

Keneset Israel Torah Center (KITC)

Position:	Rabbi of Keneset Israel Torah Center (KITC)
Location:	1159 Morse Ave. Sacramento, California 95864 www.kitcsacramento.org www.facebook.com/KITCSac
Job Objective:	To serve as the Rabbi of KITC and provide religious, pastoral, and educational leadership to the congregation
Salary:	Competitive / commensurate with qualifications and experience
Benefits:	Includes vacation, health, and retirement

About Keneset Israel Torah Center:

Keneset Torah Center is a warm and friendly Modern Orthodox Synagogue serving the Orthodox community of Sacramento, CA. KITC was founded in 1982 and is a member of the Orthodox Union. We are looking for a dynamic and enthusiastic Rabbi to lead our small congregation and meet its challenges with a mind set for growth.

We are a dynamic group with a pioneer spirit, and we feel privileged to live in the capital city of California. One of the important goals of our congregation is to attract new members and in particular younger families, therefore, a rabbi with experience in reaching out to a diverse community will be given serious consideration. In addition to serving the current membership the rabbi would need to reach out into the community to bring in new members. Besides the usual Shabbat and Holiday expectations, pastoral and educational duties, the rabbi should bring energy to his functions and lead appropriate programming. Given the varied make-up of the Sacramento Jewish community, the rabbinic candidate must have the ability to relate to people from all different backgrounds: Chabad, Conservative and Reform groups and serve on the local board of rabbis.

Members of our KITC community are currently meeting specific local needs such as kashrut and eruv supervision. There is a mikveh under Chabad supervision. Keneset Israel Torah Center is within a 5-minute commute from the Jewish community day school (Shalom School,) and about 20 minutes from the Jewish Federation of Sacramento, located in downtown Sacramento. Housing options are available within the eruv.

Living in Sacramento is a wonderful opportunity and affords a nice quality of life. Sacramento is known for its pleasant climate, enjoyable and affordable California living experience. We are close to the Bay area, the famous Napa Valley wine region, Lake Tahoe and the Sierra Mountains.

PRIME RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To provide religious, spiritual, educational and pastoral leadership that will effectively advance, stimulate and energize the Modern Orthodox congregation of KITC
- To inspire, challenge, promote, and encourage the congregants in their Jewish knowledge growth, understanding, observance and practices.
- To pro-actively develop, participate and advance communal activities that are aimed at increasing the membership of KITC and at maintaining and promoting the well-being of the congregation.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES

RELIGIOUS

- To maintain a modern orthodox ethos; to lead and preserve practices and to encourage participation and involvement in services.
- To deliver meaningful and inspiring sermons and shiurim (lessons) on Shabbat and Holidays that are designed to educate, inform, challenge and empower the members of the congregation.
- To serve as Halachic Moreh Derech (way leader) of KITC while demonstrating openness and flexibility within the Halachic boundaries of Modern Orthodoxy.
- To answer individual/personal religious questions from members and affiliates and act as the authority on religious issues for the congregation, within the halachic boundaries of Modern Orthodoxy.
- To officiate at- and be engaged in the planning and preparation of life-cycle events (Bar/Bat Mitzva, weddings, funerals, shivah, tombstone unveiling, etc).
- Lead the congregation in its Seudot and Kiddush on Shabbat and Holidays.
- To lead services as well as to chant Torah and Haftarah.

EDUCATION

- To develop, strengthen, and enhance the Jewish knowledge and practical observance of the members of KITC.
- To develop and organize adult education programs that are designed to enhance the knowledge, Jewish identity and commitment of KITC's congregants; deliver these programs in a way that appeals to a broad range of members with varying levels of religious observance and knowledge.
- To encourage and reinforce the congregation's identification, support, and links with the people and the State of Israel through personal commitment and involvement at the congregational, community at-large, and regional level.
- To be active in supporting and promoting the Montessori School at KITC

PASTORAL

- To attend to the pastoral, welfare and personal needs of the members of the KITC
- To visit the sick, elderly and bereaved.
- To provide counselling and guidance to those with family and/or personal problems and challenges.

