

The Story of Ahavas Israel

At Congregation Ahavas Israel, we are committed to welcoming and providing community support to all persons seeking a spiritual path using traditional Jewish practice in a modern, egalitarian Conservative Jewish setting. Ahavas Israel offers a warm and friendly Shabbat experience, as well as diverse religious and social activities for families and adults, including Torah study, Junior Congregation, art workshops, and a community garden, among other activities. Ahavas is fortunate to have an active, thoughtful Rabbi with a great teaching manner and a mensch of a Hazzan/Cantor with a wonderful, engaging voice and a down-to-earth sense of humor. A diverse group of people in business, professions, and academics from a wide variety of backgrounds enriches our congregational life. We understand that each person's path to Jewish engagement is different, depending upon one's education, age, family structure, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status among other factors. Allow us to welcome you into our family.



Enhancing, teaching, and encouraging the religious life of our members is the core mission of Ahavas Israel. Our Religious Life

Religious Life and Other Activities

Committee creates a wide variety of religious programming that involves the Congregation in active participation and facilitates religious practices of the Synagogue. Shabbat morning, with a "Schmooze 'n Schmeer" breakfast, services with a monthly speaker series, and a Torah study group after Kiddush has something for everyone - social, educational, religious, and food! Other Religious Life social activities help us celebrate Shabbat dinners and holidays parties together with our congregational friends. Our activities committee plans movie nights, trips out of town, and other social get-togethers for adults, families, and youth.

Social Action

Our Corners of the Field Garden provides three deliveries a week of various vegetables to the Temple Emanuel food shelf and/or other organizations that provide food distribution. We have distributed approximately 2000 pounds a year for the past three years. In addition, a group from Ahavas Israel volunteers monthly preparing meals for those in need.



Ahavas Israel encourages everyone to engage in study of the texts and traditions of our people. We offer a variety of study opportunities, including several weekly Torah study groups, and classes on Jewish subjects taught by our Rabbi and other community members. We participate in a community Scholar-In-Residence weekend along with Temple Emanuel and the Jewish Federation, featuring an expert in a field of Jewish thought for a weekend of study and discussion. Through the generosity of the Israel and Belle Shapiro Scholarship Fund, we are able to help adults participate in retreats and other programs of Jewish education.

Adult Jewish Learning

United Jewish School

The United Jewish School is jointly operated by the Conservative congregation of Ahavas Israel and the Reform congregation of Temple Emanuel. The enrollment ranges from Gan Katan (2-4 year olds) through 12th grade. The school employs an administrative director, a curriculum director, and a large staff of teachers. On Sunday, class is held from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Temple Emanuel and the Wednesday Hebrew program is held from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Congregation Ahavas Israel.

The United Jewish School establishes an school environment for children and families, utilizing the latest teaching methodologies and curriculum which responds to the needs of a diverse student population and strengthens the students' awareness of Israel and Jewish issues. It is a warm and caring place where children want to attend.



Opportunities for Youth

Congregation Ahavas Israel participates in the national Kadima middle school age and USY high school age youth groups of the Conservative Movement, encouraging our young people to participate in regional and international conventions. The Hy and Greta Berkowitz scholarship program supports youth educational activities, selected Jewish camp experiences, SKIP (Send a Kid to Israel Program, providing matching scholarship funds to send our congregational children on a trip to Israel), and other youth activities.

Service Schedule and Location

Services are held every Shabbat and on all Festivals. Join us for a warm, participatory service that includes much singing.

Shabbat morning (Saturday) - 9:30 a.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat, Friday night, once a month (June, July and August)

Wednesday morning minyan - 7:30 a.m.

Thursday morning minyan - 7:15 a.m.



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