



TREE *of* LIFE
INTERFAITH TEMPLE

2023

Annual Report

Many are the ways we pray to one God!

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Our History

The seed of the Tree of Life Interfaith Temple, our “What If” poem, was received by our founder, Rev. Stephanie Rutt in 2005 upon graduating from the New Seminary for Interfaith Studies in New York. For the first few years, Rev. Rutt offered worship services, other ministerial duties, and sacred studies classes under the name Tree of Life Interfaith Fellowship. Rev. Rutt developed and taught a year-long study called *Living Our Purpose: The Heart of Spiritual Practice* during this time, and in 2009 this program became the core draft for the 2-year Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary program: *The Path of Crow: As the Crow Flies, Discover Your Direct Path to God*. Along with this curriculum, an optional 3rd year program, the Spiritual Mentoring certificate program, was also developed.

In June of 2010, it was time for the “Tree of Life Interfaith Fellowship” to become the “Tree of Life Interfaith Temple,” a 501c3 legally established church, to rightly serve as the ordination body for the first Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary Class of 2011 and for all the classes that follow. In those early years, many people served and worked hard to create a structure for our Temple: Board of Directors, Bylaws, Constitution, Articles of Incorporation; and The Tree of Life Interfaith Temple was born!

After ordaining that first class of Tree of Life ministers, those who desired to offer worship services began doing so alternating Sundays with Rev. Rutt. Over the years, the Temple also welcomed teachers from communities including Sikh, Sufi, and Hindu traditions and, in conjunction with the seminary program, hosted and enjoyed a wide variety of speakers from across faith traditions.

In 2017, Rev. Rutt graduated from Andover-Newton Theological Seminary earning her doctoral degree. After many years of dreaming of having our own space, in 2018 the Temple began renting a space on the Milford, NH, Oval. Here, in addition to Rev. Dr. Stephanie Rutt, many of our ministers offered a variety of sacred studies programs. The work continued to create an organizational structure to hold and support this new growth and the expansion of the What If? vision seed planted all those years ago.

In 2019, the running of the seminary program was turned over to the Temple and to other Tree of Life ministers who became the guides for new seminarians. In this way, our amazing What If? vision reaches out and serves many more seminarians than Rev. Rutt could ever serve alone. With this transition, the Temple welcomed 3 new students into our seminary program beginning the next phase of our evolution. With a change in her key role for the Temple, Rev. Dr. Rutt’s focus shifted to publishing our sacred texts, continuing to update the core curriculum for the seminary program integrating new theologies, and to taking our vision message out and spreading it far and wide. With this new path ahead, Rev. Rutt stepped aside, deciding to appoint a new presiding minister, someone to accept and oversee the duties of the day-to-day running of the Temple and Seminary. In January 2020, the Tree of Life Interfaith Temple community members had their first election, choosing the Rev. Linda Goodman as our first presiding minister! And then the pandemic hit.

Just after the election of Rev. Goodman, the Leadership Council voted to suspend our Sunday worship services and by the beginning of March, the Temple was up and running on Zoom! Our current classes were adapted to the on-line platform as well as our worship services, and what seemed like a not-so-

ideal way to come together became an amazing connection to the many Tree of Life community members who are spread out across the country and an amazing outreach to people across the globe. In June 2020, unfortunately, the pandemic was still spreading and since all of the Temple operations had already moved to on-line formats, the Leadership Council voted to not renew the lease on the Milford Oval. Even with this set-back, we welcomed 2 new students into our seminary program!

Hoping for a return to in-person events in the fall, a committee was formed to find a new location to serve as home to the Temple. During this search period, the first condo rented by Rev. Rutt and the place where the Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary was born, came on the market and the committee worked to secure this property. With the pandemic still strong and large in-person gatherings not possible, Rev. Linda Goodman was installed as our presiding minister via a hybrid Zoom service on November 29th 2020. Negotiations for the condo continued and with the help of the Temple community, Rev. Linda Goodman and Rev. Karen Manchester signed the closing paperwork to purchase the condo on December 31, 2020. The Tree of Life Interfaith Temple has a new home at 5 Northern Blvd, Suite 8, Amherst, NH 03031.

