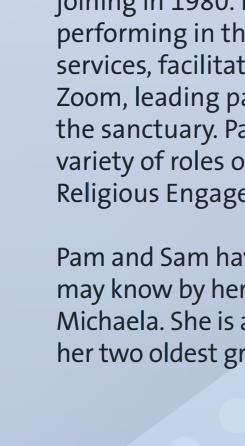


# TEMPLE EMANU-EL OFFICER & BOARD PROPOSED SLATE 2022-2023



**Pamela Kaitin-Miller**  
PRESIDENT

Pam Kaitin-Miller has been a fixture at our Temple since joining in 1980. In those 42 years you may have seen her performing in the Purim spiel, participating in Soulful services, facilitating affinity groups about New York on Zoom, leading parts of daily minyan or joyfully praying in the sanctuary. Pam has been on the officer corps in a variety of roles over the years, most recently as VP of Religious Engagement.

Pam and Sam have three children—Shoshana (who, you may know by her own involvement in Temple life), David and Michaela. She is a very proud grandma of 5 and kvels to see her two oldest grandchildren participate in services routinely.

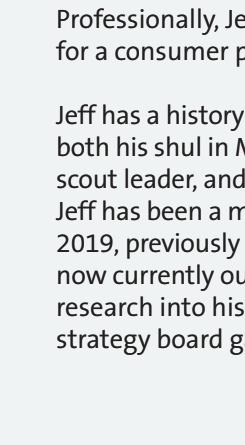


**R. Josh Bolton**  
VP RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Josh Bolton and his family arrived in Providence and Temple Emanu-El three years ago. He serves as Executive Director of Brown RISD Hillel and has worked with Jewish students on college campuses for over a decade.

Josh has written several books of poetry and holds an MFA from the Program for Poets and Writers at UMass Amherst. Josh, his wife, Natalie Lyalin, and their two boys, Oren (10) and Boaz (7), live near Lippitt Park and can often be found on the playground and East Side coffee shops. Oren and Boaz are proud students at JCDSRI and Natalie serves as Chief Experience Officer at the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island.

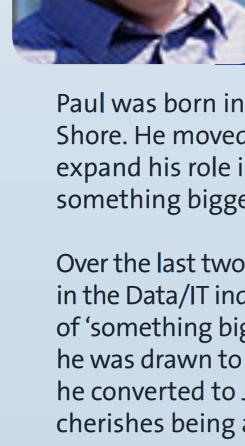
Josh loves Shabbat mornings at Emanu-El, especially davening in the main sanctuary, inspired by the beauty of the physical space and generosity of the many wonderful friends and congregants all around. He is honored and excited to serve on behalf of the Emanu-El community and its bright future!



**Joyce Juda**  
VP EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Joyce has been a member of Temple Emanu-El since she moved to Providence from the Boston area in 2006. She was looking for a Shabbat friendly community, and had visited Emanu-El several times in connection with her work with Jewish teens. Emanu-El was always such a warm, welcoming shul that she found it hard to resist! Joyce grew up in Fall River, Massachusetts, and often visited Providence with her parents to go to the kosher bakery and deli.

Joyce served as New England Region's United Synagogue Youth Director for 37 years, also overseeing other regions in upstate NY and Canada. As a great many of USY's regional youth leaders and active participants came from Temple Emanu-El, she was honored to be part of their Jewish teen experience. Two years ago, Joyce left her long-time position and became the International USY Alumni Director. Throughout her years with USY and since moving here, Joyce felt fortunate to meet and become friends with many amazing Emanu-El members and connected to this great community.



**Jeff Levy**  
TREASURER

Jeff grew up in Indianapolis and was a member of the Sephardic shul, Etz Chaim, his grandparents helped to create in the 1920's. His roots are from Monastir, Serbia and Grodke, Austria. Jeff has four kids: Heather (25), Drew (25), Adam (22), and Miriam (8). He and his wife Rachel moved from Madison, WI to Providence in 2017 to be closer to her parents, Sheila (past President) and Paul Alexander.

Professionally, Jeff manages a project management office for a consumer products company.

