

Kiddish Policy

Including the Entire Congregational Family: Guests and Members

Kiddish is the Yiddish word often used to refer to the meal served after the Shabbat morning service. It is derived from the Hebrew word *kadosh*, which means sacred or special and exceptional. Agudas Achim Congregation (AAC) is a *kehilah kedoshah*, a congregation that holds community sacred.

We do our utmost for everyone, members and guests, to feel welcome and comfortable at AAC. We want our guests and the congregational community to share in the celebration of each and every b'mitzvah that takes place at AAC. It is also our goal that every B'Mitzvah family experiences a sense of belonging and connection to the AAC family and the wider Jewish community. As both host and guest at B'Mitzvah, every family has a chance to celebrate others and be celebrated by our entire congregational family.

To that end, each B'Mitzvah family is required to provide an *oneg shabbat* reception on Friday evening after the service and a *kiddish* lunch following Shabbat morning services for both the general congregation, as well as their invited guests.

The head of catering will discuss this with each b'mitzvah family. A family may choose to cater these meals with the Agudas Achim Kitchen, use a kosher caterer or provide food from a store or restaurant that is under rabbinical supervision. Please refer to the [Kashrut Policy](#), the [Shabbat Observance Policy](#) and the [Catering Guidelines](#) for more information.

Agudas Achim Congregation ensures that finances are not a barrier for a family to celebrate this milestone within the AAC community. Please contact our Executive Director, if the cost of *kiddush* and/or *oneg shabbat* presents a financial hardship.