spreadsheets and analyzing revenues and expense scenarios with various factors. Looking at existing funds and new naming founders and other endowment opportunities.

Governance

Examining each congregations' bylaws and board structure and creating new bylaws to combine essential precepts and best practices.

Social Action

Looking at current Tikkun Olam projects operating at each congregation and potential ways to heal the world as a larger community.

Fundraising

Analyzing success of small and large fundraisers and developing new calendar of most successful and popular congregation events.