



# Engagement Opportunities at Congregation Shaare Emeth

## Mission of Congregation Shaare Emeth:

*Congregation Shaare Emeth is a compassionate, respectful, and inclusive community that makes Judaism relevant, meaningful, and joyful.*

Looking for your place at Shaare Emeth? Learn more about the commitments that allow us as a congregation to fulfill our mission and the opportunities we offer to act on them.

## Living in Community

We strive to be a diverse and welcoming Congregation, and we accept the responsibility of celebrating with and caring for one another in times of joy and need.

- Caring Committee
- 20's and 30's
- Families with Young Children (ages 0-5)
- Camp Emeth (rising Kindergarteners-8<sup>th</sup> graders)
- SETYG (youth group for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)
- SE678 (youth group for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders)
- SE345 (youth group for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders)
- College Connection
- Baby Boomers
- Seniors on the Move day trips
- Senior Lunches
- KeSHEr (community for women of all ages)
- Keshet (LGBTQ+ and allies)
- Baby n Me
- Mental Health Initiative of the Jewish Mindfulness Center
- Intercongregational Softball League

## Lifelong Jewish Learning

From preschool through adulthood, we bring alive the tenets, values, texts and traditions of Judaism.

- Torah Study
- Adult Learning classes, speakers, and other experiences
- Adult Hebrew
- Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis
- Introduction to Judaism classes
- Hyman A. Rubin Library
- Religious School classes (PreK–12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- JQuest@Shaare Emeth
- Shirlee Green Preschool
- Religious School faculty
- Baby n Me
- From Matriarchs to Mamala Book Club
- Scholars-in-Residence
- Artists-in-Residence

## Acting as Agents of Social Justice and Change

Through advocacy and volunteerism, we work together to fulfill the Jewish mandate of Tikkun Olam, repairing our world, by alleviating poverty and hunger, fighting injustice, caring for human beings in times of need, protecting the environment and bringing peace.

- Tzedek Committee (Social Justice)
- Mitzvah Garden
- Immigration Advocacy and Action (refugee and asylum work)
- Room at the Inn
- Peter and Paul
- Bread Co Pick-ups
- High Holiday Food Drive

- Justice at the Center
- Oak Hill Elementary
- REDI (Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion)
- Keshet
- Banned Book Club
- Voting Initiative
- Shomrei Adamah (Protecting our Environment)

### **Living with an Awareness of the Sacred in our Lives**

We honor the holiness that surrounds us at every moment of our lives, through meaningful rituals and ceremonies, moments of worship and prayer, and joyful Shabbat and Jewish holiday celebrations.

- Shabbat & Holiday Worship
- Prayer Lab
- Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis
- Boker Tov Shabbat (for families with 0–5-year-olds)
- High Holy Days Choir
- Shir Emeth Youth Choir
- Officiating lifecycle events for all stages of life

### **The Land and People of Israel**

We recognize and value our place as a part of *K'lal Yisrael*, the People of Israel, and our connection to *Eretz Yisrael*, the Land of Israel, both historical and modern. We work to support and advocate for the Jewish people wherever they may be, and in particular, for the State of Israel.

- Israel engagement speakers and programs
- Israel trips
- Shinshinim (Israeli teens spending a gap year teaching at Shaare Emeth)
- Passport to Israel
- Adult and teen learning about Israel
- Learning about Israel integrated in to JQuest and Religious School

### **Acknowledging our Community**

We recognize that we are citizens of a larger religious and secular community, and we accept and embrace our communal and civic responsibility through our words and deeds.

- Harvey & Leanne Schneider Interfaith Forum
- Intertwine Christian-Jewish-Muslim dialogue group
- Tzedek Committee (Social Justice)
- Tour Guides welcoming groups of visitors
- Participation in civic and community programs such as Interfaith Partnership, Multifaith Neighbors Network, Jewish Federation, National Council of Jewish Women, Anti-Defamation League, and many more community engagement opportunities

### **Managing our Resources**

We recognize our need to provide, utilize and carefully manage the resources necessary to fulfill each of the other commitments of our Mission, while taking the measured financial risks necessary for our future.

- Annual budget process
- Membership Responsibility program
- Annual fundraising events and programs
- Heart and Soul annual celebration
- Archives
- Shaare Emeth art collection
- Endowment Investment Committee

*To learn more about any of these opportunities, contact Beth Kodner, Director of Development & Membership, [bkodner@sestl.org](mailto:bkodner@sestl.org) or 314-692-5306 or Emily Cohen, Director of Family Engagement & Membership, [ecohen@sestl.org](mailto:ecohen@sestl.org) or 314-692-5323.*

*We look forward to connecting with you!*