

הרב רפאל עמוס בן ישראל וניאה צורני

RABBI AMMOS CHORNY

70 Pinebrook Ct. London, ON N5X 4C6 CANADA

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HIGHLIGHTS

- 25+ years experience as a rabbi in leadership positions of increasing size and scope. Particular strength in pastoral counseling/intervention, innovative programming, education and community development.
- Strong understanding of Synagogue dynamics, programing and management processes. Innovative with proven track record working effectively with cross functional groups, communal & civil organizations.
- Experience managing/leading working teams. Highly motivated, results driven, with strong interpersonal communications skills. Detail oriented, organized, and independently creative.
- Multilingual: English, Spanish, Hebrew, German, Yiddish.

I seek to become the rabbi of a Congregation where I may become an active partner with a highly committed leadership, possessing vision and drive to perpetuate the Jewish values of *SHMIRAT MITZVOT* (Observance), *TALMUD TORAH* (Learning) and *TIKKUN OLAM* (making the world a better place).

I am an advocate for the integration of the diverse constituencies characterizing contemporary Jewish life, aspiring to serve a Congregation that –as I do– embraces the spirit of *KERUV* (inclusiveness) looking to meet both the needs of its membership, as well as those of the unaffiliated in the community, who have the potential of enhancing the character of our institutions.

I can provide leadership in the development of broader and stronger family, youth & adult social and educational programs; and be part of a community where strong commitment to the State of Israel is a fundamental priority.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

August 2007 - Present

Rabbi: Congregation Or Shalom, London, ON – 250 Members

- Soon after my arrival I detected the leadership's concern about declining attendance at Saturday morning services. I took initiative to restructure the service by streamlining the content, and encouraging greater lay participation; resulting a doubling of the Shabbat morning attendance which is still sustained.
- Analyzed the decline in our youth education preparedness. Cooperatively with the Education & Ritual committees, developed the plan which established quantifiable standards for the Talmud Torah and B'nei Mitzvah training. Single-handedly redefined the curriculum of the Early Education Program. Revitalized the long time ailing Hebrew High Program, attracting the majority of post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah students in the community.
- Created new "Learning Opportunities" in the congregation: Seniors (LUNCH & LEARN), Adults (RABBI'S TISH & SUNDAY MINYAN LEARNING) and Young Couples (*CHUGEI TANAKH*), demonstrating high energy, self-motivation and effectiveness.
- Developed and successfully taught an dynamic education program for prospective converts, comprised of a period of 8 to 12 months of group instruction and one-on-one learning; culminating with formal conversion before a *Bet Din*.

September '08 - Present

Adjunct Professor: Huron University College, London, ON

- Developed curricula and effectively taught courses in Biblical Criticism, Rabbinic History and Literature, Biblical Hebrew Grammar, and Modern Hebrew.

RABBINIC EXPERIENCE & PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

August '00 - July '07

Rabbi: Agudath Achim Congregation, Altoona, PA – 150 Members

July '97 - June '00

Rabbi: Asociación Israelita Montefiore, Bogotá Colombia, S.A. – 320 Members

September '08 - May '10

Adjunct Professor of Jewish Studies, Kings University College, London, ON

July '02 - May '07

Adjunct Professor of Religion, PennState University, Altoona, PA

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- **Mohel**, Brit Kodesh Program, The Jewish Theological Seminary, NY, 1989
 - **Rabbi**, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, NY, 1987
 - **Master of Hebrew Literature**, The Jewish Theological Seminary, NY, 1985
 - **Visiting Graduate Student**, Hebrew University, Schechter Institute, Jerusalem, 1983
 - **B.A. Talmud & Rabbinics**, Seminary College of Jewish Studies, JTSA, NY, 1982
 - **B.A. Comparative Religion/Psychology**, Columbia University, NY, 1982
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ACTIVITIES & INTERESTS

- **Board Member Centre for Jewish Catholic Muslim Learning**, *Chairman*
 - **London Police Services**, *Chaplain*
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MILITARY CAREER

- **Commissioned: 25 May 1983. Captain, us Army Reserves (Ret.)**
 - **Honorable Discharge: 31 May 2001**
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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

• The Rabbinical Assembly • *Mercaz* • J.T.S.A. Alumni Association • Columbia Alumni Association • U.S. Army Reserve Officers Association • Canadian Association of Police Chaplains • Rotary International • *Alpha Epsilon Pi* Fraternity, honorary member

AWARDS & PRICES

Felix M. Warburg **Academic Excellence** Price, J.T.S.A. • **Army Achievement** Medal • **Army Commendation** Award • Certificate of Achievement, Central Command: Desert Shield, Saudi Arabia • Rotary International, Paul Harris Fellow

LANGUAGE SKILLS

• English • Spanish • Hebrew • German • Yiddish

REFERENCES UPON REQUEST