

Beit Hillel l'Tzedek

Beth Hillel Seekers of Justice



Brit Olam: The World We Want Covenant Reform CA, a project of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Our country faces a new reality, and the need for *tikkun olam*, world repair, is enormous. The normalization of bigoted rhetoric has led to increase in hate crimes and hate speech against Jews, Muslims, immigrants, low-income people, African Americans, LGBT people, women and others. We are ready to respond to the Torah's call to *rodeph tzedek* – pursue justice – and assert the importance of eternal Jewish values: equality, fairness, and the dignity of every individual.

In signing this Brit Olam, we clergy and lay leaders of Temple Beth Hillel in Valley Village, California, commit to form a team of clergy and lay members that will lead the response against hatred and bigotry, and for dignity and fairness. We commit to lead this team and our congregation to:

- Act in solidarity with vulnerable communities – Muslims, immigrants, low income people, African Americans, LGBT people, women, Jews and others.
- Work to pass key proactive city, county, and state policies that model the world we want to build, in areas such as: criminal justice reform, health care, immigrant rights, climate change, and religious freedom.
- Support the statewide and national campaigns of the RAC and the Reform Movement. This means weighing in on state and national issues and policies; taking up campaign actions when appropriate to our congregation or community; and sharing successes and challenges with other Reform congregations and communities.
- Build relationships with congregations and organizations of other religious traditions, races, and classes than most of our congregation
- Create a culture of civic dialogue and discussion in our congregation or community where everyone, no matter the political party or perspective, feels valued and heard. Reform CA, a state-specific project of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, in turn commits to provide our congregation or community with:

- A variety possible actions and activities so our congregation or community can take up the actions most appropriate for us.
- Regular opportunities to receive training, the latest analysis of federal and state politics, and the sharing of successful congregational actions.
- An online space where Reform clergy and lay members across the state engage in dialogue and share best practices.
- Regular email updates with political news and analysis, as well as suggestions for actions.

In keeping with eternal Jewish tradition of lifting up the fallen, healing the sick, and freeing the captive, we the undersigned agree to the aforesaid and commit to lead our congregation or community in collective acts of love to counter bigotry and the climate of hate and to advance Jewish values in the public sphere.

Name

Email

Phone

Signature
