



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the objective of Kehillot?

Jewish life has changed in every generation. In the language of Dr. Ron Wolfson, synagogues need to transition from being transactional to relational. Through Kehillot, Temple Kol Emeth will build a network of relationships, linking members closer together with a heightened sense of belonging, becoming an engaging, rewarding home for all. This program intends to transform its members into a growing, thriving, engaged community and congregation.

### What is the vision?

- **Connecting with G-d – Spirituality:** Temple Kol Emeth will build a network of relationships, linking members closer together for heightened belonging, becoming an engaging, rewarding home for all.
- **Finding Freedom** – Getting past your “past”, allowing yourself to grow.
- **Discover your purpose** – Finding meaning in life.
- **Make a Difference** – Use what you have learned to enrich and engage others.

### What is a Kehillah?

A Kehillah is an intentional spiritual community of 6-10 people connected to Temple Kol Emeth, whose members make a covenant to come together at least twice monthly to create connection and sacred space.

### When will they meet and who will lead them?

Kehillot (plural of Kehillah) are seasonal, each lasting approximately 3 months, in the Winter, Spring and Fall and are uniquely crafted and facilitated by the *Shammash* (“igniter” and leader) of the group. Each group will decide what day/time they plan to meet. Kehillot may be geared to different interests and passions yet, all Kehillot have the same purpose: connection.

### What a Kehillah is NOT:

A Kehillah is not solely a class, nor is it purely social. While each group will include a Jewishly inspired intention, this design will lead to meaningful discussion and learning. Kehillot are social by design and meaningfully connected in purpose. The conversations are meant to go beyond common chit-chat and delve into the deeper questions and reflections of life. This is an opportunity to learn from and with one another in a safe space.

**What is the goal of a Kehillah?**

The goal of a Kehillah is to help people create meaningful connections, using the tools of Judaism as a guide to allow people to reach their full potential. Our dream is for each and every person in our community to feel needed, necessary, and a part of something sacred by contributing whatever they have to offer. Our hope is that all of our community-wide experiences, from prayer to education to social justice, will become gatherings of Kehillot, in which every person will find their place. With each Kehillah sparked by the passions of its Shammash and by linking people of passion together, TKE becomes the center of connection for our greater community. The journey to a successful Kehillah is marked by the growth of commitment from its members.

**Do I need to be a member of Temple Kol Emeth to join?**

No! Kehillot are for people connected to Temple Kol Emeth, but you do not have to be a member to join a kehillah. If you are a member, we encourage you to invite your friends to join a Kehillah so they can learn more about our great community.

**What Kehillot are being offered right now?**

There are a variety of groups being offered for each trimester. Visit the Kehillah page on the TKE website and scroll to the bottom for the list of current offerings.

**My first choice is taken. What should I do?**

We hope that there is another option that interests you, and that you sign up for that one. In addition, please email [TempleAdministrator@kolemeth.net](mailto:TempleAdministrator@kolemeth.net) and let Cindy know which group you had hoped to join. She will put you on a waiting list, and if there is movement among the groups or enough interest, she will let you know if space has opened up. This will also help us know what the congregation is excited about, so we can plan for upcoming trimester topics.

**This sounds great! How do I get involved?**

First, sign up to participate for the coming trimester at [kolemeth.net/kehillot](http://kolemeth.net/kehillot). Then, if you are interested in becoming a Shammash for a future trimester, email the Kehillot Steering Committee via the link at the bottom of that page and we will let you know when training for the next group of Shammashim will begin.

**I have an idea, but I'm not sure I'm prepared to lead. What should I do?**

Being a Shammash does not mean you need to have all the answers, nor do you need to be a subject matter expert in your field. The training sessions will guide you in learning how to facilitate a group. Email the Kehillot Steering Committee via the link at the bottom of [kolemeth.net/kehillot](http://kolemeth.net/kehillot) to learn more.

**I have more questions. Who should I contact?**

You can email the entire Kehillot Steering Committee by clicking the email button at the bottom of [kolemeth.net/kehillot](http://kolemeth.net/kehillot). Or, you can call the TKE office at 770-973-3533.