

Mark Greenberg

For over 25 years, Mark Greenberg has been in charge of the House Committee at Temple Beth EL in Muncie, IN. The small Reform Jewish congregation in East Central Indiana is the only Jewish presence in that area for about a 65 mile radius. They have very few active members, the committees are usually one person. Mark does recruit people to help him with major repairs or clean-up jobs, but frequently handles all these things by himself. The temple is located in downtown Muncie, there is always a lot of trash to be cleaned up around the buildings, as well as substances frequently far worse than trash. Anne Eliades, President of Temple Beth EL says he is always cleaning up or fixing something inside the buildings or outside. Hardly a day goes by when Mark isn't checking on something, or doing something, for the temple to keep it going.

There are about 38 family units listed in their directory, many of these are families that have moved away from Muncie but maintain their distant relationship. About 23 family units are somewhat active in the community.

There is a student Rabbi who comes in from Cincinnati approximately every other weekend during the academic year to lead services. They employ a part-time pianist and a part-time singer and someone to help with clean up after some of the functions.

Mark has an important job and a young family. He has asked to be replaced but there is no one, and Mark knows that if he stops doing what he does, Temple Beth EL will soon cease to exist, and there will be no Jewish presence in this part of Indiana. So he continues!

The temple consists of an old historic building built in 1922, containing the sanctuary, religious school rooms, and a library. There is also a newer building, attached, containing the social hall, kitchen and bathrooms. A small grass area with a few trees and shrubbery, as well as a few parking spots, surround the temple.

Mark is also a Fireman in Muncie. He has saved countless lives and property by his courageous work. He has been promoted to a Lieutenant in the Fire Department and has been named "Fireman of the Year". He has served for many years on the Fireman's Union Board and as their secretary for eight years. Mark has also volunteered for and served on the local United Way Board.

Mark is a true legend in his professional life as well as his volunteer work.