



Congregational Conversation

Exploring A Vision for a Shared Future with Fairmount Temple & The Temple-Tifereth Israel

- Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple | September 2023

Why Are We Considering Unification of Our Temples?

Why Explore Unification?

- External Factors Influencing Temples Like Ours
 - Demographic/generational changes
 - Decline of membership or affiliation with organized religion in general
 - Increased desire for more diversity in programming and for programming that meets people where they are
- Our Point of View:
 - Both The Temple-Tifereth Israel and Fairmount Temple have engaged congregations and robust organizations.
 - We are similar in size and membership demographics.
 - We share the desire to ensure a strong future for our congregations and Reform Judaism in the Greater Cleveland community.

Overview of Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple and The Temple-Tifereth Israel

Overview: The Temple-Tifereth Israel and Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple

	The Temple-Tifereth Israel	Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple
Date Established	1850	1841
Mission Statement	The Temple-Tifereth Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation where individuals and families create meaningful connections to Judaism, and where we engage in worship, education, social action, and community. We are dedicated to exploring the beauty and depth of our Jewish heritage and sharing it with each other and the world. Our goal is to create an environment where all can grow, learn, and connect to one another in a sacred community.	To provide a gateway for deeper personal enrichment by helping individuals embrace their Jewish faith through lifelong learning, acts of loving-kindness and uniting on the front line of social justice.
Membership	1,068	966
Number of Clergy	4	4

Commonalities in Temple Offerings

	The Temple-Tifereth Israel	Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple
Worship (Friday, Saturday, Holiday): In Person and Virtual	✓	✓
Daycare/Preschool	✓	✓
Religious School (K – 8th Grades)	✓	✓
Youth Group/Teen (8 – 12th Grades)	✓	✓
Adult Learning	✓	✓
Men's/Women's Affiliates	✓	✓
Social Action and Racial Justice Programming	✓	✓
Museum Collection	✓	
Young Professionals Programming		✓
Cemetery/Bereavement Services	✓	✓
Clubs, Lectures and Affinity Groups	✓	✓

Unifying our Congregations and Resources

- By unifying – our congregations, our clergy, and our resources – we can have a greater impact on our community, engage more people and be good stewards of our resources.
 - Together, we can create opportunities to bring the Jewish community together, rather than remain separate based on membership in one temple or the other.
 - Together, we can bring our children together under one umbrella, with more resources available for education, learning, and fellowship.
 - Together, we can leverage combined financial resources to reduce barriers to membership, offer more diverse programming and build a more vibrant Reform Judaism community.



ANSHE CHESED
FAIRMOUNT TEMPLE



THE TEMPLE
TIFERETH ISRAEL



A Shared Vision for the Future

Opportunity Statement: The vision that guides us



Create an **innovative, multi-generational** Reform Jewish congregation that **warmly welcomes everyone** and **ignites engagement** through robust offerings as a **vibrant, spiritual community**. This opportunity is made greater when we **combine the strength** of our current membership and resources.

Together with The Temple Tifereth-Israel, we see strong potential to...

- Invest in new engagement models to learn and grow while supporting our existing members.
- Sustain inspiring physical spaces that honor our legacy.
- Inspire future generations through robust educational offerings as a pathway to engagement and spirituality.
- Expand meaningful worship experiences that inspire community members who choose Reform Judaism as part of their Jewish journey.
- Create spaces and opportunities where people comfortably belong, no matter where they are on a Jewish journey.

“

We are two strong temples that want to make
a difference together.

”

*—Rabbi Robert Nosanchuk to Cleveland Jewish News about exploring collaborations
between ACFT and TTTI, February 2023*

What Could Unification Look Like?

Key areas of alignment IF we were to move forward

Clergy

Home

Education

Operation

Board & Governance

Financial Assets

Clergy Team

- A single, unified team of clergy would serve the combined needs of our collective membership.
- If we move forward... The joint task force is in alignment that Rabbi Rob Nosanchuk should serve the new, unified congregation as Founding Senior Rabbi starting July 1, 2024.



Single Physical Home

- A single physical home would best accommodate the collective membership.
- The task force is in alignment that the Beachwood Campus currently housing The Temple-Tifereth Israel would be the physical home for a unified congregation.



