

Har Sinai Congregation
Code of Conduct

Do what is right and good in the sight of the Eternal. Deuteronomy 6:18

It is the responsibility of members of congregations of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) to ensure that the synagogue is an ethical stronghold in all its pursuits and dealings. Members should be guided by *kedushah* (holiness) in promoting the synagogue's mission of sustaining Judaism. Their role is that of "managing the sacred," by bringing vision, wisdom and dedication to their commitment to our holy Congregation. Members enter into a *brit kodesh* (sacred covenant). In doing so, they are expected to adhere to the following principles:

Expectations

- Gain spiritual and personal growth
- Serve as role models
- Act as advocates and positive spokespersons for the synagogue
- Embrace *tzedakah* (righteous action)

Accountability

- Uphold Jewish values such as fairness, *derech Eretz* (respectful engagement), mutual respect, sensitivity and openness
- Act with personal honesty and integrity
- Preserve the dignity of the synagogue, its members and those who serve it
- Support the daily work of the Congregation and its leadership
- Maintain a safe and welcoming environment

Communication and Confidentiality

- Refrain from breaking the Jewish laws of *la-shon harah* (idle gossip or slanderous talk)
- Respect the privacy of others
- Communicate openly and truthfully
- Express constructively, and address to the appropriate party, any discussions of policy, positions, programs or individuals
- Ensure that disagreement relate only to principles and priorities, not personalities

Respect for Others

- Ensure that everyone involved in synagogue life is treated with *kavod* (respect)
- Enable those who are connected with synagogue life to reach their highest potential
- Teach that all are created *b'tzelem Elohim* (in the image of God) and that being a Jew is an honor and a privilege
- Remember and remind others that the goal is unity, not uniformity
- Ensure that boundaries, prerogatives and expertise are respected

The privileges and benefits bestowed upon members are a blessing, creating the opportunity for personal growth through commitment to the Jewish community. By living a committed Jewish life, each of us can improve while contributing to *tikkun olam* (repair of the world).