

Rabbi Anthony Fratello, M.A.H.L.

Anthony Fratello was raised in Long Beach, California. As a student and member of a Reform congregation, Temple Beth David, the late Rabbi Henri Front inspired him religiously and intellectually.

He graduated from Pomona College in 1994 with a B.A. Degree. His thesis was a study of the Inquisition of Crypto-Jews in Colonial Mexico.

In 1994, he entered the Hebrew Union College (HUC). While at HUC, Rabbi Fratello served congregations in Mississippi, Indiana and Illinois. He earned his M.A.H.L. Degree in 1998 and was ordained in June 1999. His thesis was a study of Maharal and his commentary on *Pirke Avot*.

Rabbi Fratello is married to Rabbi Joanna Tract, a Chaplain with Hospice of Palm Beach County. They have two Sons.

Cantor Karen Braunstein, M.S.M.

Karen Braunstein is the granddaughter of a Cantor. She grew up in Baldwin, Long Island, NY surrounded by music, Judaism and Yiddishkeit. She graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music in 1981 with a Bachelor of Music Degree. While there, she began studying and performing Yiddish and Klezmer music and started the band, *Shirim*.

In 1984, she entered the Hebrew Union College School of Sacred Music. While at HUC, Cantor Braunstein performed Yiddish and Cantorial music. She earned her M.S.M. Degree and was invested as a Cantor in 1988. Following her investiture, she toured Israel with ten other Cantors singing at Kibbutzim.

Cantor Braunstein has served various congregations as Cantor and guest Cantor in New York, Pennsylvania, Florida and Texas. Cantor Braunstein is the mother of son and daughter.

Our Religious School

The Temple Shaarei Shalom Religious School was established in September 2000 with a handful of students. Today, it is a vibrant, full service Religious School with over 200 students under the supervision of Educational Director Miriam Schaffer RJE. The School program begins with Kindergarten and continues through Confirmation in 10th Grade.

The goal of the Religious School is to help students make informed choices so they can develop a sense of faith in their lives and identification with the Jewish people. This is done through the study of Torah, Prayers, Israel, Holidays and Jewish Values, utilizing a creative, hands-on curriculum that encourages students to become life-long learners.

Adult Education

Continuing the practice of life-long learning, we include ongoing opportunities to study Torah, Haftorah, Hebrew and other topics of interest, as well as adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah. In addition, there is a Jewish movie series, lectures, book reviews, Chavurot and trips.

Our Auxiliaries

Our auxiliary organizations provide a variety of ways to meet and share interests with old and new friends and to find the comfort of belonging to an extended family.

Women of Reform Judaism

Formed in 1992, Sisterhood has donated money to buy the land on which the Temple was built, furnished the kitchen, provided a Judaica Shop and helped establish the first library. They sponsor entertaining and educational events for their members on the third Thursday afternoon of the month.

Brotherhood

Brotherhood is a member of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods. They offer socials, trips and sporting events, as well as religious and informational programs. Brotherhood members also provide ushering services to the Temple during Shabbat and High Holy Days services.

Couples Club

The Couples Club provides opportunities to socialize for members of our Temple who are interested in a warm, friendly, strong auxiliary. Meeting on the second Sunday evening of the month, they provided programs, dinner shows, and day and weekend trips, to appeal to a variety of interests.

Singles

The Singles of Temple Shaarei Shalom holds weekly afternoon Rap sessions designed to give affiliated and unaffiliated seniors a place to go to talk about “anything” and enjoy the company of others with similar interests.

PTO

The children are the future of our Temple. It is with that understanding that our Parents and Teachers Organization works together to enrich the spiritual lives of our students and actively work toward building our Religious School

Youth Group

The Youth Group was established in 2004. It is open to students in grades 8-12. The Youth Group is a member of the National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) of the Southern Tropical Region (STR).

Our History

The Temple was founded in May 1992 by 18 people who expressed the need for a Reform Congregation in the West Boynton Beach area. They each contributed seed money and met at Santaluces Community High School for Shabbat Services. Early in 1996, as the membership grew to over 200, the congregation moved to a building at the Boynton Trails Shopping Center. In 1999, the congregation voted to purchase land and, at the beginning of 2000, voted to build a new temple building, which opened its doors in June 2002. Currently, membership has grown to over 500 families.

Our Mission

The purposes of the Congregation are to: (a) establish and maintain a synagogue for worship, education and assembly in accordance with the tenets of Reform Judaism; (b) cultivate love and understanding of the Jewish faith and heritage; (c) stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community; and (d) apply the principles of Reform Judaism to the values and conduct of its members.

Service Schedule

Friday Night Shabbat
(1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Fridays)
8:00 pm

Intergenerational Service
(2nd Friday) from September—June
7:00 pm

Saturday Shabbat Service
10:30 am

Our Congregation

A member of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), Temple Shaarei Shalom is a full-service congregation committed to a thoughtful, vital interpretation of Judaism. We are a caring congregation, sharing in each other's joys and sorrows as we journey through the cycles of life.

Other Activities

High Holy Days Festival & Services
Classes in Hebrew
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Classes
Chavurot
Lecture Series
ACBL Bridge
Bereavement Counseling
Adult & Children's Choir

Call today and be a part of our
energetic, growing and
exciting congregation.
561-364-9054



Anthony Fratello
Rabbi

Karen Braunstein
Cantor

Miriam Schaffer
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