Single Religious School

- A single religious school and early childhood program would be able to serve the collective membership.



Single Unified Operation

- A single, unified operation with one executive director would support the new entity.



Single Board & Governance

- A single, unified Board and governance structure would serve the combined needs of the new entity.



Financial Assets

- An intention to unify the utilization of all financial assets in the future.



Subcommittees

Finance Subcommittee



Subcommittee Members

- Keith Kerman, ACFT
- Russ Klein, TTTI
- Keith Libman, TTTI
- Peter Raskind, ACFT
- Consultant: Zinner & Co.

Key Updates

- Financial modeling is in process.
- We will have a better sense of financial projections soon.

Legacy/Heritage Subcommittee



Subcommittee Members

- Howard Epstein, TTTI
- Michael Frayman, TTTI
- Patty Inglis, ACFT
- Amy Kaplan, TTTI
- Shelley Milin Marcus, ACFT
- Scott Spiegle, ACFT

Key Updates

- We're committed to aligning cultures so that all feel a sense of home and familiarity
- We're committed to reimagine the building and grounds to honor our legacies
- The legacies of both congregations will be honored.

Governance Subcommittee



Subcommittee Members

- Tom Abelson, ACFT
- Nancy Adams, ACFT
- Jane Joseph, TTTI
- Larry Mack, TTTI

Key Updates

- The new Board will have equal representation from ACFT and TTTI.
- Both congregations' by-laws will be reviewed.
- Best practices from merged congregations will be utilized.

Facilities Subcommittee



Subcommittee Members

- Bruce Goodman, TTTI
- Julianna Johnston Senturia, ACFT
- Russ Klein, TTTI
- Augie Napoli, TTTI
- Ed Weintraub, ACFT
- Darrell Young, ACFT
- Consultant: Jonathan Kurtz Architects

Key Updates (related to current TTTI facility)

- Worship and religious school space can accommodate a combined congregation.
- Clergy and staff space will require future minimal renovation.



Endowment Subcommittee

Subcommittee Members

- Michael Perlmutter, ACFT
- Don Scherzer, TTTI

Key Updates

- We have an intention to unify the utilization of all financial assets in the future.

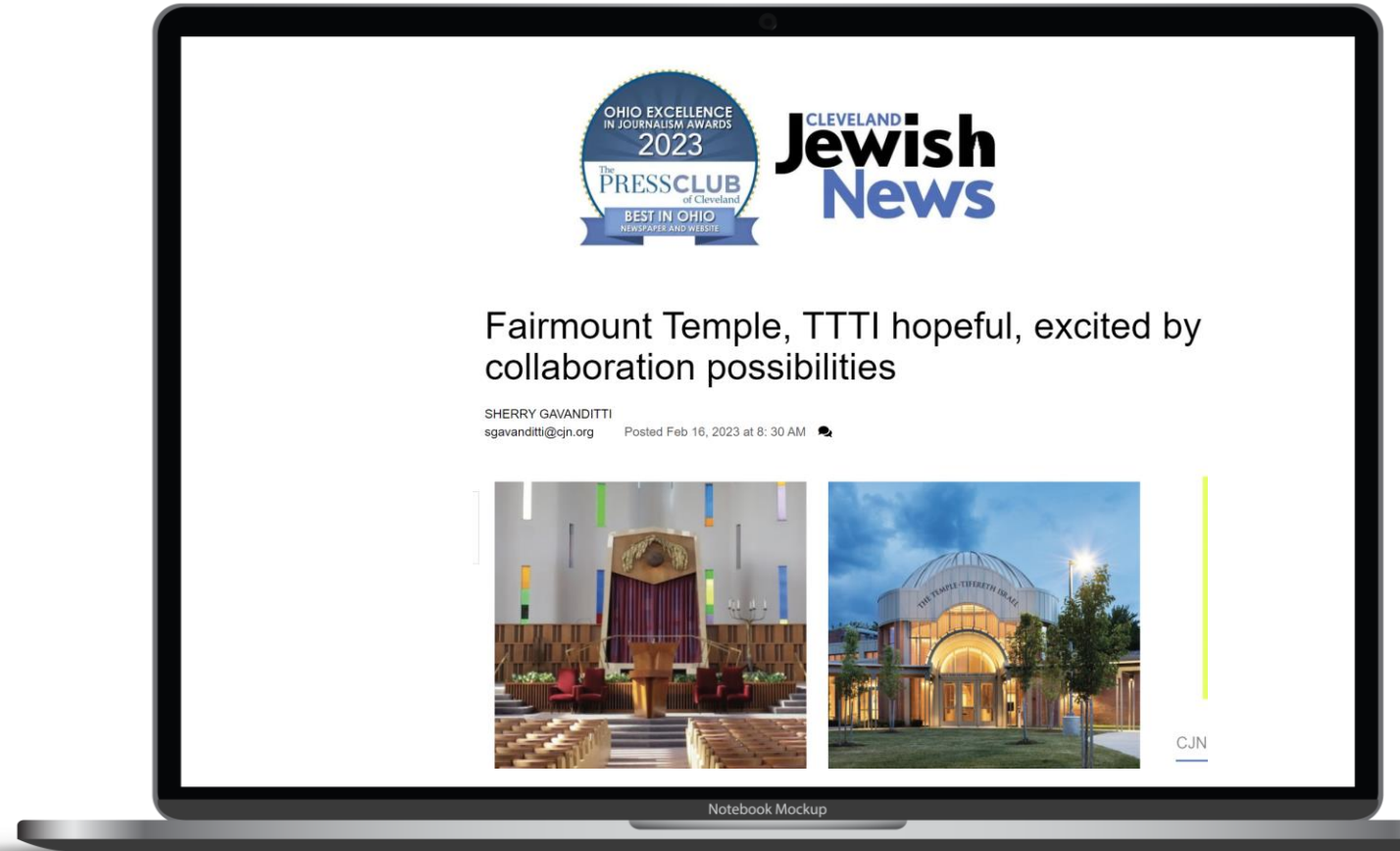
What's Next?

