



JEWISH CENTER OF NORTHWEST JERSEY

P.O. Box 2 • Washington, New Jersey 07882 • 908/689-0762

Thank you for interest in membership at the Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey. Established in 1945 in Washington, our small congregation, affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism, is comprised of families living in the surrounding counties of Warren, Morris, Hunterdon, and Sussex. Below are a few more facts that we hope will help you in your decision-making process.

- Our congregation is composed of members from a wide variety of backgrounds: from non-observant to very traditional practicing Jews, from non-Jewish spouses to Jews by Choice, etc. *All* are welcome and encouraged to be active participants.
- Religious School meets once a week on Sunday mornings, functions as a co-op run by parents, and is offered at no charge to members in good standing (a portion of the dues from all members goes toward support of the School). Studies include Jewish history, customs, traditions, Torah, music and Hebrew language. The school provides an excellent foundation for those who wish to prepare for bar/bat mitzvah.
- Confirmation Class is offered for students in grades 8-10.
- Educational enrichment programs and a Torah study group are held for adult learning.
- Shabbat Services are bi-monthly on Friday evenings according to a calendar set yearly. We enjoy each other's company at an *Oneg Shabbat* that follows! Every family serves as an *Oneg* host.
- Saturday morning services are scheduled when there is a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, and at other designated times during the year. The entire congregation is invited to attend these services.
- An active Parent Teachers Organization plans special activities and programs for the children.
- The Men's Club holds monthly breakfasts, provides community service and ushers for the high holidays, and offers support to the congregation as needed.
- The Board of Directors meets monthly to ensure that religious, educational, and social needs continue to be met. Board meetings are open to the congregation.
- Our synagogue functions because of our members who volunteer their time and talents. Staff is limited to our rabbi, student cantor, and teachers (parents).

We are happy to answer any questions you may have and can be reached by leaving a message at the Jewish Center (908-689-0762). We look forward to having you join our congregation.

B'Shalom,

JCNWJ Membership Committee



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please send completed application and check for dues & capital improvement fund to:
Cindy Wilson, 9 Setting Sun Drive, Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Date of application _____

Name of applicant(s) _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Marital status _____ If married, date of marriage _____

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (include yourself)

	Name	Hebrew name (includes names of parents, e.g., Sara bat Yosef v'Jehudit)	Date of birth	Occupation/ Grade in School
Adult				
Adult				
Child				
Child				
Child				
Other				
Other				

In which religious tradition were you raised? _____ Are there any religious traditions, other than Jewish ones, that your family currently observes in your home? _____

PAST SYNAGOGUE AFFILIATION

What was the name and location of the last Jewish congregation of which you were a member? _____

How many years did you belong to that congregation? _____ Why did you leave? _____

On what committees did you serve at your last synagogue? _____

What office(s), if any, did you hold? _____

As a URJ congregation, we need your confirmation that all financial obligations in your prior congregation have been met. Please confirm by initialing here: _____

OUR CONGREGATION

The Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey is a participatory congregation. On what committee(s) would you like to serve? Education House Ritual Sunshine Publicity Special Events Adult Education
Special skills, talents, hobbies (e.g., photography, teaching music, crafts, writing) that you could bring to our congregation: _____

Yahrzeit Records

English and Hebrew name of deceased	Relationship	Date of death

For questions, please e-mail jcnwjmembership@gmail.com or call the JCNWJ at 908-689-0762 and leave a message for Membership. One of our Membership Co-Chairs will contact you.



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FEE SCHEDULE 5776 / 2015-2016

MEMBERSHIP

Family (1 or 2 adults and dependent children sharing a common household) \$1,100

Single (1 adult living in a household that does not meet the description of family membership) \$550

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (CIF)

Payable over two years

For new members: Family \$1000
Single \$500

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The entire Congregation takes responsibility for our children's education. Therefore, Sunday School (kindergarten through confirmation) is free for any child of a member in good standing. Books, supplies, activities, and Confirmation retreat costs are billed separately.

