

ISRAEL CONGREGATION OF MANCHESTER, VERMONT  
MISSION STATEMENT AND VISION

Enhancing the spiritual life of the Jewish community and beyond  
Guided by the ideals of Judaism

We affirm that Israel Congregation of Manchester is the home for diverse Jewish expressions in the Northshire. Our community is strengthened by welcoming all Jews and those who are married to a Jewish spouse, irrespective of race, economic status, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

We provide a home for people seeking a connection to Jewish life through the religious observance of Shabbat and festivals, complemented by a range of programs and activities for congregants of all ages.

We understand that learning connects us to our tradition, allowing us to understand our peoples' past as we forge our future. We strive to involve all in meaningful learning to enhance our Jewish experiences, through structured Jewish curriculum for our children and intellectually-stimulating adult education.

We believe social justice is vital to understanding our tradition, knowing that our spiritual life is enhanced when we help others. We strive to reduce the burden of all our neighbors locally and in Israel through *chesed* (deeds of kindness), *tzedakah* (monetary support) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).

We recognize the importance of Israel. We cherish our heritage and work through advocacy and active dialogue to support the State of Israel and Judaism and the greater Jewish community worldwide.