What's next?

- 1 **Congregation communication & input**
- 2 **Transition to steering committee**
- 3 **Deeper dive**

Congregation Communication

- Staff update
- Key stakeholder update
- Email update to congregants
- Press release to Cleveland Jewish News
- Town hall meetings (in-person & virtual)
- Meeting recap/FAQ



Town Halls: Connecting with the ACFT congregation

IN-PERSON	VIRTUAL	STAFF
9.18.23	9.20.23	9.13.23 (brief)
9.20.23		9.19.23

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Task Force Transition to Steering Committee

TASK FORCE

- Temporary group set up to accomplish a single, defined objective: **explore future collaborations between ACFT & TTTI**

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Team entrusted with decisions that **determine how a project will look upon conclusion**, including direction, scope, budget, timeliness, and methods
- Involve more people & views

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Deeper Dive

We continue to conduct due diligence in key areas

- Finance
- Legacy/heritage
- Governance
- Facilities
- Clergy
- Endowments
- Education
- Operations

Timeline

	Week of 9/10	Week of 9/17	Week of 9/24	Week of 10/1	Week of 10/8	Week of 10/15	Week of 10/22	Week of 10/29
Communication								
Congregant Emails								
CJN Press Release								
ACFT & TTTI Town Halls								
FAQ Email								
Process								
Deeper dive, key areas								
Steering Committee Transition/Advancement								

Thank you, task force members!

ACFT

- Patty Inglis
- Keith Kerman
- Michele Krantz
- Shelley Milin Marcus
- Rabbi Robert Nosanchuk
- Julie Raskind
- Todd Silverman
- Ed Weintraub

TTTI

- Beth Dery
- Michael Frayman
- Bruce Goodman
- Ken Hochman
- Rabbi Roger Klein
- Russ Klein
- Ben Light
- Jeanne Tobin

Additional thanks...

- ACFT Task Force Support, including:
 - Tom Abelson
 - Nancy Adams
 - Peter Brosse
 - Michael Perlmutter
 - Peter Raskind
 - Scott Spiegle
 - Steve Weinberg
 - Darrell Young
- To YOU, our Board of Directors

“

There are risks and costs to action. But they are far less than the long range risks of comfortable inaction.

”

John F. Kennedy