

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are the dues at Etz Chayim?

Dues for a family membership are \$125 per quarter. Special rates can be arranged for singles, students, or others based on their current financial ability.

### Are donations accepted?

Yes. Donations are appropriate and welcome throughout the year. Members frequently make donations for special occasions such as Marriage, birth, Yahrzeits. All donations should be sent to:

Huntsville Conservative Synagogue  
Attn: Treasurer  
7705 Bailey Cove Road  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

### Are there fees for High Holiday Services?

Seats are included in your membership but donations are always welcome.

### How can I get involved?

Call (256) 881-6260 or email our new member coordinator Sandy Pepper:

[newmember@etzchayim-hsv.org](mailto:newmember@etzchayim-hsv.org)

She will answer all your questions and forward a membership application and new member packet.

### Does Etz Chayim have a Web site?

Certainly! Learn more about the congregation, read our monthly newsletter, and view pictures of our congregational events at:

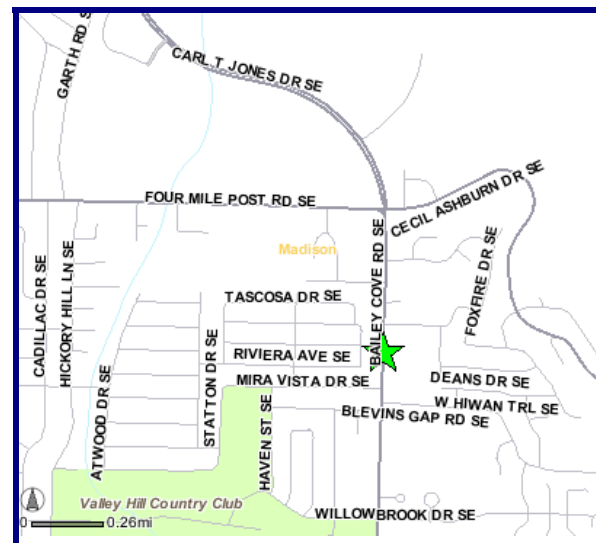
<http://www.EtzChayim-HSV.org>



Now



One Day...



## Etz Chayim



Huntsville Conservative Synagogue  
*Affiliated with the United Synagogue of  
Conservative Judaism (USCJ)*

*Prayer  
Study  
Tradition  
Community*

Huntsville Conservative Synagogue

7705 Bailey Cove Road  
Huntsville, AL 35802

(256) 881-6260

On the Web at

<http://www.etzchayim-hsv.org>

## *Why Join Etz Chayim*

### **Community**

We welcome all Jews who are interested in affiliating with a warm, dynamic congregation! Whether you're new to the Huntsville community or a current resident, there's a place for you and your family here at Etz Chayim.

### **Friendship**

You'll never get lost in the crowd at Etz Chayim! A small group of families founded the congregation in 1964. Many are still members today. Our relatively small size - 55 families - means that each of us is important. We all have something to give to each other and the congregation.

### **Responsibility**

Each year, we're honored to host a rabbinical student from Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. Our Rabbis are young, dynamic, and energetic. Our student rabbi spends about 7 Shabbat weekends per year with the congregation, leading services, teaching, and counseling.

Our lay leaders and individual members conduct the rest of our services. We enjoy that sacred responsibility and cherish every opportunity for meaningful participation in Shabbat services and life cycle events.

### **Celebration**

The Jewish calendar is full of joyous holidays and celebrations. At Etz Chayim, we greet them all with enthusiasm. Whether we're building and decorating a sukkah, frying up latkes, or clowning at Purim, we have a great time and always welcome visitors.

### **Location**

We're located in Southeast Huntsville, nestled in Jones Valley between Green Mountain and Monte Sano Mountain.

## *Services at Etz Chayim*

### **Shabbat Services**

7:30 Friday evenings  
9:30 Saturday mornings

Our services are traditional with part Hebrew and part English. Women are counted in the minyan and granted all Bema honors, including Torah Aliyot. Attire is generally informal. We provide kippot and tallit when needed.

### **Children's Services**

There's no need to worry about your child disrupting the service. Children are always welcome at any service, but they particularly enjoy our once-a-month children's services. These are tailored for children ages 2-8.

These special, 30 minute Shabbat services are filled with stories and songs. They're a fantastic opportunity for the whole family to welcome in the Shabbat together.

## *Religious School*

In this small Jewish community, the religious school gives our young people the opportunity to increase their knowledge and build a strong Jewish identity.

The joint Temple B'nai Sholom/Etz Chayim religious school is located at Temple B'nai Sholom and serves about 80 children from Kindergarten to 10th grade.

Regular religious school classes are held Sunday mornings from 9:30-noon. Hebrew classes for grades 4-7 are Wednesdays 4:30-6:00. The school follows a curriculum designed by the ISJL (Institute of Southern Jewish Living). All teachers are parent volunteers. Students learn Hebrew, holiday traditions, Jewish history, and participate in latke parties, seders, and Purim celebrations.

## *Etz Chayim Organizations*

### **Sisterhood**

The Sisterhood plans a variety of activities throughout the year designed to involve the Jewish women of our community. Join us for book reviews, special events, speakers, and craft nights.

The Sisterhood sponsors Kiddush luncheons along with other celebrations at Etz Chayim. Members also work with other community groups to support charitable projects for Helpline and other local organizations.

### **Men's Club**

Membership in Men's club is open to all men of the congregation and all are welcome to our monthly meetings.

At Etz Chayim, we help coordinate special events, such as building the congregation's Sukkah each year. In the Huntsville community, we work directly with local charities such as First Stop and the Interfaith Mission to help others in need in the local area.

### **Youth Programs**

Etz Chayim teens aged 12-17 can choose from several activities in the area. Sponsored through Etz Chayim, our teens buddy with the BBYO groups in Birmingham and attend all functions offered. Teens are also welcome to join the local NFTY chapter sponsored by Temple B'nai Sholom.

### **Adult Education**

Jewish learning is a lifelong joy and effort. Our members enjoy many opportunities for study, including: discussion groups, free Hebrew language classes, Jewish films, and other community activities.

Our library has a wide selection of Jewish literature and historical volumes. Classes are open to the entire community.