



Seaside Jewish Community
P.O. Box 1472
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
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Religious Leader Job Description

Seaside Jewish Community (Seaside) is an independent, unaffiliated, inclusive, and egalitarian congregation. We are committed to embracing and supporting the individual spiritual journey of our members and cultivating connectivity throughout the congregation. We are looking for a versatile, inspirational leader to guide our multi-generational congregation with its varied traditions. We are currently seeking a full-time Religious Leader to join us in beautiful Rehoboth Beach – a beachside city on the Atlantic Ocean in eastern Sussex County, Delaware.

Sussex County is the fastest growing of Delaware's three counties due to its attraction to retirees from several major metropolitan areas outside of Delaware. While there are Jewish congregations in the Dover and Wilmington areas, Seaside is the only organized Jewish congregation in Sussex County. Many Seaside members are retirees or second homeowners from the Washington, D.C./Baltimore region, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and New York.

Sussex County's rapid population growth has in turn fueled Seaside's recent growth from a congregation of about 150 members to more than 500 members, representing about 350 households with a broad range of Judaic traditions and practices. We have just completed a beautiful expansion of our building. Seaside provides its members an active schedule of worship, adult education, social gatherings, and community action activities throughout the year. We offer a religious school with an average enrollment of 20 students who meet once a week. We also offer *B'nai Mitzvah* training. Seaside is fortunate to have an engaged and talented membership that enjoys the opportunity to be involved.

Mission Statement: Seaside supports and fosters Jewish identity by sponsoring religious, cultural, social, educational, and community-wide activities for its members in the spirit of *Tikkun Olam* and respecting our fellow men and women. Seaside welcomes all people seeking to share the values of Jewish communal life.

Values: Seaside seeks the following in its full-time Religious Leader:

- Inclusivity of fellow Jews including those in multi-faith relationships or families and LGBTQ individuals
- Desire to partner with Seaside on a collective spiritual journey connected to Judaism and community
- Love of education, study, and learning
- Commitment to and embracing of pastoral care
- Recognizing Seaside as a Family and Community, a place of belonging
- Flexibility in Judaic practice with a respect for a diverse range of traditions
- Appreciation of interfaith social action efforts throughout the community
- Transparency in communication
- Integrity and discretion in dealing with congregants

Qualifications: The full-time Religious Leader should have:

- Comprehensive Jewish spiritual and cultural knowledge
- Strong liturgical skills
- Dynamic presence leading worship services, including:
 - leading services for lifecycle events
 - teaching and *Divrei Torah*
 - incorporating music and chant as part of the worship service
- Strong leadership and interpersonal skills
- Skill in providing pastoral care for individuals and groups
- Excellent administrative and organizational acumen

Expectations: The full-time Religious Leader should:

- Embrace and respect Seaside's diverse community and its core values and policies as reflected in the Seaside Mission Statement
- Appreciate and accept that Seaside is a membership-driven, membership-governed congregation
- Coordinate with the Worship Committee to:
 - organize worship services and develop their content, including membership participation
 - prepare the service calendar
 - lead High Holy Days services
 - lead many, but not all, *Shabbat* and festival services
 - conduct life cycle events such as weddings and funerals
 - ensure that members who volunteer to lead or participate in services are prepared to do so
- Coordinate with the *Chesed* Committee to provide spiritual and pastoral care, including:
 - hospital visits
 - home visits
 - telephone calls to Seaside members in need of support or experiencing the death of a loved one
- Participate in Seaside's *Tikkun Olam* initiatives
- Support various approaches to worship leadership and style
- Coordinate with the Youth Education Committee to oversee the Religious School and the worship component of *B'nai Mitzvah* and integrate students into Seaside's worship
- Respond to questions from Seaside members on Jewish holidays, rituals, practices, law, theology, and other Jewish content
- Attend Board meetings and committee meetings as requested
- Be responsible for her/his own administrative activities

Education: The qualified candidate will be a graduate of a major seminary. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) credits and Spiritual Directional training is preferred.

Seaside envisions that our full-time Religious Leader will live locally and become an engaged member of the Seaside community.