

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Ithaca Reform Temple
Spirit • Community • Justice

Tikkun v'Or Member Contributions: Three-Part Financial Structure

Congregation Tikkun v'Or raises the funds we need through **dues, gifts and fees**. Our financial structure is inspired by traditional Jewish values of fairness, dignity, inclusivity and generosity.

Finances should never be a barrier to Tikkun v'Or membership. However, to ensure the long-term viability of the temple, we ask that you please think seriously about your level of support and follow the suggested guidelines to the best of your ability. Dues, gifts and fees are all fully tax deductible.

Enclosed in this packet are:

1. Explanation of our 3-part financial structure
2. Dues form

Information on the dues form is confidential, shared only with the co-presidents and Tikkun v'Or's bookkeeper, Sally Ezra.

Please contact the TVO presidents with any questions or concerns:
presidents_20@tikkunvor.org

DUES are assessed in two parts: the *hetzi-shekel* (**half-shekel**) **portion**, and a portion determined by an **income-based sliding scale**.

The *hetzi-shekel* portion (\$90 per household) is intended to symbolize the equality of all members in the community, regardless of income. The concept derives from the story told in the book of Exodus that Moses and Aaron collected a half-shekel from each of the Israelites as their first contribution toward building the sanctuary.

The **income-based (“fair share”) dues** are 1.6% of household income from all sources. The sliding scale dues structure reflects our community’s commitment to justice and fairness.

Our projected budget depends on most members self-assessing and paying at the 1.6% level. However, if life circumstances affect your ability to pay dues at the target level or at the times indicated, please self-assess at a lower level or adjust the payment schedule as needed. Finances should never be a barrier to Tikkun v’Or membership.

Gifts: The *hetzi-shekel* and income-based dues (described above) comprise about 66% of our budget. Thus, Tikkun v’Or also relies on **nediv lev**, which translates as “generosity” or “giving from the heart”. This phrase comes from the book of Exodus where it is told that the Israelites offered materials for building the sanctuary with a “willing heart,” each contributing according to their ability. **Nediv lev** contributions to Tikkun v’Or account for approximately 15% of yearly revenue and are requested during our annual spring fundraising campaign.

Fees for the Jewish Learning Experiences (JLE) program and b’nei mitzvah program help cover the costs of these programs. If school fees pose a financial hardship, please be in touch with the TVO presidents: presidents_20@tikkunvor.org), to make an adjustment. Note that first-year families with students in JLE grades K-5 are given the option of paying a slightly higher school fee that includes temple membership (*i.e.*, if this option is chosen, other temple membership dues are waived for that first year). Please contact our education administrator, Naomi Wilensky (naomi.wilensky@tikkunvor.org), with questions about fees or registration.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or Dues Payment Form

Benefits of Membership in Congregation Tikkun v'Or

- A vital, progressive Jewish presence in our community
- A rabbi who inspires, educates and supports our congregation
- A beautiful building that houses our community
- Many meaningful life cycle events
- Inspiring Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and other holiday services
- Creative education program for children and teens and meaningful b'nei mitzvah programs
- Bereavement support
- Adult education opportunities
- Prayer services on most Fridays and many Saturdays
- Theater outings and other social gatherings
- Social justice projects
- Programs to stimulate our minds, conscience, and spirit
- Community Shabbat dinners
- A community Passover seder, meaningful and delicious
- Jewish community events shared with other Ithaca congregations

Income-Based ("Fair Share") Dues Self Assessment for 2021-2022

Annual Household Income from all Sources X 1.6% of Gross Income =
Suggested "Fair Share" Dues Payment

Example: \$40,000 Gross Income X 0.016 (1.6%) = \$640 Suggested "Fair Share" Dues

Payment options:

1. Check: Congregation Tikkun v'Or PO Box 3981 Ithaca NY 14852. Please note "Membership Dues" in the memo.
2. Online, using PayPal: On the TVO website, click on the "Dues Payment" page under the "Join Us" tab on the main menu <https://tikkunvor.org/renew-membership-via-paypal/>
3. Credit card: Call Sally Ezra at the temple office, 256-1471. You can also reach Sally at sally.ezra@tikkunvor.org *Whether you renew by mail or online, checks are preferred to avoid credit card fees.*

My contribution for 2021-2022:

Income-based dues (see table above): \$ _____
 + \$ 90 _____ (half-shekel contribution)
 Total = \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Payment method: (*check one*):

*One payment (in full by Oct 25, checks preferred to avoid credit card fees):
___ By check (please include your check with this form).
___ By credit card (charges made on or about Oct. 25).

*Two payments (half-payment by Oct. 25 and the balance by Feb. 25)
___ By check (please include the first check with this form).
___ By credit card (charges made on or about Oct. 25 and Feb. 25).

*Four equal payments: only by credit card
___ By credit card (charges made on or about Oct. 25, Jan. 25, Apr. 25, July 25).

If you are paying by credit card, please provide the following additional information:

Card company (check one) ___ Visa ___ MasterCard

Name (as it appears on card) _____

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration (Month/Year) _____

I authorize Tikkun v'Or to charge \$ _____ to the credit card listed here.

Signature _____