

# EDUCATION OF OUR YOUTH

At Congregation Gates of Prayer, Education is of the utmost priority. Nowhere is that commitment more evident than in the Rabbi Nathaniel Share Religious School of Congregation Gates of Prayer. The role of the Religious School, comprised of students from Kindergarten through Tenth Grade, is to provide students with the fundamental skills, information, values, and love of our tradition, that will enable them to live as Jews in the 21st century. We want our students to be confident in their Judaism, proud of their Jewish heritage, involved in our Reform tradition, and skilled at participating in all aspects of Jewish life. This includes observation of the Jewish holidays and customs, performance of life cycle events, and decision making based on Judaic teachings.

Students at our Religious School are exposed to a wide variety of experiences designed to enhance their learning. These include, Torah Study, Family Education, Jewish Reading Programs, B'nai Mitzvah Tutoring, Art, Music, Hebrew, Story Telling, and with the creation of our new multi-media learning center, Computer Technology and Audio-Visual learning. Our Religious School is committed to finding new and innovative ways to teach our children.

Once confirmation is completed (Tenth Grade), our students are encouraged to keep their school connection alive. Many participate in our High School Chavurah Group, a program designed for post confirmands to meet once a month in an informal setting, to discuss contemporary issues and current events. Others become Teacher Assistants in the Religious School.