Jeff has a history of volunteerism; he was on the board of both his shul in Madison and the Federation, has been a scout leader, and also a volunteer cook at homeless shelters. Jeff has been a member of the Temple Emanu-El board since 2019, previously serving as the VP for Membership, and is now currently our Treasurer. Jeff's hobbies include extensive research into his genealogy; he also likes woodworking and strategy board games.

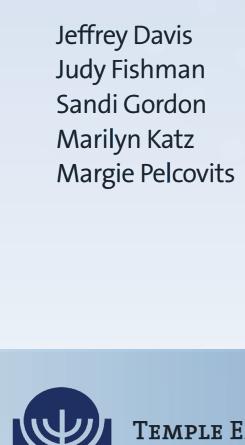


**Michael Leshinsky**  
4 YEAR TERM

Michael is the proud father of two beautiful girls, ages 7 and 9, and husband to the love of his life, Amy Leshinsky. His father, Herb Leshinsky, moved back home to New England in 2001 after being away for over 40 years, and was a Temple Emanu-El member until he passed away on April 26, 2021. Michael followed his father to Providence in 2004 and has been a Temple Emanu-El member ever since.

His family loves Temple Emanu-El. Before retirement, Rabbi Franklin married Michael and his wife and presided over their two daughters' baby namings. Cantor Mayer and Rabbi Fel were present for Michael and his family while Michael's dad was in hospice and only had weeks left on earth. Rabbi Fel officiated at Michael's father's funeral last year. Michael felt so much comfort from the congregation during last year while they were doing kaddish for his dad.

Michael owns a boutique CFO service company with his main office in Cranston, RI. They underwrite deals, create pro formas/budgets, model out valuations, review key ratios and source capital. Michael loves what he does for work, and finds it fulfilling and meaningful. He is grateful for the opportunity to have a positive impact on Temple Emanu-El as a board member.



**Paul Oeser**  
4 YEAR TERM

Paul was born in the wild pine barrens of the New Jersey Shore. He moved to Providence in 2000 with plans to expand his role in the culinary world and to be a part of something bigger.

Over the last two decades, he shifted focus and built a career in the Data/IT industry. He also searched for his own meaning of 'something bigger.' It was during this phase of his life that he was drawn to the richness and depth of Judaism. In 2021, he converted to Judaism with Temple Emanu-El, and daily cherishes being accepted into the tribe.

He lives with his wife, Rebecca, and their cats, Pandora and Izzy. In his free time, Paul loves to hike, cook, skateboard, hunt for treasures at thrift stores, and watch documentaries.



**Ilona Berman**  
1 YEAR TERM

Ilona Berman has been a member of Temple Emanu-El for over 14 years. She became a member of the congregation after joining a hava'at b'nai mitzvah with Rabbi Kauner and his wife. During her youth at Temple Emanu-El, she has participated in the Youth Committee.

Currently, Ilona lives in Pawtucket with her husband, Moshe, and their two sons, Levi (10) and Meir (8). In addition, Ilona is a finance manager at an engineering firm.

Ilona was born in Odessa, Ukraine and moved to Western Massachusetts in 1991. Her parents still live in Western Massachusetts and her sister, Zoya Tseytin, and her family live in North Providence.



**William Sikov**  
1 YEAR TERM

Bill Sikov was born in Pittsburgh, PA, where his family was (and still is) very active in the community. He joined Temple Emanu-El in 1980, when he came to Providence to finish his first job (at the Miriam Hospital) after completing training in Boston.

As a Conservative Jew, Bill is very comfortable with the religious observances at Emanu-El, saying a kiddush for his father. He also appreciates the temple's and clergy's strong commitment to education and reaching out to the wider RI community, Jewish and non-Jewish. Bill's wife, Susan, and children, Gilay and Ben, have been members of Emanu-El since their birth.

Bill's son, Mark, returned to RI last year for his residency in Internal Medicine, and his daughter, Jennifer, will be starting a PhD program in Psychology in Miami Beach Center. Eight years ago, Bill Sikov joined the Breast Health Center at Miriam Hospital, where he currently specializes in clinical research and the treatment of breast cancer.



**Nominating Committee**

Jeffrey Davis  
Sandi Gordon  
Marlyn Katz  
Margie Relevitz

Jeffrey Prystowsky  
Nacie Weiner  
Jonathan H. Lentz, Chair

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