

Code HaKavod

A Statement of Respect

Grounded in Jewish values and beliefs, Agudas Achim Congregation is dedicated to being a *kehillah kedoshah*, a holy community: A community and a space that is safe, welcoming, positive and inclusive. One in which there is a shared commitment to treating every human being with:

- *Chesed*: Loving-kindness;
- *Kavod ha'briyot*: Respect and honor for others, one's self and all creations;
- *B'tzelem Elohim*: Each individual is created in the image of God;
- *V'ahavta L'reyakha kamokha*: A deep commitment to treating your neighbor as you wish to be treated;
- *Derekh Eretz*: Ethical decency and thoughtful, constructive conduct;
- *Akhraiut*: Individual, personal responsibility; and
- *Areyvut*: Collective responsibility.

As a community and part of the Jewish people, our actions reflect the nature of our vibrant, caring, moral community. We also celebrate the mutual responsibility of the Jewish people and the diversity of our approaches to Jewish life.

All of us share a mutual responsibility to uphold and practice AAC's values and minimize conflict. Where conflict and disagreement arise, communicating with kindness in an open, honest and respectful manner with the members of our congregational family- members, volunteers, staff and clergy- and our guests, helps resolve issues in a peaceful and constructive manner. Please contact the staff or clergy for support in that process, if necessary.

As a community, we are all interdependent and accountable to each other. Guided by our values, all interactions with our members, guests, volunteers, staff and clergy must reflect proper conduct and concern for others. We expect everyone to uphold these community values.

Select Jewish Sources About Ethical Behavior

Seek peace and pursue it. ([Psalm 34:15](#))

Love your neighbor as yourself. ([Leviticus 19:18](#))

Who is honored? One who honors others. ([Pirkei Avot 4:1](#))

Greet every person cheerfully. ([Pirkei Avot 1:15](#))

Ethical behavior comes before study ([Rabbi Judah Loew of Prague](#))