

2010-2011 Membership Year

Hello,

We are delighted that you have expressed an interest in joining our congregation and hope that the enclosed information will be helpful.

Since its inception in 1961, Congregation Beth Tikvah has sought to respond to the distinct needs of Columbus' Jewish community, and particularly those residing on the northwest side of the city. Over the years, our congregation has been blessed with learned clergy, creative teachers, devoted trustees, and energetic members. We have nearly 465 families and 215 students in our Religious School program, coming from a wide variety of Jewish backgrounds and life-styles. Beth Tikvah has a long tradition of warmly welcoming interfaith families and bringing them fully into the life of the congregation. And while firmly committed to the principles of modern Reform Judaism, we welcome Jews with a wide assortment of beliefs and backgrounds.

Our congregation benefits from having a very stable staff, several of whom have been providing service for over a decade. Our rabbi, Rabbi Gary Huber, has graced our pulpit since 1983. Education and building community among our membership is a priority. Many special programs have been developed to reach out to our diverse membership: Shabbat family dinners, Tot Shabbat and Junior Congregation, Knitting and Writing Groups, youth groups for all ages of children, an active Brotherhood and Sisterhood, and a variety of events throughout the year.

As a member, you will receive High Holy Day tickets at no extra cost; our monthly bulletin, *Tikvah Topics*, which includes a calendar of events; our weekly e-bulletin, THIS WEEK at BETH TIKVAH; and the right to vote at the synagogue's Annual Meeting. Moreover, only members are permitted to enroll their children in the Religious and/or Hebrew School. You are encouraged to participate in volunteer activities that may be of particular interest to you.

We hope that you will decide to join Beth Tikvah, and have included our New Membership Form for your convenience. Please review both the form and the Good Standing Requirements and General Information sheet, found on the reverse side, for details. After you return the membership form with your first payment, the High Holy Day ticket request and other follow up membership forms will be sent to you.

You may find a visit to our website, www.bethtikvahcolumbus.org, a valuable resource in your quest to join a synagogue. If you have questions that remain unanswered, please don't hesitate to call Suzanne Parr, our Temple Administrator, or Rabbi Huber, both at 885-6286. Also, Connie Mayerson, our Membership Committee Chair, and I would be happy to speak with you – just let Suzanne know that you would like us to call. We would welcome the opportunity to meet and speak with you.

Sincerely,

Greg Russell, President

Enclosures

2010-2011 Membership, Good Standing Requirements and General Information

Basic Household Membership: \$1,480.00

SUSTAINING Sponsorship – This is our annual membership renewal appeal for additional financial support above basic dues to help supplement general operating expenses. Gifts may be given in honor or in memory of the person(s) you name on the front of the Membership Renewal Form.

Out-of-Town membership: \$ 495.00

(For those who live 100+ miles from the synagogue.)

Financial Adjustment:

Membership payment is needed and required of all members;

however, no one is ever denied membership for lack of financial resources.

Any member who cannot pay the minimum basic membership or basic school tuitions will be afforded the opportunity to designate their level of financial commitment. This policy DOES NOT include an adjustment to the Development Fund. All forms that are returned with an adjustment request are subject to approval.

e For couples, the age category is determined by age of the older member.

e For those **65+ who need a financial adjustment**, a fixed membership payment level can be established.

e For young adults who need a financial adjustment – please see box to the right. ↑

The congregation is pleased to be able to provide financial assistance – but ask you to be considerate, as the funds used to make this possible are provided by other members.

For young adults **with a financial need**, the following categories apply.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Commitment</u>	<u>% of basic dues (\$1480)</u>
21	\$148	10%
22	\$222	15%
23	\$296	20%
24	\$370	25%
25	\$444	30%
26	\$518	35%
27	\$592	40%
28	\$666	45%
29	\$740	50%
30	\$1,480	100%
31	\$1,480	100% + Development Fund

For all payment categories ~ Although a single lump sum payment in June is preferred, four quarterly payments by credit/debit card ONLY (June/September/December/March) or ten monthly payments (June '10 - March '11) are acceptable. All payments are expected by March 31, 2011. If you opt to pay by credit/debit card, an automatic payment schedule will be set up

“Membership in Good Standing”:

(Required for receipt of High Holy Day tickets, to register a child in Religious/Hebrew School or to serve on the Board of Trustees.)

- Completion of all prior years' membership payments, tuitions and fees
- Lump sum or first quarter (June, July, August) for current year's membership
- Up-to-date payment of Development Fund's annual portion
- Completed and returned annual Membership Renewal form

In addition to the above: *(To have a life-cycle event conducted by the Rabbi)*

- Annual Membership MUST be paid in full no later than one month prior to the event

General Information:

- Beth Tikvah's fiscal year runs from June 1 to May 31, although all balances must be paid by March 31.
- Membership is effective June 1 (**prorated to half after December 1**).
- Development Fund: All new members age 31 years or older are required to contribute \$1,000 to Beth Tikvah's Development Fund over their first five years of membership. The Development Fund provides reserved financial resources to be used for unbudgeted, expensive capital expenditures such as roof repairs, patching the driveway or computer purchases.