

What is Jewish Renewal?

Jewish Renewal is a non-denominational religious movement that . . .

- Is open to the Sacred in all of existence.
- Believes in the Human-Divine partnership.
- Seeks to create a safe and inclusive environment.
- Seeks global healing through power balancing.
- Seeks to renew Jewish paths of prayer and meditation, study, communal life, practice, and public action.
- Commits each of us to *tikkun olam* – the healing and balancing of life on this planet, and *tikkun ha-lev* – the healing and balancing of the individual heart.
- Sees the human spirit and the Divine as one evolving process that calls us to a partnership which includes the struggle inherent in our name of *Yisra'el* (Godwrestler).
- Finds wisdom and insight in the sacred texts and oral traditions of the Jewish people and Jewish spiritual teachers of previous generations, along with elements that are in need of re-interpretation or transcending.
- Recognizes that Judaism participates in a world-wide exploration of the spiritual and commits ourselves to be in conversation with other spiritual paths, sharing what we discover and incorporating what we learn.
- Embodies egalitarian and inclusive values, manifested in a variety of leadership and decision-making structures, ensuring that all individuals are full and equal partners in every aspect of our communal Jewish life.
- Welcomes and recognizes the sanctity of every individual regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, honoring all respectful and mutual expressions of adult human sexuality as sacred expressions of love.
- Reaches out to all who seek but have not yet found a spiritual home in the Jewish community or a satisfying connection to the Jewish people and its traditions and teachings.
- Seeks to balance the power relationships among human beings and between humanity and all other species and aspects of the living Earth.
- Seeks to apply our stated values and principles, to the best of our ability, to the renewal and revitalization of our personal and communal ceremonies, liturgies, rituals, life-paths, spiritual practices, and our processes for collective decision-making and collective actions.



Loosely adapted from the STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES, ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal, OHALAH, and the Rabbinic Pastors Association.

Yavneh: A Jewish Renewal Community

