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FAITHFUL FAMILIES: A New Support Group for Couples with Different Faith Backgrounds and Traditions

Faithful Families is a monthly support group designed to help couples negotiate issues related to faith, tradition, and family that stem from being part of different faith backgrounds and religious traditions.

Questions we will consider include:

- How can I support the faith journey of my partner & go on my own journey as well?
- What are the challenges in differentiating our faith choices as a couple & as individuals from our parents? How can we entice their encouragement & support?
- What are the most difficult issues to negotiate & how do we come to a consensus as a couple & as a family?

The group is geared towards couples of ALL ages with different faith backgrounds including...

- Couples who identify with different religions & plan to raise their families with both religions
- Couples who identify with different religions and plan to raise their families with one religion
- Couples who identify with the same religion, but were raised in different religions

The monthly sessions will be co-facilitated by Rabbi Saks, of Beth Mordecai, and Reverend Anne-Marie Jeffery, of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

The first three sessions will be mandatory to build group cohesion. Then, the sessions will rotate between Saturday and Sunday early afternoons after religious services.

Couples are encouraged to attend the services on the day of their session and be present for Kiddush/fellowship with the community following services. Attendance will be mandatory based upon the faith identity of the couple and family in collaboration with the facilitators.

Below are the dates/times for the first three sessions:

- 1. Sunday, October 18 | 12:30-1:30pm | St. Peter's Episcopal Church (188 Rector St, Perth Amboy)
- 2. Saturday, November 14 | 1:15-2:15pm | Congregation Beth Mordecai (224 High St, Perth Amboy)
- 3. Sunday, December 13 | 12:30-1:30pm | St. Peter's Episcopal Church (188 Rector St, Perth Amboy)

Space for this group is <u>LIMITED</u>, so **PLEASE RSVP** today to: Rabbi Ari Saks (ari.saks@gmail.com or 732.442.2431)