As the pandemic continued, renovation work on the condo began in August of 2021 after our permit was issued by the Town of Amherst. Many supply chain delays and contractor delivery issues contributed to the lengthy time line of the work needing to be done, but much progress has been made nonetheless. This May, we passed our building inspections and received our occupancy permit! We emptied the storage unit and began the process of unpacking and preparing the space for in-person gatherings. In June, we unpacked and put together enough tech to host a small in-person gathering to celebrate the graduation of our first Spiritual Mentoring student! Over the next couple of months, we continued to work on the tech piece for hybrid Zoom services with the possibility of also using the system for classes. Our Grand Welcoming Celebration was held in conjunction with our Founders Day Celebration on September 10, 2023. Sunday services have continued as hybrid and several classes have been offered as hybrid as well. While the tech we have suffices, a goal for next year may be an upgrade.

Our Mission and Vision Statements

Our Mission:

Through worship, community service, and education, embracing all faith traditions, The Tree of Life Interfaith Temple cultivates understanding to combat religious divisiveness and works to breathe Life, Light, and Healing out into our world.

Our Vision:

The Tree of Life Interfaith Temple aspires to be a religious community where each individual and all faith traditions are celebrated as unique expressions of the One Divine Truth.



February 14, 2024

Minister's 2023 Annual Report

Rev. Linda: Hey God, it has been such a joy to witness and be a part of spreading your love through our Tree of Life Interfaith Temple. Thank you for your constant presence as we, in our imperfect humanness, worked to be reflections of your perfect Divine love in the world.

God: You're welcome. When you were wondering if our sacred space would soon be open for services, celebrations, classes, and gatherings, what did I answer?

Rev. Linda: You said yes! You were so right! Thank you for lining up everything that was needed in time for our grand opening. The contractor finished just in the nick of time, the wonderful Temple timeline with pictures, graphics, and narrations was finished by Rev. Ahjan and stretched across two of the lower level walls, the feast was ordered, and many helping hands pitched in for the final cleanup and setup for the event. It was great to gather with old members and new in our newly refurbished space.

God: I know, I was there supporting you. After all, I have given Tree of Life a mission to provide an anchor point of love and hope that all may share in beloved community. Thank you for accepting the assignment.

Rev. Linda: It seems easier this year to fill the Sunday worship calendar with ministers and friends willing to share their unique and inspiring messages.

God: Yes, the messages I whisper in their ears are meeting with more positive responses. Your ministers and community members are part of a larger plan and are stepping up to meet what is asked of them. We are on track to meet the challenges of shifting your planet to one where peace rules over war and love over fear.

Rev. Linda: Thank you for the inspiration to do 40-day community practices. When we joined in a daily practice of peace, it seemed like there was actually a lull in the fighting for a time. Sadly, it did not last.

God: You saw how powerful your combined prayers could be. Keep sending those peaceful vibrations out without attachment to the result. Trust that I will be able to hold and strengthen your intentions and co-create with you a lasting peace.

Rev. Linda: It has been such a blessing to have a physical space where we can hold in-person classes, retreats, worship services, gong baths, and mentoring sessions.

God: That's just the beginning! I have other ideas in mind that with your help will come to fruition. How about shared food, chanting the holy names, sacred dance, drum circles, seasonal rituals.

Rev. Linda: Amen! May it be so!

Submitted by Rev. Linda Goodman
Presiding Minister
Tree of Life Interfaith Temple

2023 Overview from the Leadership Council

As in 2022, much of our activity in 2023 centered around making repairs and renovations to the condo that was purchased in December of 2020. The electrical, plumbing, and cosmetic work were completed and we received our occupancy permit which enabled us to move our belongings out of storage and into the building. A capital campaign is underway to raise the funds for a new furnace. Additionally, we have been researching equipment that will offer optimal audio and video capabilities for our hybrid services, which began in June, from the Temple.

In 2023, we oversaw a transition in leadership positions. Our Reverend Gail Barrows and Reverend Barbara Landry stepped down from their roles as co-Associate Ministers and we began plans to seek nominations for our next Associate Minister. We thank Gail and Barbara for their valuable service and look forward to their continued participation as members of the ToL community.

