You belong in USCJ’s new digital community …

Join us in The Commons today!

USCJ’s Digital Community, The Commons, is our online platform that:

★ **Fosters** the creation and deepening of relationships among the lay and professional leadership of our *kehilot* (congregations)

★ **Facilitates** the frictionless sharing of ideas and resources

★ **Empowers** members to develop their own affinity groups within our space

★ **Directs** the leaders of our *kehilot* to forums of relevance and meaning

★ **Connects** the members of The Commons to the staff and resources of USCJ

**In The Commons, we will collectively strive to create a culture of trust, transparency, and generosity as we learn, share, and seek meaning together.**
Forums are open to all members of The Commons to discuss everything from youth engagement, to financial sustainability, to ritual innovation, to security, to membership models, and more!
Clubs & Cohorts are a “Commons” within The Commons. Professional cohorts, congregational leadership teams, and other affinity groups can create a space to converse, share resources, and keep a calendar while still participating with everyone else in The Commons.

Clubs and Cohorts can be open, public, closed, or private.
Resource Library provides a curated repository of high-quality materials that will be of interest to the leaders of our congregations. Resources will be categorized to align with our Forums.

In addition to the files in the Resource Library, there are dozens of webinar recordings available in our forums and clubs!
Private & group messaging, create polls, activity feed, calendars, email notifications and digests & everything is fully searchable!
Never Miss What’s Important ...

You can follow content in forums, clubs, the resource library, and calendars to be notified when new posts are made and new content is added. You can click ‘Follow’ in any forum (not the number – the word ‘Follow’), club tab, resource library category, calendar – you can even follow another member of The Commons! Following will trigger email and inline notifications of new posts and resources that you care about. You can control whether notifications are instant, or sent as daily or weekly digest. You can change your preferences at any time.
Member Profiles

Setting up your profile allows others to see and know who you are when you post in forums and club posts.

- **Profile Photo** lets us see who you are.
- **Member Title** lets us know who you are – no need for ‘signatures’ in forum and club posts.
- **Profile Tabs** show the activity feeds for the member, the clubs they belong to, and you can also provide a bio for yourself (‘About Me’).

You can personalize your profile with a **Cover Photo**.
Getting Started

We have resources to guide the members of your leadership team to register for The Commons, setup their member profiles, and follow forums.

You can download a guide on how to become a member of The Commons and setup your member profile at https://tinyurl.com/USCJTheCommonsGettingStarted ...

Once your membership to The Commons has been approved, you can download a guide on how to follow Forums, etc. from our Resource Library ...

Resource Library > The Commons | User Guides
1. As a member of The Commons, each of us represents our kehilla (synagogue) and the sacred community we are building here. Our behavior in The Commons should always reflect our Jewish values and common decency. Therefore:

2. All of us should treat one another with dignity, respect, and kindness. We are all created in the “Image of God.” We are here to share with and support one another. As you engage in conversations in our forums, etc., remember that insults and other pejorative comments aimed at individuals or institutions will not be tolerated. Mind the line between constructive critique, which is welcome, and destructive language.

3. Share who you are! Use your full, real name in your profile. Upload your headshot to your profile. Complete the “Member Title” and “About Me” sections of your profile. (See our registration guide if you have any questions on how to complete your profile.) We endeavor to build a true community in The Commons, and that requires all of us to be our true selves here. Also remember to update your profile if your role with your synagogue changes, etc.

4. Become familiar with The Commons and how it works! Play, participate, and explore. If you have any questions or need assistance, let us know in our Help and Feedback hub.

5. The observance of Shabbat and Yom Tov is a value to USCJ and all of our kehillot (synagogue communities). Therefore, please refrain from participating on The Commons while it is Shabbat/Yom Tov in your time zone. Keep in mind that Shabbat begins and ends in different places at different times – so do not be judgmental of those who seem to be posting on Shabbat – they may be in a different time zone, latitude, longitude, or altitude!

6. Refrain from sharing anything in The Commons with individuals who are not members of The Commons. The Commons is open to members of USCJ’s affiliated congregations, and USCJ’s partner organizations. We want members of The Commons to share with one another, and to support one another. However, always remember that The Commons is not a space that is open to the general public, and we want everyone to feel safe speaking freely while participating in our forums and clubs.

7. Do not share any resource (files, videos, etc.) that you do not have the right to share with others.

8. Do not share any resource that contains threatening or offensive language.

9. The Commons is not an advertising platform. Do not promote your business. However, if you have expertise in a particular area, you are welcome and encouraged to share that expertise and to let others know what organization you represent. Mind the line between “sharing” knowledge/wisdom and “selling” product.

10. The moderators and administrators of The Commons have the right to hide or remove content that does not meet our guidelines, or is a violation of our Terms of Service or Privacy Policy (see links below).
Thank you ...
For more information contact:

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