

### Cantor Michael Shochet

Cantor Michael Shochet is the first cantor of Temple Rodef Shalom, having been appointed to this position in 1998. He had served as the first cantor of Temple Sinai of New Orleans prior to coming to Falls Church. Cantor Shochet received his Masters of Sacred Music and Investiture as Cantor from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in May 1994.

Cantor Shochet is a full partner in the clergy team of Temple Rodef Shalom, joining the rabbis in meeting the full pastoral, educational and spiritual needs of our congregation. Cantor Shochet directs the music and cultural areas of our congregational life leading services, directing our adult and junior choirs, congregational band and numerous cultural events, concerts and programs.

Cantor Shochet gained recognition in the Reform movement through his leadership positions with the American Conference of Cantors and the Union for Reform Judaism. He has served on the board of trustees and as Vice President of the American Conference of Cantors and co-edited the current lifecycle manual for American Cantorate used in Reform congregations worldwide. Cantor Shochet also served for many years on the Reform movement's Joint Commission on Synagogue Music. Cantor Shochet focuses his Cantorate on liturgy and teaching, in addition to creating Jewish cultural experiences for our congregation. Cantor Shochet is also certified as a Senior Police Chaplain through the International Conference of Police Chaplains and serves as the senior chaplain coordinator for the Fairfax County Police Department, as well as a chaplain for the Washington Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Cantor Shochet is trained in advanced Critical Incident Stress Management and in other areas of pastoral crisis intervention.