

Is a B Mitzvah Right for Your Family? How to Learn More About Us

Are you debating how (or whether) to seek a Bar or Bat Mitzvah for your child?

Are you feeling pressure because “how it’s supposed to be” and “how it’s always been done” isn’t a good fit for your family?

Are you concerned that non-Jewish family members might not be allowed to participate fully?

Are you looking for a custom celebration that will be both personal and meaningful, balancing Jewish traditions and your unique family heritage?

Thursday, August 29 @ 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Panera Bread in Bannockburn Green

1211 Half Day Road, Bannockburn, IL

Intended for parents of children up to 6th grade

Explore your options during this free, informal FAQ session with Rabbi Adam Chalom, our Youth Education Director, and our B Mitzvah Coordinator.



Can a Bar or Bat Mitzvah work with your busy schedules, be within your financial means, *and* be meaningful? Yes, yes, and yes!

You may also schedule a one-on-one information session in-person, by phone or email with Rabbi Chalom, our Youth Education Director or our B Mitzvah Coordinator

RSVP and Questions to youthed@kolhadash.com or 773-209-8266

Walk-ins welcome! No charge, no commitment, just useful information!

Members determine their own financial commitment, including “trial memberships”

Jewish and Interfaith families fully participate

www.KolHadash.com

How is Our B Mitzvah Different from All Other B Mitzvahs?

The Kol Hadash B Mitzvah program (gender-neutral, non-binary term for “Bar Mitzvah” and/or “Bat Mitzvah”) is unique, meaningful, and personal to the student in many ways:

1. Our B Mitzvah training fits into the busy lives of today’s middle-schoolers. Students attend Hebrew school, one hour a week conveniently following Sunday School in 6th and 7th grades.
2. Our Hebrew curriculum balances the need for Hebrew reading skills with an understanding of Hebrew as a modern, living language.
3. Rather than be automatically assigned the Torah or Haftorah portion coinciding with their B Mitzvah service date, our students choose their own Torah portion, whichever one they find to be most inspirational or meaningful.
4. Students have the choice to read from other Jewish literature or do a Jewish-related research project instead of reading from the Torah.
5. All of the readings and music celebrate the milestone of becoming a B Mitzvah. The B Mitzvah is the only reason for the gathering.
6. Every B Mitzvah service is devoted to only one student.
7. Families can customize their B Mitzvah celebration service by choosing their favorite readings and music from an array of options.
8. All parents of B Mitzvah students participate fully in our ceremonies. We are fully welcoming and inclusive of modern families in all their diversity.
9. Following the B Mitzvah presentation, the parents have the opportunity to share their feelings about the occasion in a short but meaningful address to their child.
10. Families may honor other family members and friends by having them read selections from the service, hold the Torah, or light candles on our congregational menorah.
11. Service readings are in English and sensitive to a diverse audience, enabling all family members (of all ethnic and religious backgrounds) to equally and meaningfully participate.
12. Our families almost always get their first choice of date. Ceremonies can be held on a Friday evening, Saturday morning or Saturday evening.