

DONALD BAUM (Past president, Board Member)

I have experienced a range of congregations, and derive the most joy and feel the strongest connection to the uplifting, contemporary Judaism I have discovered at Kol HaNeshama. From our first visit to KH six years ago, Diane and I responded to Kol HaNeshama's song-filled services and environment of congeniality and warmth. We joined KH, began attending services and events regularly, made many friends and accepted roles of responsibility. I became a Board member in 2020 and was elected President in March 2021.

I became a Bar Mitzvah and was confirmed in a classic Reform temple in the Sacramento of my boyhood. I affiliated with a Reform temple after moving to Philadelphia, marrying Diane and starting a family. Much later, upon relocating to the Midwest, my wife, two sons and I become actively involved in a Conservative synagogue.

A Professor Emeritus from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, I taught for 40 years in universities, including Temple University in Philadelphia and UNO, where I served for seven years as Chair of the Economics Department. The numerous journal articles I have authored are primarily in the area of public finance and public economics, which uses the concepts of economics to evaluate and explain government taxes and expenditures. I hold a BA in Economics from the University of California at Davis and a PhD in Economics from Claremont Graduate School.