

Congregation Beth Israel Slate of the Board for 2025-2026

President: Erin Cohen*
Vice President: Jane Relin
Treasurer: Karen Sloss
Secretary: Tamar Clarke*

Past President: Jodi Litt*
Stuart Berman
Jason Benhaim
Tammy Dixon* (from Secretary)
Miriam Davids
Terri Weiner

New Members

Serge Lindner
James Finley
Isaac Blum
Lucy Naiman (Youth Member)

Continuing (not elected year)

Steven Ban
Kevin Donner

*Indicates a new/change position on the board.

The following members will be leaving the board:

Paul Blum,
Binnie Perper,
Joshua Greenberg

Presented by Nominating Committee

Joshua Greenberg - Chair
Marcy Probst
Amanda Robins
Michael Braunstein
Jane Relin

Biographies for New Members

Isaac Blum

Isaac Blum is excited to be joining Congregation Beth Israel's Board of Directors and follow in his father, Paul Blum's, footsteps on the Board. Isaac is currently serving as a Co-Chair of the FMMC and, in the past, was a member of the Nominating Committee. Isaac's children, Lilah & Shay, were B'nai Mitzvahed at San Juan Blvd and Isaac had his Bar Mitzvah at the Broadway location in 1987. He looks forward to standing on the shoulders that have come before us and continue to support a vibrant, diverse and engaged Jewish community in our area.

Serge Lindner

I was born and raised in the Seattle area, where I attended Camp Solomon Schechter, and became a bar mitzvah at Herzl Ner Tamid.

My parents, both immigrants from Buenos Aires, instilled in me a love of family far and near, of klezmer music, and of any and all Jewish foods.

After completing Medical School at UW, I met my wife Deborah Oksenberg (former CBI Board Member) during our medical residency training in San Francisco.

We were married by Rabbi Alan Lew (may his name be for a blessing) through Congregation Beth Sholom in 2002, and moved to Bellingham with our daughter Orly in 2005. We joined CBI, where both Orly and then her brother Avi attended Kesher, and became b'nei mitzvah at CBI.

I have loved my work caring for older adults at PeaceHealth Center for Senior Health as a Primary Care Geriatrician, where I also hold administrative leadership positions as our clinic's medical director (Section Chief) and as Division Chief for Primary Care.

I truly look forward to this opportunity to work with the Board members and Rabbi, to learn what issues face our community, to contribute where I can, and to deepen my connection to this wonderful community.

James Finley

James and his partner John live in Anacortes Washington. He has a long history of being a college Volleyball coach ending his career at Seattle University. After retiring he taught middle school in Anacortes for 3 years, and although loved by his students needed to step more into retirement. He is currently head of a summer volleyball camp program in partnership with Nike, that has exploded in popularity. While this consumes a lot of his summer time, it does give him lots of flexibility for projects outside of summer. Their kids are now out of the house and successful young adults. They have been very active in the Skagit Jewish group.

Lucy Naiman

Lucy is 16 years old and a junior at Sehome High School. She enjoys many activities outside of school. Most notably, playing the harp in the school's advanced (and next year chamber) orchestra. She has played the harp since she was 8 and is very passionate about music.

Additionally, she also dances multiple styles at The Dance Studio, including Ballet, Jazz, and Musical Theater.

Lucy is part of several teams and clubs. She plays on her school's JV soccer team and serves as co-president of her school's Teen Court chapter. This club is not a mock trial; it is a diversion program where real juvenile cases are heard and legally binding community service-based consequences are determined.

She has also been a member of DECA since her freshman year, an organization for emerging leaders in business. She has competed at the area, state, and international levels in Hotel and Lodging Management. Last year, she became her school's chapter president, and this year, she was elected as Area 1 President, serving all DECA chapters from the border to Everett.

Additionally, she holds the position of state Vice President of Hospitality, representing nearly 17,000 members.

What Lucy appreciates most about CBI is not just the community itself, but its persistence. She has been part of the congregation since the age of four, witnessing CBI's growth and many transitions—from moving into the new building, to enduring the pandemic, and navigating the aftermath of the October 7th attack. Through it all, the community has remained a source of stability. Some of her closest friends are people she met through CBI, and without their support, her life would not be the same.