



Kingston Liberal Synagogue
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Rabbi: Rabbi René Pfertzel Emeritus Rabbi: Rabbi Danny Rich Synagogue Administrator: Diane Snapper

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

To become a member of Kingston Liberal Synagogue, you have to be Jewish according to the standards of Liberal Judaism:

When both parents are Jewish, the child is Jewish. Jewish education is paramount and it is a duty for each Jew to acquire Jewish knowledge.

When one parent is not Jewish, upbringing, education, and Jewish life determine one's status. There are three categories:

1. If someone with a non-Jewish parent has been brought in another religious tradition, conversion is required.
2. When a person is judged by the Rabbi of the community to have had an adequate Jewish upbringing and education, such as Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Kabbalat Torah when applicable, such person is immediately eligible for synagogue membership and marriage.
3. 'In-between' cases of persons who have received some Jewish upbringing and education, but not enough for immediate acceptance are required to undertake a period of study and religious observance. The individual is then required to appear before the Beit Din (Jewish court of law), whereupon a Certificate of Jewish Status shall be issued.

Children of mixed faith families will receive Jewish education, and at the completion of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Kabbalat Torah, will receive a certificate of Jewish status.

Families come in all forms and shapes, and at Kingston Liberal Synagogue, we welcome people in their diversity: LGBT, mixed-faith, single household, and so on. The non-Jewish partner may apply to join in the membership category of 'Friend', but cannot serve on a committee that requires full membership of the synagogue (E.g. religious committees, Council).

Kingston Liberal Synagogue has a policy of welcoming people who want, with good heart and good faith, to join the Jewish people. Please refer to 'Conversion to Judaism' on our website.

In any case, please do not hesitate to contact Rabbi René Pfertzel. He will provide a safe and confidential environment to discuss any question you may have.