

## Why Should You Contribute?

We cannot depend on dues and fees alone to fully fund our synagogue, school, infrastructure, and programs in the future. Planned Giving creates opportunities for us to educate the next generation, and leave Etz Chaim a little better than we each found it. Your donation will open new doors, create new experiences and help assure that our congregation will grow and flourish for years to come. It will do this and much more with your participation and your gift.

Congregation Etz Chaim began when a small group of Jews were looking for a means to provide a spiritual, educational and cultural home for Jewish faith and culture in the Western suburbs of Chicago. They did this because they knew that the synagogue replenishes Jewish commitment, continuity and identity in each new generation. Since it began, an essential aspect of living well at Etz Chaim is thinking of the world and community we each leave behind.

Our founders created an enduring statement with our building, people and causes. Your donation similarly says you care to make your intentions clear—you remain committed to the convictions of Jewish faith, culture and community the Etz Chaim way—through people, participation, causes and caring. While every institution and cause asks a lot, our synagogue's job, in partnership with our rabbis, parents and grandparents, is to create an environment where future generations of Jews will know of the meaning of tzedakah and tikkun olam, and our special way to treat, educate and help our Etz Chaim family.

**Will you join us** to ensure that Congregation Etz Chaim's mission prospers well into the future?

Please contact the synagogue office for further details on how you can help.

**Call: 630-627-3912 • email: [cec.foundation@congetzchaim.org](mailto:cec.foundation@congetzchaim.org)**

**Visit: [www.CongEtzChaim.org](http://www.CongEtzChaim.org)**



## Congregation Etz Chaim Foundation

*A Commitment to the Future*



*Sustaining our Traditions  
for Generations to Come.*

1710 S. Highland Ave. | Lombard, IL 60148

Phone: 630-627-3912

[www.CongEtzChaim.org](http://www.CongEtzChaim.org)

## A History of Commitment



One day, Honi the Circle Maker was walking on the road and saw a man planting a carob tree. Honi asked the man, "How long will it take for this tree to bear fruit?" The man replied, "Seventy years." Honi then asked the man, "And do you think you will live another seventy years and eat the fruit of this tree?"

*The man answered, "Perhaps not. However, when I was born into this world, I found many carob trees planted by my father and grandfather. Just as they planted trees for me, I am planting trees for my children and grandchildren so they will be able to eat the fruit of these trees."*

### **Congregation Etz Chaim's members and friends** are deeply

involved in the life of the synagogue, committed to its future, and dedicated to its mission and traditions. They support Etz Chaim through dues, donations and, of course with their time – perhaps the most valuable support of all.

While we enjoy the richness of our synagogue community, we ask, "Where will Congregation Etz Chaim be long after we are gone?" The Talmud teaches that each of us must personally act to ensure Jewish continuity. The synagogue is our stronghold for Jewish study, observance, communal activities, social justice, and our connection to Jews around the world and through the ages. Congregation Etz Chaim's Foundation will provide a vehicle for Planned Giving that will build a permanent fund to insure Etz Chaim remains a long-term strength for those in our community seeking to live by Jewish culture, values and religion.

## What is Planned Giving?

Planned Giving provides a permanent legacy for our synagogue that outlasts all other forms of giving. Generous gifts are prudently invested to provide income for many needs of the congregation including Jewish enrichment experiences for our children, recognition of life cycle events, Jewish learning, and enhancement of other programs.

## What Can You Contribute?

Planned gifts include naming the Congregation Etz Chaim Foundation in your will or trust, designating the Foundation as a beneficiary of retirement assets (401(k) or IRA) or a life insurance policy, creating an annuity with the Foundation as the recipient, or making a direct gift. Contributions may be made in many forms: cash, bequest, securities, real estate, life insurance or in trust. Your donation can be in honor of an important event or in memory of your family or a loved one. Your financial advisor can help you determine the best way for you to contribute to Congregation Etz Chaim's Foundation, or you can call the synagogue office and we will put you in touch with one of our Professional Advisory Members.

