

"You shall be holy
for I Adonai your
God Am holy"
Lev. 19:2



Temple Israel Confirmation Class 5770

Temple Israel Confirmation

Confirmation is the culmination of Temple Israel's formal religious education program. During the course of the 10th grade year, Confirmands come together with the clergy and faculty for serious study and discussion along with enriching special programs and speakers. Utilizing traditional and contemporary Jewish texts Confirmands learn, discuss and debate issues such as: healthy relationships and dating; anti-Semitism and the Shoah; Zionism and Israel; belief in God; sex as explained in the Talmud; making personal choices such as tattoos, piercings and music lyrics; issues of social justice; interfaith dialogue with local churches; and what it means to be a Reform Jew. Students strive to develop a sense of individual Jewish identity and commitment while at the same time understanding the importance of being part of a larger Jewish community. Social activities include informal dinners before each class and activities with other Confirmation classes in our community. In addition, the class focuses on social justice and *tikkun olam* through both projects in the community such as "Night on the Street" and making blankets for The Bridge for Youth and by participating in the L'Taken Seminar in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. The year culminates with the beautiful Confirmation service, led by our Confirmands, held on the holiday of *Shavuot* which this year falls on **Tuesday evening, May 18 and Wednesday, May 19, 2010.**

Goals

Torah

- ◆ To provide an advanced understanding of Jewish beliefs and practices from a Reform Jewish perspective, utilizing both traditional and modern texts.

Mitzvot

- ◆ To explore how Jewish values and practices can be applicable and relevant throughout our lives.

Klal Yisrael

- ◆ To build a sense of community as a class, with the clergy, with Temple and the greater Jewish world.

T'filah

- ◆ To create a Shavuot Confirmation service as a meaningful life-cycle ceremony that confirms each student's Jewish identity and relationship with Judaism.

Faculty

Rabbi Jared Saks, Confirmation Rabbinic Advisor

Rabbi Marcia Zimmerman

Rabbi Sim Glaser

Cantor Barry Abelson

Aaron Kesher

Denise Fogel

Wendy Robinson Schwartz, R.J.E., Confirmation Coordinator



Temple Israel Religious School is a beneficiary of the Minneapolis Jewish Federation.