

David-Seth Kirshner is the rabbi of Temple Emanu-El in Closter New Jersey where he is entering his 18th year of leadership.

Prior to joining Temple Emanu-El, Rabbi Kirshner worked at the Jewish Theological Seminary as Senior Director of Institutional Advancement.

In addition to building and strengthening Temple Emanu-El, Rabbi Kirshner is involved in the community at-large and holds many positions of leadership.

Rabbi Kirshner is the Past President of the New York Board of Rabbis, and past president of the NJ Board of Rabbis. He was selected among 50 rabbis to participate in the inaugural class of the Kellogg

School of Rabbinic Management at Northwestern University. He is an adjunct faculty member at the Academy for Jewish Religion (AJR) where he teaches rabbinical and cantorial students. In 2013, Rabbi Kirshner was appointed to the New Jersey-Israel Commission by Governor Chris Christie and was re-appointed in 2018, by Governor Phil Murphy. Rabbi Kirshner holds a seat on the Executive Committee of the JFNA. Since 2009, Rabbi Kirshner was appointed to the National Council of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and in 2013, he graduated as a Senior Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, Israel.

Rabbi Kirshner is the author of Streams of Shattered Consciousness: A Chronicle of the first 50 days of the Israel-Hamas War. It has more than 10,000 copies in circulation and earned mention in the February 2024, NY Times Book Review.

Rabbi Kirshner has written articles for many media sources and is regularly published in the Jewish Standard, the Bergen Record, Haaretz, The Times of Israel, The Huffington Post and the New York Times and has been featured on national radio and television programs including Good Morning America, CBS, CNBC, WABC, WNBC, NPR, The Last Word, with Laurence O'Donnell Nightline, MSNBC, Al Jazeera and Faith to Faith.

Rabbi Kirshner holds a BA degree from York University in Toronto, Canada and earned an MA in Hebrew Letters and rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary. Rabbi Kirshner is married to Dori Frumin Kirshner. They have two children.