

# Steps to join Kehilat Sukkat Shalom:

1. **Review the Mission, Vision and Values.** These can be found on pages 2 – 3 of this document. Please verify that you understand and are comfortable with the basic tenets of Sukkat Shalom. These are the principles that guide our decisions and policies.
2. **Determine the contribution you will pledge.** Sukkat Shalom is dedicated to the principle that no one will ever be excluded from membership for financial reasons.

The recommended annual pledge for FY 2024 - 2025 (Organization fiscal year started 7/1/24 and will end 6/30/25) is \$432 per individual and \$864 per couple/family.

This works out to \$36.00 per month for individuals and \$72.00 per month for couples or families. If you are able to give more, your contribution will strengthen this community. If you are not able to contribute at this membership level, please select a pledge that is financially feasible for you and that reflects the value we represent in your life. Your membership, regardless of your financial contribution, is important to us.

You can pay your membership dues in one of the following three ways listed below. Here you will find the link to the membership form, which you will submit online; within this form you will be asked to let us know which of the three dues payment options you have selected. If you would rather pledge in monthly or quarterly amounts instead of making one lump-sum payment, please note this in the comment section in the membership form. Please add monthly or quarterly reminders to your calendar, or set up auto-pay.

## **Payment Options: Options 1 and 2 are the preferred methods**

1. Send a check payable to Kehilat Sukkat Shalom to the following address:  
P.O. Box 141533, Columbus, OH 43214
2. Select the option to request directions for making an electronic transfer into the Sukkat Shalom bank account – Treasurer Lori Sachs  
([lori@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org](mailto:lori@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org)) will email you directions.
3. Electronically via PayPal through the Sukkat Shalom website (they charge us fees):  
<https://www.sukkatshalomcolumbus.org/support-us/>

Once you are ready to join, fill out the [membership form](#). Please note that on the form there are questions including yahrzeits (dates of death of loved ones), or other special occasions. You may want to gather these prior to completing the form. If you skip over that question and want to answer it later, you can email it to [membership@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org](mailto:membership@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org) when you have it ready to add.

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# MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

## Or 'Brit' (Covenantal Relationship)

### KEHILAT SUKKAT SHALOM

Kehilat Sukkat Shalom provides a spiritual home for individuals and families seeking active participation in Jewish community. We see the need and the opportunity to build a vibrant 21st century Jewish community through innovative and interactive approaches to prayers, learning, and social action.

#### **Our Mission:**

We are a welcoming, intentional Jewish community that cultivates deep-rooted connections, engages in spiritual experiences, and participates in meaningful ritual to make Judaism relevant in our lives.

#### **Our Vision:**

We are a thriving and visible force for dynamic, communally-driven Judaism that engages and supports a diverse membership.

#### **Our Values:**

We assume a collective responsibility to ensure that every person is valued and treated with respect. We are inclusive, and welcome people with diverse life experiences and backgrounds. Our commitment is further reflected in our use of gender-neutral prayer language, egalitarian decision-making processes, and opportunities for members' participation without regard to their ability to contribute financially.

We welcome everyone - those who are just starting their spiritual journey, regular attendees at worship and study programs, and everyone in between.

This Brit Kehilah also serves to encourage involvement and participation. By honoring our covenantal partnership, each member makes Sukkat Shalom a living reality and a reflection of the values and visions expressed in our guiding principles. In accepting this Brit Kehilah, we commit to being part of ensuring that our sacred community strives to:

- Be the sacred vessel to meet all members' spiritual, religious, and pastoral needs;
- Create opportunities for lasting and meaningful Jewish experiences;
- Offer meaningful Jewish ritual and traditions; and
- Work toward social justice for all people.

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Each member of Sukkat Shalom strives, to the best of her/his ability, to:

- Find meaningful ways to be actively involved and personally invested in the welfare of Sukkat Shalom;
- Invite other Jewish seekers to benefit from and support Sukkat Shalom;
- Share ideas, concerns, and suggestions with Sukkat Shalom leadership in a productive and constructive fashion; and
- Contribute to the growth and financial sustainability of Sukkat Shalom.

**If you have questions about membership, contact: [membership@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org](mailto:membership@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org).**

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## **ADDENDUM: Pastoral Care Information for Sukkat Shalom members**

Sukkat Shalom provides for some limited traditional pastoral care services for members. These include:

- a. Visiting the sick
- b. Shiva meals
- c. One time conversations around religious/spiritual aspects of personal discernment, family planning, conversion, interfaith family life, end of life issues, etc., scheduled with certified chaplain Jack Schwarz, 614-893-4564, or Rabbi Daniel Betzel, [dan@rabbibetzel.com](mailto:dan@rabbibetzel.com); 614-648-0326.

For other life cycle events and learning such as preparation for a bar/bat mitzvah, or other extended pastoral support, while one initial conversation may be included as part of item “c” above, related compensation for time should be arranged separately; contact the Kehilah Chair, Cheryl, [cheryl@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org](mailto:cheryl@sukkatshalomcolumbus.org), for more information.

Examples of these events to be contracted separately include:

- a. Bar or Bat Mitzvah
- b. Baby naming
- c. Wedding
- d. Conversion
- e. Celebration of Life/Funeral Service
- f. Tutoring
- g. Hebrew language study

Other ways that Sukkat Shalom can support member lifecycle events:

Space: Events can be scheduled in conjunction with Kehilah events and/or use Kehilah resources through advance planning.

Torah: Sukkat Shalom can make arrangements for the loan of a Torah from Agudas Achim as needed. These arrangements need to be made well in advance, and members are invited to contribute toward an annual donation Sukkat Shalom makes to Agudas Achim in appreciation of this support.

Prayer Books: If the Kehilah books or booklets are used, a donation towards maintaining these materials is greatly appreciated. Members may choose to create a personalized prayer service at their own expense.

Musical support: Members should make these arrangements directly with musicians.