

Guide to “Gift of the Heart”

“Every Person Shall Give As They Are Able According To The Blessings That Adonai, Your God, Has Bestowed Upon You” -- Deuteronomy 16:17

In keeping with this expression of Jewish values and in order to bring financial stability to our community, Congregation Sons of Zion asks you to consider your “Gift of the Heart”.

Our system provides income/gift brackets to guide you in determining your Gift of the Heart commitment. These are guidelines, not required amounts. It is, however, important that you complete the attached Form and return it to the synagogue office. ***All financial information will be kept strictly confidential.**

A note about the cemetery: The cemetery bylaws require a minimum of five (5) consecutive years of membership in good standing prior to need, before you are eligible for a free cemetery plot.

Please determine your gift based on **gross income** from all sources.

Active Member **

<u>Household Income</u>	<u>Suggested Gift</u>
Less than \$20,000	\$150 - \$300
\$20,000 - \$39,999	\$300 - \$600
\$40,000 - \$59,999	\$600 - \$1,200
\$60,000 - \$89,999	\$1,200 - \$1,350
\$90,000 - \$119,999	\$1,350 - \$1,800
\$120,000 - \$159,999	\$1,800 - \$2,400
\$160,000 - \$179,999	\$2,400 - \$2,700
More than \$180,000	\$3,000 or more

Sustaining Member: A minimum contribution of an additional \$1,000 or more above your generous annual gift. Sustaining members will be recognized and will not be expected to contribute to any additional solicitations throughout the year.

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Associate Member: Individuals living **more than 75 miles away** or in a nursing home and **unable to participate** in synagogue activities.

With cemetery privileges:

- Previously active member for five (5) years or more: Minimum of \$300 per year.
- Previously active member for less than five (5) years or never active member: Minimum \$400 per year and amount paid in dues will be deducted from current cemetery plot cost and balance will be due at time of burial.

Without cemetery privileges:

- Associate membership : Minimum \$100 per year.

Dual Membership: without cemetery privileges, for full members of area synagogues:
Minimum \$180 per year.

Please note: Associate Members and Dual Membership members may also be Sustaining Members with a minimum additional gift of \$1,000.

**Please contact Cindy Vieu, our Financial Secretary, (413-335-1377) or (cindyvieu@charter.net) if you would like to arrange a payment plan for the year.*

***Children are considered a member of the household until they are no longer a full- time student, or are living independently.*