



עמנואל

The Emanuel Synagogue

PASSIONATE JEWISH LIVING

FAQ's about Sisterhood

What is Sisterhood?

Sisterhood is the women's voice of our synagogue. We are involved in activities that enrich our congregation and provide educational, philanthropic and social opportunities for the women of the Emanuel. The Emanuel Sisterhood is affiliated with the Connecticut Valley Region of the international organization, Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

How often are the meetings? When? Where?

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday evening of each month at the synagogue. Our general program meetings are held in the evenings. Thursday mornings at 10:00 we have study sessions with Rabbi Small and one Shabbat every other month, we hold a book review in a member's home. Programs are listed in the monthly calendar which is published in the synagogue newsletter and on the synagogue website. Be sure to check for details.

What kinds of things do you do besides meetings?

Sisterhood runs a wide variety of programs and fundraisers, providing an opportunity for women to learn and socialize. We also serve at a soup kitchen at least once a year, work with Brotherhood on a Hanukah carnival for the congregation, sponsor the *Kiddush* during *Sukkot* and lead Sisterhood *Shabbat* services. We give a gift to each *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* child. And we raise funds for the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Zeigler Institute. An on-going project is the gift shop where we sell beautiful Judaic items.

How does one become a member of Sisterhood?

Our Membership Vice Presidents, Lisa Tesser and Beth Rosenberg Sanders, or any one on the board will be happy to talk to you about becoming a Sisterhood member. Contact us at emansyn@emanuelsynagogue.org or leave a message with the synagogue office and someone will return your call, (860) 236-1275. If you are a new Emanuel member, your first year of membership is free. We also give free memberships to our *Bat Mitzvah* girls until they become eighteen.

What is the cost of participation in Sisterhood?

Sisterhood Membership dues is \$30.00 a year. Members of our Sisterhood receive a free subscription to Outlook, the international organization's magazine with articles of interest to Jewish women. At many of our meetings, women are encouraged to donate \$1.00 toward our *simcha* raffle. For your donation, you are able to honor another woman or family accomplishment. All the honors are read before a drawing. The winner receives an item from our gift shop. Sisterhood also asks women to contribute from \$25.00 to \$360.00 to our international fundraiser called "Torah Fund" which supports the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Zeigler Institute. We have other fundraisers throughout the year in which you may choose to participate.

Are there women my age in Sisterhood?

Definitely! Women from ages thirteen to one hundred actively participate in Sisterhood.

Is babysitting available at the meetings?

As our meetings are held during the evening, we do not provide on-site babysitting. Babies are welcome at our meetings. You can nurse at the meeting if you wish or go to our Executive Director's office for privacy. A diaper changing station is located in the women's restroom off the auditorium.

What do you do at the meetings?

It really depends on the program or topic. Often we hear a lecture or panel discussion by guest speakers, and have an opportunity to ask questions. Some of the meetings are purely social. Each is different.

What opportunities are there to become active in Sisterhood?

If you want to participate in planning of activities, events or programs for our Sisterhood please contact Debbie Bettan (860-231-1861), lildeb54@comcast.net, and she will direct you to the appropriate chairperson.

Who do we contact if we have further questions?

If you have more questions, get in touch with Debbie Bettan, (860) 231-1861, lildeb54@comcast.net. Also, please be sure to visit our page on the synagogue website, www.emanuelsynagogue.org

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