Community service activities included the awarding of the fourth annual scholarship to a Milford High School student. We were able to match a generous \$500 donation to award a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Our charitable endeavors included collecting donations for Ukrainian refugees as well as local immigrants, and we thank all who supported these efforts. In March, we implemented our first 40-day Community Prayer practice of the year and a second 40-day Prayer practice was conducted in October focusing on Peace.

The annual pledge and membership drive was conducted in February and we thank all those who renewed their membership, became members, and who made pledges or donations to support the Temple. Our annual community meeting was held in May where the budget and annual report were presented and ratified by our members.

In September, we held our hybrid Grand Opening Reunion and Founders Day celebration. We were able to showcase our renovated space and honor our Founder, Rev. Dr. Stephanie Rutt. We thank everyone who helped make the day possible, with special mention to our Rev. Ahjan Grossman for creating and displaying our Tree of Life time line from inception to today.

Current members of the Leadership Council are

- Rev. Linda Goodman, serves as Presiding Minister
- Alexis Eaton, serves Council Secretary & Historian
- Rev. Jan (Ahjan) Grossman, serves as Seminary Director
- Rev. Carrie Ives, serves as Tech Manager & Spiritual Mentoring co-Facilitator
- Rev. Karen Manchester, serves as Treasurer and Administrator
- Joe Pollock, serves as Musician and Member-at-Large
- Rev. Dr. Stephanie Rutt, serves as honorary member and advisor

2023 Overview from the Program Steering Committee

The Program Steering Committee solicits and approves your offerings of classes and programs that are presented by the Tree of Life Interfaith Temple. Additionally, the committee promotes the Tree of Life Seminary. The programs and seminary are our vehicles for sharing the mission and vision of the Tree of Life Interfaith Temple. They are also an important source of revenue.

The PSC promotes our programs on the World Awake website, on our Facebook page, and in our own Weekly Update emails. The PSC, along with others, is hoping to finalize a video, narrated by our founder, Rev. Dr. Stephanie Rutt, that describes our unique interfaith Seminary Program. When completed, it will air on Social Media.

Thank you to Rev. Anne Hebert, PSC chairperson, for her work as our chairperson and as our liaison to World Awake, to Rev. Carrie Ives for posting our programs to the Tree of Life website and to our Facebook page, to Rev. Linda Goodman for publishing the Weekly Update, and to Rev. Karen Manchester for processing the registrations and payments for all programs.

As part of the Seminary Program, a Spiritual Mentoring class was offered, taught by Rev. Beth Cohen and Rev. Carrie Ives.

The following is a list of classes and programs that were offered in 2023. (Some did not run due to insufficient enrollment.)

Conversations in the Wilderness
Seekers Book Club
Yoga Nidra: The Essence of You
A Course In Miracles Study Group
Think Indigenous
Balancing Your Energy System to Reduce Stress, Improve Health, and Enhance Relationships
Spiritual Dowsing
Play, Love, Create, ~ Repeat!
New Moon Deep Gong Immersion
Qigong
Playing the Gong: An Introductory Course
Making A Living in Spiritual Work
Social Justice Group

If you would like to present a program, or suggest a topic that you would like to see offered, please contact any of the committee members.

Current committee members are Alexis Eaton (eatona@hotmail.com), Rev. Linda Goodman (revlindasings@gmail.com), and Rev. Anne Hebert (annehebert@comcast.net)

2023 Overview of the Seminary Program

The Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary allows for the witnessing and experiential realization of the Presence of the Divine within. Through the supported journey of the Path of Crow, and the Call to Mystical Unity, one gains greater understanding of the Self and is freed to better serve their individual personhood, the Divine as called by all its Holy Names, and ultimately the world. This remains the mission of the Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary's offering.



2023 was a relatively quiet year for the Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary. We had one Seminarian who, though challenged by many personal trials, was able to successfully complete the Year One Curriculum. Unfortunately, due to persistent life challenges, it was necessary to withdraw from Year Two. Much gratitude to her Seminary Guide Carol LaChance for all her loving encouragement. We wish the best as the path unfolds at the feet of our Seminarian.

Although the commencement of the year 2024 finds us with no active Seminarian, we have one prospective participant for this coming September. A promising initial interview has been undertaken and a welcome mat laid before the candidate.

