

RABBI ASHLEY ENGLANDER

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Rabbinic Experience

Rabbi Educator

Congregation Ahavath Chesed - Jacksonville, Florida

July 2023 - Current

Served as Director of Lifelong Engagement and Clergy at a 500+ member congregation, leading family and youth programming, including oversight of the religious school. Provided full clergy support, including pastoral care, life-cycle events, worship leadership, and congregational programming. Worked with a diverse, multigenerational membership to foster inclusive community engagement and spiritual growth.

Avodah -

Worship

- Provided and developed inclusive Shabbat and festival worship emphasizing family participation and intergenerational connection including family High Holy Day services and programs, Religious School Shabbats, and musical festive services.
- Offered professional musical leadership through song-leading skills using both voice and guitar. This included new repertoire to Shabbat and festive services and professional performance of Jewish worship music.

Education

- Led a comprehensive renewal of the Religious School curriculum, integrating established and innovative programs (*Chair Curriculum, Moving Traditions, Shalom Learning and IMPJ Education Connection*) to enhance Judaic, Hebrew, and Israel learning.
- Developed and implemented a long-term b'nei mitzvah program that fostered student participation in the congregation.
- Provided, designed, and facilitated adult learning programs that included Torah study, Jewish holiday learning, and Israel education in the wake of October 7th, which strengthened communal learning and spiritual growth.

Programming

- Facilitated engagement through guest lecturers and scholar programs.
- Directed congregation-wide holiday programming, including Chanukah, Purim and High Holy Day events that cultivated intergenerational participation.

Relational -

- Provided pastoral guidance grounded in empathy, including leading life-cycle events with professionalism.
- Implemented institutional structure by designing SOPs for youth and family programming and pastoral care to promote clarity, consistency, and staff alignment.
- Advanced congregational vitality through outreach and relationship-building, achieving significant growth in membership over position's tenure.

Development -

- Advanced the congregation's financial sustainability by cultivating strong donor relationships and securing funding for innovative youth and family programming.
- Obtained external funding and grants for enriched education and learning opportunities for the congregation.

Student Rabbi

Mt. Zion Congregation - Sioux Falls, SD

August 2019 - April 2022

The Synagogue of the Hills - Rapid City, SD

Served as a student rabbi during rabbinical school for two small Reform congregations in South Dakota either monthly or bi-weekly. Provided clergy support by leading Shabbat and holiday worship in addition to Torah study and adult education classes. Cultivated strong relationships while improving on pastoral and rabbinic leadership skills.

- Led through classical rabbinic training and song-leading skills meaningful worship services.
- Created and facilitated educational classes that explored modern connections to Jewish tradition, stories, and values.
- Provided pastoral care and life-cycle services to members in person, on the phone or virtually.
- Taught religious school education to young students of the congregations.

Fellowships and Internships

Amplify Rabbinic Israel Fellow

November 2024 - November 2025

- Participated in a cohort of two-dozen early career Reform rabbis to learn, engage, and visit Israel to promote Zionism within our congregations and institutions.
- Under the guidance of the program leaders and a mentor, facilitated and implemented an Israel education project within the congregation.

Student Chaplain

June 2021 - April 2022

- Provided pastoral services, including end of life rituals, religious support, and family support for people of all backgrounds under the supervision of an ACPE supervisor at three major Cincinnati hospitals and Jewish Family Services. Earned one unit credit of CPE.

Cincinnati Skirball Museum

September 2020 - May 2022

- Developed and maintained social media for the museum that included videos and articles about the museum's artifacts. Also provided administrative support for the museum in regards to artifact information and customer service support.

Brueggman Center of Interfaith Dialogue

June 2020 - August 2020

- Developed curriculum about the Abrahamic religions for private schools in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Education and Coursework

Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, OH

May 2023

- Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters
- Thesis/Capstone Project: Tu B'Shevat Seder
- AIPAC Leffell Rabbinic Fellow
- Adamah Farming Fellow

University of South Florida - Tampa, Florida

May 2018

- Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies

Hebrew University, Jerusalem - Rothberg International School

Spring 2017

- Nachshon Fellow

Publication

- "An Open Letter to my anti-Zionist Siblings" - Sunsentinal

<https://www.sun-sentinel.com/2025/04/02/an-open-letter-to-my-anti-zionist-siblings-commentary/>

References will be provided upon request.