

About the Author

For four decades, Rabbi Irwin Groner has been the spiritual leader of Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield, Michigan, one of the largest Conservative congregations in North America. As senior rabbi, he distinguished himself as an author, a communal leader, and a public speaker. In 2003, he received the Rabbi Simon Greenberg Award for Distinguished Rabbinic Service from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He won recognition for his role as president of the Rabbinical Assembly and for his work as chairman of the “Etz Hayim” Publication Committee that produced the acclaimed commentary on the Torah. His sermons, essays, and articles have been widely published.

Rabbi Groner chaired the Rabbinical Assembly conventions in 1976 and 1977 and cochaired the National Youth Commission of the United Synagogue from 1972 to 1976. In 1984, he was appointed by then governor of Michigan James Blanchard to serve on the Judicial Tenure Commission, the first clergyman appointed to that board. He has been actively involved in interfaith programs in metropolitan Detroit and served as president of the Michigan Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Groner is the product of a distinguished rabbinic family in Chicago. He holds degrees from the University of Chicago and the Hebrew Theological College of Chicago. In 1982, he received an honorary doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Rabbi Groner and his wife, Leypsa, reside in Southfield, Michigan, and are the parents of Hon. David and Hon. Amy, Dr. Joel, and the late Debbie Groner.