



## **FOOD POLICY**

Many Reform Jews observe certain traditional dietary rules as part of their attempt to establish a Jewish home and Jewish life style. Some strictly follow kashrut; some eat only kosher meat, but do not use separate plates for meat and dairy; some do not mix meat and dairy; and some follow what has been termed “kosher style,” which is generally understood to mean not eating pork or shell fish. On the other hand, many Reform Jews follow the practice of traditional Reform Jews, and do not follow any Jewish dietary rules.

Historically, Community Synagogue has not allowed pork or shell fish at Synagogue functions, but it has been unclear whether other aspects of Jewish dietary law, such as not mixing meat and dairy, are to be followed. Accordingly, the Ritual Committee has agreed that it would be advisable to adopt a written food policy for the Synagogue so that Synagogue members, employees and guests will know in advance what is and is not permitted. In arriving at a consensus, the Ritual Committee endeavored to develop a policy that would be consistent with fundamental Jewish dietary guidelines while at the same time accommodating the practices of the vast majority of the Synagogue’s members and offending as few of its members, employees and guests as possible.

With the impending refurbishing of the social hall, we anticipate that there will be increasing numbers of Bar Mitzvah, Bat Mitzvah and wedding receptions, as well as other func-

tions, held at the Synagogue. Accordingly, and to avoid any misunderstandings or surprises, the Ritual Committee recommends that contracts governing Synagogue functions be revised to provide that the contracting party and caterer agree to abide by the Food Policy. The current contract provides: “All food shall be in strict compliance with Biblical Kashruth. (No shellfish or pig products).”

The following food policy applies to any meeting, function or other gathering sponsored by or held at the Synagogue and to any employee, student, guest or other person while on the premises of the Synagogue:

1. No pork or shell fish may be served, made available or consumed.
2. Dairy and meat shall not be served or made available in the same dish (*e.g.*, cheeseburgers, chicken parmigiano).
3. Nothing herein shall bar any person:
  - (i) from sponsoring a function, such as a Bar Mitzvah, Bat Mitzvah or wedding reception, at which the rules of kashrut apply or at which more stringent standards for the separation of dairy and meat apply (*e.g.*, serving only dairy or meat or barring the mixing of dairy and meat by guests on their own plates); or
  - (ii) from mixing dairy and meat on his or her own plate or in any dish they bring to the Synagogue to consume on their own.