

MEMBERSHIP FAQ'S

1 How many members does Temple Emanu-El have?

We have over 770 member households and we're growing! A member unit could be a single individual or a family of six. The size of our congregation allows us to provide a wide variety of programs and services while still maintaining a warm and welcoming environment.

3 What if i'm in an interfaith family, or LGBTQ? Will we fit in at Temple Emanu-El?

Yes, our families come in all shapes and sizes and we welcome everyone with open arms. If you have chosen to build a Jewish life within the context of who you are as an individual and/or as a family, and want a synagogue to support and celebrate you and your family through education and a warm, inclusive sense of community, you will feel right at home here.

5 I am single or have a partner who would prefer not to be involved in the synagogue. Would I fit in at Temple Emanu-El?

Yes, Temple Emanu-El is a community for individuals as well as families. Many single members and married members whose spouses are not involved attend synagogue services, programs and events regularly. You won't be the only one. There will be plenty of people to sit with and talk to if you come by yourself.

7 What are some of the benefits of becoming a member at Temple Emanu-El?

As an official member of Emanu-El, you will enjoy many special benefits, including:

- Rabbinic and communal support in the event of an unexpected crisis (illness, job loss, divorce, or any other challenging situation in life) and when celebrating a simchah (wedding, baby naming, bar/bat mitzvah, etc.)
- The ability to enroll your children in our top-notch K-7 Religious School program.
- High Holiday Tickets for members of your household, are included with your membership
- Most of all, membership and involvement with Temple Emanu-El will bring a sense of belonging and connection. The more you invest in the community, the greater the benefits you will experience.

8 How much does it cost to be a member of Temple Emanu-El?

Temple Emanu-El is leading a trend of progressive synagogues with our Gift of the Heart voluntary pledge program. Rather than paying an assigned, fixed dues amount, members pledge a financial contribution that is both comfortable and meaningful to them. We believe our Gift of the Heart program aligns more closely with our core Jewish values of inclusiveness and belonging.

2 Where do most Temple Emanu-El members live?

Our members live all over the greater Rhode Island area. While half of our members live in Providence, the other half live in cities and towns outside of Providence and even nearby Connecticut and Massachusetts.

4 I am thinking about converting to Judaism. Would I be the only member who wasn't born Jewish?

A number of our members have converted to Judaism, you will fit right in! For more about the conversion process at Temple Emanu-El make an appointment with Rabbi Michael Fel by calling the Temple office at: (401) 331-1616.

6 How many children are in the Religious School?

We have around 60 children from tots to teens involved in our community's youth programs, which include Religious School and various teen programs.