There were five inquiries into the program during the past year. These inquiries were all initiated online and resulted in personal exchanges via email. Some came back in gratitude, realizing that they were not quite ready to embark, others did not return a response. A few had follow-up phone conversations. As an interesting observation, some of our younger (30s, 40s) enquirers were also empaths or intuitive souls exploring other dimensions to support the grounding of their already open beings. A wonderful Zoom exchange was also conducted with a young man in Britain who has interest in Interfaith Spirituality and the Theatre. This all seems to point to a new way that young people are yearning for understanding, connection and a safe space for expression.

Reverends Carrie and Beth are superbly upholding the Spiritual Mentoring Program with two fully engaged students, one reporting to me that her experience has been “life changing” so far, the other is a learned participant in our Conversations in the Wilderness group. The Spiritual Mentoring Program is under the auspices of the Seminary Program. (See Spiritual Mentoring report)

continued . . .

The Seminary Office construction was completed on the Temple's lower level and prepared for future potentiality!

New efforts to promote the Temple, Seminary and Spiritual Mentoring have been undertaken by the Leadership Council. Our community has much to offer society for those who are ready to answer the call.

To support and energize goodwill with, and the good standing of, our ordained ministers, a consideration of a Ministers Gathering to update and refresh the new language of our foundational work, The Call of the Mourning Dove by Rev. Dr. Rutt has been proposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Ahjan Grossman
Tree of Life Interfaith Seminary Director*

2023 Overview of the Spiritual Mentoring Certificate Program **Co-facilitation team: Rev. Carrie Ives and Rev. Beth Cohen**

Our Spiritual Mentoring Certificate Program is a reimagined and reinvigorated version of the curriculum created by Rev. Dr. Stephanie Rutt. It is taught and facilitated by Rev. Beth Cohen and Rev. Carrie Ives. In addition to Stephanies manual, we use one book on Interfaith spiritual direction, one that explores Interfaith contemplative teachings, and a variety of shorter readings and videos.

2023 was a very successful year for the program. We celebrated the graduation of our first student in June with a combined worship service and graduation. In October, we began our second year of teaching with two students. They are both proving to be promising students.

We are already beginning conversations with prospective students for the fall of 2024. If you or someone you know are interested in learning more about the program, details can be found on our website at <https://www.tolinterfaithtemple.org/spiritual-mentoring-certificate-program.html>

Submitted by Rev. Carrie Ives

2023 Overview of our Website and Tech

We continue to ride the waves of increased reliance on technology, even while finding our “new normal” post pandemic lock-downs.

After a “soft opening” and trial run of technology in June for the Spiritual Mentoring Certificate Program graduation service, and then a firm commitment beginning in September, our Sunday Services are happening in hybrid format - both online and in-person. Our classes this fall also became available to be presented online, in-person, or in hybrid format. This is both a source of joy and a technical challenge.

The equipment needed to offer hybrid services includes web-camera (webcam), speakers, microphone, large screen, and the computer(s) to run them, along with stands and tripods and tables to support them. To get us started, most of the equipment has been donated. This is lovely, and also means that it’s pieced together (and often older). We are hopeful that an increased budget will allow for equipment that fits the space and our needs better, presenting an improvement both technically and aesthetically for those in person and at home.

Every week a flurry goes into promoting worship services, as they are posted on the current website, the upcoming website, the calendar, Facebook, and World AWAKE. Each quarter, a similar effort marks the new season of classes, with listings on the current website, the upcoming website, the calendar, and Facebook. A member of the Program Steering Committee posts the classes to World AWAKE.

It is worth noting the hours that go on behind the scenes for each Sunday Service, in addition to the preparation by the presenter. Each week, Karen works with presenters on their online presentation needs, logs into Zoom early (to catch any bugs in the system), has a last sound check with the presenter, records the service, welcomes in congregants, shares any media as requested by the presenter, closes the meeting, and saves the recording of the meeting to computer. All of this can take up to 4 hours each Sunday, plus the preparation work during the week.

