

Greetings from Bangor, Maine,

Thank you for your interest in Congregation Beth El. We are excited to participate in the Makom Fellowship Program. Congregation Beth El, located in Bangor, Maine, is a welcoming community rooted in progressive Judaism, providing a sense of belonging and connection to Jewish practices, traditions, and culture.

Our synagogue is located a block from downtown Bangor, providing easy access to local shops, businesses, restaurants, and endless opportunities to explore the great outdoors. Be prepared to enjoy children's laughter during a religious school hike or bundle up for our annual sunrise service at Acadia National Park. Life is slower in this part of the world. There is less stress with lower housing costs, low crime rates, strong public schools and active government and civic organizations continuously working to improve Bangor. We are a community committed to the ideals of Tikkun Olam—working together to improve our community and the world around us. We are seeking a rabbi who has the ability and experience to provide inspirational spiritual leadership and teaching to support positive and lasting growth in our kehilah kidusha (sacred community). We need a rabbi with strong leadership and organizational skills and an eagerness to engage in all aspects of congregation operations. A good match will be a dynamic person able to lead with humor, humility, and kindness.

We are a community of very committed congregants! We reside across central and northern Maine, with a few congregant families residing across the border in New Brunswick, CA, and others residing seasonally in other far reaching areas across the US. Many of our members drive up to two hours from their homes to attend a Friday night service and up to four hours to attend a holiday celebration. We conscientiously work to build Jewish practice and community into our lives and community here in rural Maine. We are a hands-on organization with passionate volunteers who work to bring to our synagogue a strong sense of Jewish community, spiritual experience, and art, music, and learning. We celebrate our successes and learn from our challenges together, often referring to ourselves as a family. Now in our second year on zoom, we are often joined at services and Torah Study by people across the country. Congregants and former congregants have joined us from New York, New Jersey, Missouri, or Arizona to reconnect with the kavanah that is expressed and nourished at Congregation Beth El.

Are you interested in applying and learning more? Please send your cover letter and resume to our Search Committee at [Info@BethElBangor.org](mailto:Info@BethElBangor.org). We look forward to speaking with you soon!

All the best,

Melinda Wentworth, Board President  
Congregation Beth El  
Bangor, Maine