COMMUNAL

- To reach out to members and engage with the congregation's diverse population of individuals and families; interact with and engage individuals of all ages, marital status, life style, level of religious observance, as well as those with a non-Jewish spouse or partner
- To actively reach out and welcome new members, make them feel comfortable and welcomed in the congregation and help them to become fully integrated in all aspects of communal activities.
- To provide appropriate time allocated for meeting with members of the congregations, potential members, and guests of the congregation.
- To attend and actively participate in and, where appropriate or needed, assist in the planning of communal activities and events.
- To encourage women and girls to participate in all aspects of communal life within the permitted halachic boundaries of Modern Orthodoxy.
- To actively promote and encourage cooperation and foster relations and activities with other Jewish congregations and organizations in the Sacramento region; when appropriate, be engaged and represent KITC in local and regional events and activities with other Jewish and Non-Jewish clerics.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

- To pro-actively engage with children and teenagers of the community and encourage the involvement of young parents in the communal life
- To create a warm and welcoming environment for children (of all ages) at KITC both during and beyond the service
- To work pro-actively with the lay leadership of the congregation on developing programs that meet the Jewish educational needs of children and youth.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- To work closely with the Honorary Officers and the Board of Directors of KITC, and be receptive to full performance feedback and review processes
- To work independently; to conceive, lead, and execute programs. Organizational skills are a must.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- To be expected, in undertaking the afore-described roles, to comply with all the existing and future policies and procedures of KITC; To be expected to undertake any other reasonable duties as may be assigned that are consistent with the nature of the job and its level of responsibility.
- The Rabbi must be available to work unsocial hours, including nights and weekends.

- This job description does not encompass the complete duties and should be treated as a guide to the duties that the Rabbi is expected to perform.
- This job description may be amended to meet the changing requirements of the congregation at any time after full discussion with the job holder

Personal Qualifications and Specifications

The successful candidate will provide the congregation with a positive and engaging role model of Modern Orthodox Jewish life. The candidate should demonstrate the following qualities, skills and experience:

Qualifications and Specifications

Education

Well educated, in both the religious and secular spheres of knowledge

- Acceptable and recognized Orthodox Semicha
- University Graduate

Note: Please include copies of Semicha certificate and college degrees.

Interpersonal skills

Approachable, accessible, available, good listener, compassionate, and make people comfortable.

Sensitive, respectful and discrete

Flexible, embraces the diversity in observance of members and their families.

Reaches out to and connects with all diverse parts of the congregation.

Energetic, enthusiastic, engaging, dynamic, has a presence.

Capabilities to develop and lead efforts to attract new members

Welcoming and nonjudgmental; has strong people skills

Charismatic / inspirational, enthusiastic and engaging

A bridge builder and has the ability to navigate conflict

Ability and willingness to delegate

Supports and collaborates with others in developing new programs and activities.

Has the ability to enforce and command respect for decorum

Rabbinical skills

A dynamic and engaging teacher

High level of Torah scholarship

Adheres to the texts, principles and rituals of Modern Orthodoxy

Ability as a Shaliach Tsibur who leads services and chants Torah and Haftarah

Fuses Torah and modernity

Delivers uplifting and intellectually robust sermons

Encourages minyan involvement and motivates to learn more

Likes to teach; Involved and learn with all age groups

Has excellent pastoral skills for all life cycle events

Proactively identify and approaches those in need; participates in events; and visits the sick

Sensitive to context of individual family situation and dynamics

Communication skills

Engages with people from all backgrounds

Effectively and actively promotes membership

Motivates youth, pre-and post-bar/bat mitzvah

Plays a positive role in cross-communal relations

Opinions and attitude

Respectful of women and appreciates their central role in the congregation

A Strong Zionist, pro-Israel leader

Passionate and involved in Israel and other Jewish causes

Respectful of all of the different and unique models of Judaism found in the community

Relates to real-world issues and causes

Engaged with present day issues of concern to Modern Orthodoxy

Respectful and able to partner with the broader Orthodox and nonorthodox Jewish community

Respectful and able to effectively interact and collaborate with non-Jewish leadership and programs in the community

Organization and management

Organized and punctual

Works as a team player with the Officers and Board of the congregation

Keeps stakeholders informed of whereabouts and developments

Other

Computer literate – Email, Word platform and Internet

Amenable to Social Media

Please send your cover letter, resume and supporting materials to both:

Elliot Mazer, e.mazer@comcast.net

Morissa Rubin, morissa.rubin@gmail.com