The transition to our new website platform, Wild Apricot, is slower than we would like, but it continues to progress. When complete, Wild Apricot will host our website, class registration and payment, the event and worship calendar, donations, our newsletters, and our weekly update emails. This will replace our use of five different tools. We will also have the addition of a member directory. Out of this transition, we are pleased to say that the class registration and payment process, the calendar, the newsletters, and the donations are all transitioned and/or ready to go. Still in process are the shift of the weekly update emails, the membership sign-up, and the full content of the website. We appreciate your patience with this process. See our ‘looking forward’ for our exciting plan for this piece.

Looking forward:

- World AWAKE stopped weekly postings as of Dec 31, 2023. Their new website is still in transition. In our role of reciprocal partner, we have submitted a blanket statement that Sunday services are happening virtually and in person. We are planning to submit class listings seasonally. At this moment (February 2024), our listing on their page is conflated with the listing for the Tree of Life School for Sacred Living. We will be revisiting this in March.

continued . . .

- We are very excited to be working with Lilac & Aspen, a local, small business, BIPOC woman-owned, (and personally recommended) digital marketing company. With their help, we have a plan to be fully transitioned to our new website by the middle of 2024. They will also be helping us to “dial in” to our brand and better present a coherent face to the world. As we have struggled with both marketing and our website transition, this is a win-win! It is quite a financial investment, so if you are so moved to support us in this work, there is a drop-down on our donation page to earmark your contribution toward this effort.

Tech and website work for the Temple is primarily managed by Karen Manchester and Carrie Ives. If you have any suggestions or want to volunteer, please feel free to email Karen; admin@tolit.org or Carrie; templenews@tolit.org.

Submitted by Rev. Carrie Ives

Donor Acknowledgments

The Tree of Life Interfaith Temple gratefully acknowledges ALL our 2023 donors and their generosity. Your support makes everything possible!

We would especially like to recognize; an anonymous donation of \$50

*a \$30 donation **Given in Memory of Mary Sit***

*a \$50 donation **Given in Memory of Bob Chapin***

*a \$100 donation **Given in Memory of Janet Shea***



Temple Growth

Donor Growth:

2018 ~ The Tree of Life community began donating and pledging to be able to support a space of their own. This new venture began with 17 donors.

2019 ~ Support grew to 24 donors

2020 ~ Support grew to 44 donors

2021 ~ Support of the Temple grew to 53 donors

2022 ~ Support stayed at 53 donors; with 12 of these new donors

2023 ~ Support has grown to 58 donors; 7 of these are new donors! We also had 15 new people participate in our classes and programs this year!

Membership:

The current membership sign up began in 2020 to ensure that the election process for installing new Temple leadership positions would comply with NH Non-profit regulations.

2020 Membership ~ 37

2021 Membership ~ 42

2022 Membership ~ 44

2023 Membership ~ 46

2023 ~ A Temple Home, Our Sacred Space

All of the generous gifts, donations, and pledges from our Donors, Members, and Supporters have allowed us to continue the preparation of our Sacred Space and Temple Home . . .

January ~ began and ended with snowstorms, but in between priming and painting the new mouldings to be installed upstairs and down.

Photo: Jan 12th

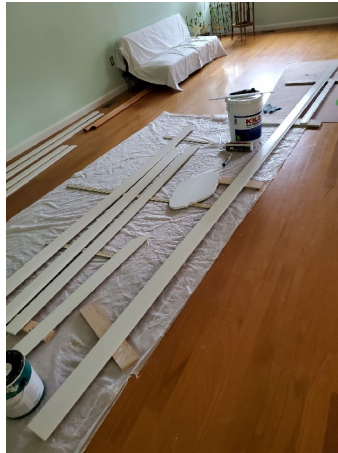
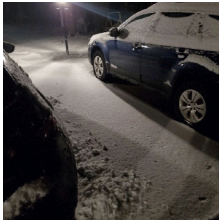


Photo: Jan 20th



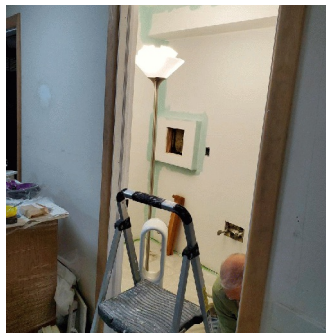
Photo: Jan 21st



Photo: Jan 23rd

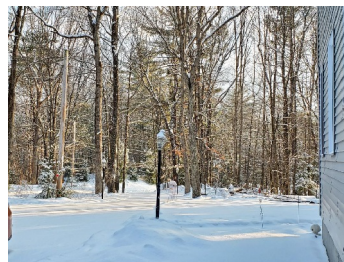


In February ~ much work was able to be done downstairs to finish the furnace room ceiling repairs and the bathroom . . .



