

# MAKING MENSCHES

## It's What We Do

### OUR VISION



We imagine a world where mensches are found around every corner, in every family, in every business, impacting governments, serving as the primary influence in the world.

We endeavor for an existence filled with kindness, compassion, and active caring.

We pursue this vision within Or Ami, "a sanctuary of kindness, a safe Jewish community for today, [people's] second home."

### OUR MISSION



Congregation Or Ami's learning programs strive to make mensches (kind, compassionate, actively caring Jewishly connected people).

We proactively create a loving, inclusive, intentional community, existing in a safe, brave space, where adults (staff, parents, clergy) challenge learners and themselves to become mensches.

### OUR METHODS



Partnering with parents (and guardians and grandparents) to guide students and families to actively pursue this mission as their life-purpose.

Applying the four B's of How to "B" Jewish — Being, Becoming, Belonging and Behaving — as intentional strategies through which we teach menschlichkeit.

Embracing core values that serve as the umbrella for the community, give birth to four focal middot which change each year and are interwoven throughout the entire community.

### OUR CORE VALUES



**B'tzelem Elohim:** Every human being is of infinite value therefore is to be treated with dignity and kindness. Every child is endowed with unique gifts.

**Henaynu:** We are responsible for being there for one another in good times and bad.

**Shmirat Haguf v'Hanefesh:** Self-care and self-compassion require us to attend to the health and care for our bodies, minds, and souls.

**Chesed:** The world was created and is sustained with kindness and *tikkun olam* (repairing brokenness).

**Achdoot:** We feel an integrated connection to the past/present/future.

**Mosaic:** We are a mosaic of Moses' people, embracing and including all people.



**MENSCH:** Mensches are kind, compassionate, actively caring Jewishly connected people.

