



Reconstructionist
Congregation
Beth Israel *A Contemporary
Look at Tradition*

A Temple Israel & JCC Community
475 Grove Street,
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
201.444.9320 ext. 216

WHAT MAKES RECONSTRUCTIONIST CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL UNIQUE?

We are **an intimate congregation with a rich history and tradition of nearly 90 years**, and have been affiliated with the Reconstructionist movement since 1997. We are the only Reconstructionist congregation in Bergen County and draw our members from throughout Bergen and Rockland Counties.

The Reconstructionist movement believes that Judaism is an ever-evolving civilization and our congregation also continually evolves, reflecting the changing dynamics of our community, our world, and Judaism today. Among our ranks are young families, mature couples, older singles, interfaith and multiracial families, LGBT couples and individuals—all from diverse backgrounds, religious observance, upbringing and Jewish knowledge.

We seek to combine the best of these various perspectives to create a **warm, welcoming atmosphere that embraces diversity and encourages participation** in our services and communal life, whether it's attending a class at the temple or volunteering for a social action project in the wider community.

As a Reconstructionist community, **we respect our past and honor the traditions and practices that have defined us as a people**. Together we celebrate our heritage while being actively engaged in work to apply, restate and adapt it through our religion and culture in contemporary ways that are most meaningful to our members and our modern times.

We act in partnership with the rabbi to formulate guidelines and practices that reflect our community's shared values through study, discussion and a democratic process. We enjoy exploring new ways to engage in worship and finding new avenues of creative expression.

Come visit us for Shabbat services Friday night at 8:00, Saturday morning at 10:00, or join us for our holiday celebrations. We're located in Temple Israel & Jewish Community Center, 475 Grove Street in Ridgewood, NJ. For more information, please call the temple and leave a message at (201) 444-9320, ext. 216 or visit <https://www.synagogue.org/about-us/rcbi/>.

We look forward to getting to know you!