By the end of the month,
another snowstorm . . .

Photo: Feb 26th



March . . .
another snowstorm March 4th,



and another March 15th



But,
by the end of the month,

A New Bath Downstairs!



And, a hint of Spring

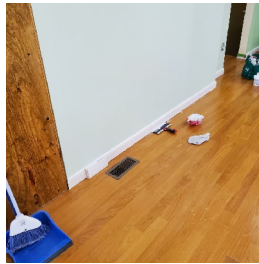


April ~

Finishing Upstairs
Kitchenette Cabinets



Installing the moulding ...



here

and here ▼

and here too! ▼



Installing the cabinets for the kitchen area downstairs

and work on the
Seminary Office too!



In May ~ touching up & finishing touches



Upstairs mouldings final coat



And, Kitchenette Hardware Completed



Ready for MOVING DAY!!! ~ May 17th

From Storage



to Home!



and Spring arrived!



In June ~ a flurry of activity occurred to find our packed pieces of technology, and find homes for a good deal of our treasures. We worked to figure out if hosting Zoom from the Temple, with the technology we already had was possible and what that would look like.

All this was in preparation to host our first graduating Spiritual Mentoring student, Renee Rossi.

We were able to configure the Temple sanctuary with the tech we had to host a small inperson group at the Temple and Zoom host for the community to participate in Sunday Service on June 18th. Rev. Renee Rossi was the guest minister and we honored Renee with her graduation certificate in a ceremony after her service.

Congratulations Renee!



July ~ The picture rails arrived and installation began in the sanctuary



Summer Solstice!



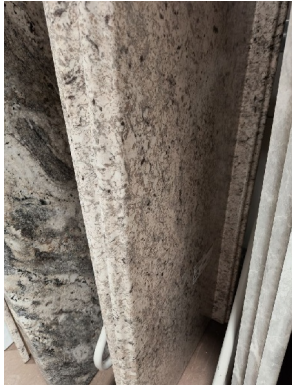
And the electricians finish the wiring . . . just in time



Play, Love, Create, ~ Repeat!
Community Retreat
July 22, 2023



In August ~ Choosing a counter top



for the sink downstairs



A place for the fire extinguisher, coats, & shoes



And upstairs, more picture rail . . . and fairy lights!

Downstairs - Storage for Chairs



September ~ Prepping for the Grand Opening!

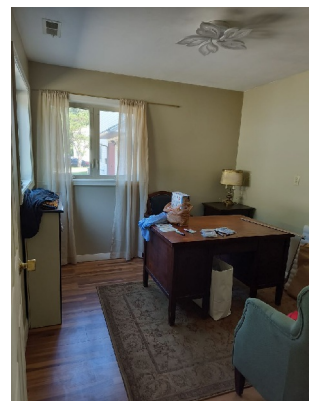
Installing the counter top



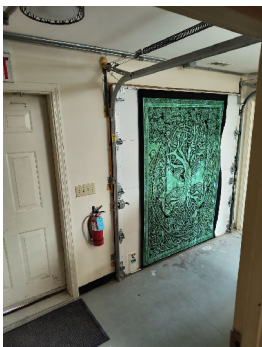
Working on the time line
And work to be done!



Seminary office is nearly ready!



Prepping to Welcome Downstairs -



Putting together the beginning . . .



And continuing on around the corner . . .



Prep upstairs too!



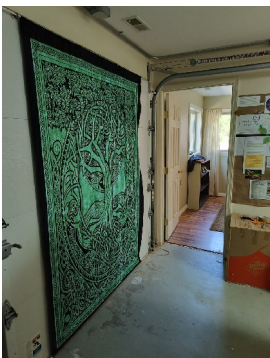


Grand Opening Reunion and Founders Day
September 10, 2023
Welcome Everyone!



Welcome Downstairs . . .

