

RABBI ELLEN W. DREYFUS, D.D.

Rabbi Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus is Rabbi Emerita of B'nai Yehuda Beth Sholom in Homewood, Illinois. She is Past-President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the international organization of over 2,000 Reform rabbis. She is past-president of the Chicago Board of Rabbis, the first woman to hold this office. She is a founder and past-president of the Women's Rabbinic Network, sits on the Israel Bonds Rabbinic Cabinet, and has served on the boards of the Union for Reform Judaism, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. She served as president of the South Suburban Ministerial Association, and chair of the Rabbinic Advisory Committee of the Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute Camp. She is a member and past-chair of the Ethics Commission of the Village of Homewood.

Rabbi Dreyfus was born in Chicago and grew up on the South Side. She received a B.A. in History from Fairhaven College in Bellingham, Washington in 1974. Upon entering the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, she spent the first year in Jerusalem, and then studied at the New York campus, where she was ordained in 1979. Rabbi Dreyfus worked as a hospital chaplain at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and at Doctors Hospital in New York City. She was the Educational Coordinator at Temple Emanu-El in Oak Park, Michigan, and served for two years as the rabbi of Temple B'nai Israel in Kankakee, Illinois. From 1987 to 1998, she was the rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom in Park Forest, Illinois, and served as the rabbi of the merged B'nai Yehuda Beth Sholom in Homewood, Illinois from 1998 until her retirement in 2013.

Rabbi Dreyfus is a Senior Rabbinic Fellow of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, Israel; one of a select group of rabbis from North America to have completed a 3-year program of study called "The Rabbinic Leadership Initiative." In 2004, the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion awarded her the degree of Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, for 25 years of service to the Jewish people.

In June 2010, Rabbi Dreyfus was ranked number 17 on Newsweek's list of "50 Influential Rabbis." She has lectured around the world. She delivered the Baccalaureate Address at Dartmouth College in 2010, spoke at the Abraham Geiger College in Berlin, Germany, and at the Doha Conference on Interfaith Dialogue in Doha, Qatar in 2011, 2013, and 2014. She conducted High Holy Day services for the Reform and Liberal communities in Prague, Czech Republic in 2014.

Rabbi Dreyfus lives in Homewood, Illinois with her husband, James N. Dreyfus, M.D., a rheumatologist practicing in Munster, Indiana. They are the parents of Benjamin (married to Rabbi Elizabeth Richman), Lina (married to Dr. Adam Wallace) and David, and the grandparents of Sivan and Eitan Wallace and Yonatan and Avital Richman-Dreyfus.