

Bet Torah Statement of Principles

- We are a community of diverse views and need to continue to honor that diversity. Coming into contact with people who think differently helps us all to grow. It's what the Talmud is all about. "These and these are the words of the living God" (Talmud)
- We will work to make our members and our neighbors feel safe. We will speak up any time a person or a group is dehumanized by words or actions. "And God made humans in God's image" (Genesis)
- We will model for ourselves and our children the highest human behavior in the way we speak and act and will not dismiss the misbehavior of any person or leader. "Do the right and the good" (Deuteronomy).
- As a community with diverse opinions we seek to pray and do acts of lovingkindness together in order to strengthen relationships and deepen commonalities so that we can continue to be one Jewish community. "The greatest teaching of Torah is that which leads to action" (Talmud)

Jewish Values- Justice, Justice

לֹא-תַעֲשׂוּ עֲוֹלָה בַּמִּשְׁפָּט לֹא-תִשָּׂא פָנֶי-דָל וְלֹא תִהְדָּר פָּנֵי גָדוֹל בְּצֹדֶק תִּשְׁפֹּט עַמִּיתְךָ:

You shall not render an unfair decision: do not favor the poor or show deference to the rich; judge your kinsman fairly.

Procedural Justice

אֵפֶס כִּי לֹא יִהְיֶה-בָּךְ אֶבְיוֹן כִּי-בָרַךְ יְבָרְכֶךָ יְהוָה בָּאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן-לְךָ נַחֲלָה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:

There shall be no needy among you—since the LORD your God will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you as a hereditary portion—

Substantive Justice