And Begin at the Beginning . . . Our Tree of Life Time Line



New Kitchen Space



Library & Meditation Space



Ready for Lunch Guests



Honoring Our Founder,



Dancing Together,



a Prayer,



and

a Shared Meal
Downstairs



After Lunch,

Music



& Sharing



The Water Ceremony



and, One Last Song to end the day



October ~ November ~ December

Focusing On unpacking, tidying up, and preparing for 2024

Finding treasures . . .



Creating storage space



2023 Acknowledgments

With Our Deepest Gratitude and Appreciation . . .

We most heartily thank each and every one of you for your support, encouragement, and participation in all Tree of Life activities and programs this past year and beyond.

We also gratefully thank Rev. Jim for continuing to assist with our renovations as much as possible!



2023 Financial Highlights:

Tree of Life Interfaith Temple

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As of December 31, 2023

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	\$	4,043	
Scholarship Savings Acct		7,470	
Accounts receivable			
Inventory		356	
Prepaid expenses			
Other current assets		311	
Total current assets			\$ 12,180

FIXED ASSETS

Land and buildings (net)		117,500	
Equipment (net)		1,123	
Other fixed assets			
Total fixed assets			118,623

OTHER ASSETS

Long-term investments		5	
Enter other assets here			
Enter other assets here			
Total other assets			5

Total assets

\$ 130,808

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$	0	
Short-term loans payable			
Taxes payable			
Other current liabilities			
Total current liabilities			\$ 0

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Mortgage payable		86,912	
Long-term loans payable			
Other long-term liabilities			
Total long-term liabilities			86,912

EQUITY

Opening Balance equity		2,942	
Net Assets		40,315	
Net Income		639	
Total equity			43,896

Total liabilities and equity

\$ 130,808

Tree of Life Interfaith Temple

Statement of Revenues and Expenses
For the Period Beginning January 1, 2023 & Ended December 31, 2023

REVENUES

Donations	\$	6,640	
Pledges		16,811	
Building Fund Donations		855	
Programs Revenue		3,800	
Scholarship Fund Donations		105	
Seminary Program		0	
Spiritual Mentoring Program		3,900	
Charitable Donations (Diaper Drive, Ukraine, Local Immigrants, Share)		50	
Other Income (Interest/Referrals/Reimbursements)		22	
Total revenues			\$ 32,183

EXPENSES

Advertising (website/YouTube maintenance)		952	
Banking fees		987	
Charitable Outreach Gifting (Diaper Drive, Ukraine, Local Immigrants,		336	
Communications (Internet & Phone)		3,207	
Condo Fees		4,075	
Insurance		1,846	
Interest Paid on Mortgage		4,268	
Program Instructor Stipends		2,088	
Seminary Expenses		0	
Spiritual Mentoring Expenses		2,388	
Moving Expenses (Storage Unit Rental)		890	
Office supplies		334	
Other expenses		236	
Minister Stipends (Sunday Services)		925	
Ministry Operating Expenses (postage, membership, Zoom)		625	
Administration Stipend		1,200	
Presiding Minister Stipend		1,600	
Sunday Prep & Tech		850	
Renovations & Upgrades		1,176	
Repairs & Maintenance (exit lights/fire extinguishers/furnace repair)		109	
Utilities (Heat & Electricity)		1,468	
Total expenses			\$ 29,560

Excess of revenues over expenses			\$ 2,623
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Tree of Life Interfaith Temple

Statement of Scholarship Funds

As of December 31, 2023

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

2023		
Beginning Balance	\$9,348.25	
Donation	\$105.50	
Interest Earned	\$0.85	
Total		\$9,454.60
AWARDS		
Milford High School Scholarship	(\$1,000.00)	
Seminary	\$0.00	
Spiritual Mentoring	(\$900.00)	
Classes	(\$85.00)	
Total awards		(\$1,985.00)
Total Scholarship Funds Ending 2023		\$7,469.60

Explanation of Financial Statements:

This year, Tree of Life Interfaith Temple experienced a reduction in expected pledge in part due to pledge amounts not actually being updated to match the pledge cards received. Gratefully, our general donations far outpaced our expectations and filled the gap in expected income.

