

CONGREGATION TORAT EL- VALUES (DRAFT)

1. לדור ודור, *l'dor va'dor*

(From Generation to Generation)

We are forward looking as we continue on our path towards becoming a holy community. While moving forward, we strive to continue to honor our roots including the heritage three congregations from which Congregation Torat El grew: Temple Beth El, Congregation Bnai Shalom, and Temple Beth Torah.

2. בצלם א-להים קהילה/ קשרים/ *Kehillah, Kesharim, Betzelem Elohim*

(Community and Holy relationships)

We provide a meaningful sense of community emphasizing our relationships with God and with one another.

3. מסורת/ שיוני, *Masorti, Shivyoni*

(Conservative and Egalitarian)

As a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism we are an Egalitarian congregation and seek to integrate our traditions and modern ways. We provide a "big tent," striving to preserve our traditions within a modern framework while including people of diverse backgrounds who are interested in being a part of our congregation.

4. קרוב, *keruv*, and הנחמת אורכים, *Hachnasat Orchim*

(Outreach, and Welcoming)

We are dedicated to outreach and engagement. We seek to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all who enter. And we strive to go out into the community to engage those who wish to make deeper connections to their Judaism.

5. גמילות חסדים, *gemilut chasadim*
(Deeds of Loving Kindness)

We are a caring congregation dedicated to celebrating with, comforting, and supporting members of our community.

6. תלמוד תורה, *Talmud Torah*
(Life-Long Learning)

We believe in life-long learning: focused on explaining and understanding the why's, what's and how's of our religion and our traditions; encouraging a commitment to learning through accessible choices and opportunities; integrating learning of parents and children, at home and at the synagogue, and in social settings and in more formal settings.

7. תפילה, *Tefilah*
(Prayer)

We value prayer -- inside and outside the synagogue; at home and away; individually and communally.

8. צדקה/תיקון עולם, *Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam*
(Righteous Deeds and Healing The World)

We value tzedakah, tikkun olam, and social action -- inside and outside the synagogue; at home and away; individually and communally.

9. מדינת ישראל/עם ישראל/כלל ישראל, *Medinat Yisrael, Am Yisrael, Klal Yisrael*. (The State of Israel, The People of Israel, and Pluralism)

We are inexorably tied to the State of Israel, the Jewish people, and value collaborative and respectful relationships with our fellow Jews.

10. פתיכות והעצמה, *Petucha v' Otmah*
(Transparency and Empowerment)

We are committed to openness in process and action in the functioning of our congregation. We work to provide the tools of empowerment so all congregants

can have a voice in the setting of the congregation's priorities and policies. Nonetheless, we remain cognizant that confidentiality and privacy are necessary for certain aspects of the congregation's operations.

11. אין תורה, אין קמה, אם אין קמה, אין תורה, *Without financial sustenance, there is no Torah.* (Financial Sustenance)

We are committed to maintaining a firm and stable foundation in the Congregation's finances and operations.