

5 Pillars of ALIYAH—the values we stand on & stand by

1. Learning = creating meaning

Jewish learning is the process of creating relationships with Jewish language, text, ritual, history, values, traditions, and people. Each of us comes to Judaism in our own way. Every student (and teacher) is invited to encounter, explore, interpret, and create meaningful connections between the many different aspects and expressions of our tradition.

2. Learning Torah is equal to them all (*Talmud Torah k'neged kulam*)

Torah (Jewish teaching) is a lens for understanding our world and a blueprint for creating the most ethical civilization we can. The goal of our encounter with Jewish teachings is to become more human and more humane. When we view our own actions in this sacred context, we are challenged to become better versions of ourselves.

3. Every learner is created in the Image of God (*b'tzelem Elohim*)

Each of us learns in our own way. Each of us has strengths and challenges. Our community is beautifully diverse. We bring our whole selves to this community, and we support each other's academic, social-emotional, and spiritual growth.

4. We are part of a sacred community (*kehila kedosha*)

How we treat each other and speak to each other matters. We are all responsible to each other. We intentionally connect as learners and families with the people, programming, mitzvot, ritual leadership, and values of our larger congregational community and of *Am Yisrael*, the people, and nation, of Israel.

5. We are part of a sacred conversation

Each of our stories is part of the story of the Jewish people. Our community takes seriously the responsibility to pass Jewish traditions *l'dor vador*—from one generation to the next. And as a Conservative congregation, we are deeply engaged in an evolving and contextual understanding of Jewish life. We have inherited sacred texts that document the diversity of our communities over the generations, and we proudly and humbly add our own voices to this sacred conversation.