Our Statement of Scholarship Funds shows the balance remaining from a gift given to the Temple for this purpose in 2018. These funds are awarded from a dedicated reserve account specifically set up for scholarship assistance, mainly for the seminary program. The funds, when awarded, only deplete the reserve account and do not represent a true expense or impact to the working capital of the Temple. In 2023, awards were granted toward a spiritual mentoring scholarship, for program scholarship assistance, as well as for a \$1,000.00 Scholarship to a Milford High School student pursuing secondary education.

Included in the 2024 Estimated Budget are the amounts from the 2023 Estimated Budget and our 2023 Actual Expenses for comparison. This Budget Estimate contains all income and expense categories including those with reserve funds already in place and scholarship dollars expected to be paid. Examples of these reserve fund expenditures include Seminary & Spiritual Mentoring expenses, Scholarship Awards, and the anticipated Repairs to replace the furnace. This Estimated Budget does show these expenses as losses because there is no corresponding income in the 2024 calendar year. However, the available reserve amounts for these expenses have been included to show the offset to the otherwise projected loss.

For more information, please contact our office at (603) 732-0224 or by email at admin@tolit.org

Tree of Life Interfaith Temple

2024 Estimated Budget

INCOME:	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget-Annual	2024 Monthly	%
Pledges	\$ 18,900.00	\$ 16,811.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 1,542.00	44.46%
Donations	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,640.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 500.00	14.42%
In-Kind Donations			\$ 3,500.00		
Building Fund Donations	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 855.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 167.00	4.82%
Programs Revenue	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 292.00	8.42%
Seminary Program	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 625.00	18.02%
Spiritual Mentoring		\$ 3,900.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 300.00	8.65%
Charitable Donations	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 42.00	1.21%
Other Income	\$ 2.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.17	0%
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 35,002.00	\$ 32,078.00	\$ 45,102.00	\$ 3,468.17	100.00%
EXPENSES:	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget-Annual	2024 Monthly	%
(Expenses to be covered by Pledges and Donations)					
Mortgage P&I	\$ 7,444.00	\$ 7,444.00	\$ 7,444.00	\$ 620.00	20.92%
Condo Fees	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 4,075.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 350.00	11.82%
Internet/Telephone	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 3,207.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 267.00	9.00%
Utilities	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,468.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 125.00	4.22%
Insurance	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,846.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 167.00	5.63%
Advertising/Website	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 952.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 83.00	2.80%
Banking Fees	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 987.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 84.00	2.83%
Office Supplies	\$ 400.00	\$ 334.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 33.00	1.11%
Ministry Operating Expenses	\$ 600.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 25.00	.84%
Other Expenses		\$ 236.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 21.00	.71%
Presiding Minister Stipend & Worship Leader	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 100.00	3.38%
		\$ 400.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 25.00	.84%
Administration Stipend	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 100.00	3.38%
Sunday Prep & Tech		\$ 850.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 108.00	3.64%
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 109.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 250.00	8.44%
(Temporary Expenses)					
Moving Expenses	\$ 850.00	\$ 890.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Renovations	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,176.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 100.00	3.38%
Website Transfer Assistance			\$ 3,500.00		
(Expenses Paid by the Programs that Generate the Expense)					
Program Instructor Fees	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,088.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 175.00	5.90%
Minister Stipends (Sundays)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 925.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 75.00	2.53%
Seminary Stipends	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 52.00	1.75%
Seminary Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00	1.69%
Spiritual Mentoring Stipends	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 83.00	2.80%
Spiritual Mentoring Expenses	\$ 150.00	\$ 888.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 46.00	1.55%
Charitable Outreach Gifting	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 336.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 25.00	.84%
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 37,194.00	\$ 32,736.00	\$ 39,069.00	\$ 2,964.00	100.00%
(Funds on hand offset expenses for Seminary, Sp. Ment., Furnace)			\$ 3,800.00		
SURPLUS or SHORTFALL	\$ (2,192.00)	\$ (658.00)	\$ 6,033.00	\$ 504.17	
(Projected Surplus)					
Scholarship Fund:	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2024 Budget-Annual	2024 Monthly	%
Scholarship Fund Donations	\$ 1,025.00	\$ 106.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 100.00	100.00%
Scholarships Awarded	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,985.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 83.00	