Late registration \$25
Activity Fee \$54
Confirmation Class (including retreat) \$240

USE OF SANCTUARY FOR LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Baby naming, member at a scheduled service Donation
Baby naming, member at other than scheduled service \$180
Baby naming, non-member, at a scheduled service \$360
Bar/bat mitzvah \$350
Bar/bat mitzvah when CIF has not been paid in full (*The additional \$1000 may be applied to CIF*) \$1450
Wedding \$300
Funeral \$180
Funeral, non-member \$600

MEMORIAL/SIMCHA

Memorial plaque, member \$325
Memorial plaque, non-member \$540
Simcha Tree leaf \$150
Pew plaque \$250
Prayer book \$36
Donation card \$5 and up
Library \$10 and up
Use of the kitchen and simcha room \$250
plus a refundable deposit \$250
Cemetery plot *All other burial charges are payable to Easton Cemetery* Market

Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey *Kashrut/Food Policy*

The Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey, affiliated with the Reform Jewish movement, treasures its members and guests who hail from diverse backgrounds and, therefore, different dietary practices. We honor personal autonomy and educated choice when it comes to Jewish ritual practice while we strive to create a communal sacred space—our synagogue—that exemplifies and celebrates our Jewish heritage, customs, rituals, and ethical laws. Our communal meals draw us together as we nurture one another through food and the rhythm of Judaism. We hope that our *kashrut*/food policy will be a living expression of our community and the values we uphold.

The following guidelines will govern all functions within our building and property.*

- We sanctify the act of eating as a community by reciting blessings.

- Being created in the image of God, we believe that our bodies should be respected. We encourage the serving of healthful foods and strive to provide safe options for those with food allergies, particularly nuts and gluten reactions. We will especially strive to label food in order to help make allergy-safe choices clear.

- We believe that we are stewards of God’s creation. Therefore, we encourage the serving of food that takes into account environmental sustainability and animal welfare. We strive to reduce the use of disposable food service items by using reusable plates, cups, flatware, dish towels, sponges, etc. When we use disposable items, we will strive to make choices that minimize the impact on the environment. We will seek to reduce our use of individual water bottles.

- No foods forbidden by Torah (*treiff*, meaning pork, shellfish, fish that do not have both fins and scales) will be served or brought into the synagogue. We also extend the prohibition of these foods to include products that mimic them, meaning, for example, fake bacon, imitation crab, etc.

- Meat and dairy foods will not be served at the same meal; that is, meals are to be designated as either meat or dairy.
 - ❖ Potluck meals will be dairy or *parve*.** Dairy foods, including cheese and gelatin, do not require a certification, but we encourage a close examination for hidden meat or *treiff* ingredients, such as broths and flavorings, before serving.
 - ❖ Meals and snacks brought in by congregants for personal enjoyment should be dairy or *parve*.
 - ❖ Meat meals require the approval and oversight of our rabbi and/or ritual committee chair. This includes meals prepared by a kosher caterer or home cook or prepared at the temple.
 - All meats purchased for synagogue functions must be certified kosher.
 - A vegetarian option is to be provided at any meal designated as a meat meal.
 - Dessert served immediately after a meat meal must not contain any milk. This includes non-dairy creamer for coffee and tea.
 - Dairy dessert may be served after a meat meal if the meat meal is completely cleaned up and there is a waiting period of at least 72 minutes after the end of the meat meal.
 - ❖ All pots, serving items, plates, etc. used in food preparation and service can be used for both milk and meat meals.
 - ❖ The dishwasher can be used for cleaning up both milk and meat meals, but milk and meat loads should be run separately.

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- Our congregation will mark the eight days of Passover by cleaning the kitchen thoroughly and removing all *hametz* (leavened bread and any food prepared from five species of grain—wheat, barley, oats, spelt, and rye—that has been allowed to leaven) in advance of the holiday; leavened products and leavening will be removed. While we support the eating of *kitniyot**** during Passover, we ask that *kitniyot* not be served at communal seders. Outside of a thorough cleaning, the kitchen and its equipment and food service items do not need to be re-*kashered* for Passover. The preparation of food for Passover should be approved and overseen by our rabbi and/or ritual chair.

Questions regarding the implementation of this policy should be directed to our rabbi.

These guidelines were ratified by the JCNWJ Board of Trustees on September 8, 2014.

*Functions within the JCNWJ are defined as any function that is held on the synagogue grounds (e.g.: oneg Shabbat, Shabbat dinner, religious school or youth group event, picnic, Sukkah meal, etc.) involving the entire congregation, a sub-group of the congregation, or private participants.

** *Parve* is a Hebrew term (*pareve* is the Yiddish term) that describes food without any meat or dairy ingredients; thus, *parve* foods can be served with either meat or dairy as they are considered neutral. For example. vegetables, fruit, grains, eggs and kosher fish are *parve*.

*** In addition to *hametz*, Ashkenazic (European Jewish) authorities add rice, millet, corn, and other legumes to the forbidden foods.