

Women's League Shabbat 5754

Torah Fund Welcome

Lori Snow, International Torah Fund Chair

Welcome to our Sisterhood (Women's League) Shabbat service.

Our 2023-2024 theme Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh - All of Israel is Responsible for One Another - has become even more pertinent as we look at our Jewish world at the current time. Our theme highlights the word 'arevut,' responsibility, and corresponds to the theme from the Babylonian Talmud, Shevuot 39a.

Together we are proud of Jewish accomplishments around the world, and together we suffer when our brothers and sisters in Israel and around the world need to grieve, mourn, and also fight to keep our homeland safe; let us do our part by keeping Judaism alive and thriving. By donating to Torah Fund we demonstrate we care, and we show our sense of responsibility by supporting our Seminaries - the religious learning centers of our worldwide Conservative/Masorti community. Your Torah Fund support helps us assume that responsibility by funding our five Conservative/Masorti institutions of higher education.

We continue in our founder, Mathilde Schechter's, footsteps. Mathilde founded Women's League to help educate Conservative Jewish Women and we in turn support the education of our future spiritual, educational, and lay leaders.

The *Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh* General Torah Fund Campaign funds scholarships and programming for students at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, the Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, the Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires, and the Zacharias Frankel College in Potsdam.

Your Torah Fund contributions to the "Creating New Spaces" special project promote safe physical and spiritual spaces for our students - at JTS, the Women's League Study Space in the new undergraduate residence hall; and at Ziegler, the Women's League Institute on Gender Bias and Harassment. Also, through our planned giving initiative, the Torah Fund Legacy Society, we ensure we meet the needs of our Seminary students in the years to come.

With your strength, courage, and sense of responsibility we assure the future of Conservative/Masorti education and Judaism. May our hearts move us to bring our skills, our talents, and our gifts to continue the legacy of Jewish scholarship helping Jewish survival worldwide. May we be as successful as our ancestors in the wilderness ensuring that the future leaders of our communities - rabbis, cantors, scholars, educators, chaplains, Hillel directors and lay leaders - can study Torah, engage in social justice, and pursue their dreams. Shabbat Shalom.