

Temple Israel Offers Public Seder the Second Night of Pesach

If you are searching for an exciting, creative, dynamic, inter-generational Seder, with gourmet Kosher l'Pesach cuisine, Temple Israel is the place for you. Filled with song, stories, traditional Haggadah texts, magic and fun, the 2008 intergenerational Seder offers a wonderful Passover experience for everyone. The Seder will provide opportunities for all to participate. Singles, couples, fam-

ilies, youth, and adults will be challenged by the lively service which will be lead by Rabbis Murray Ezring and Faith Cantor.

Have you ever wondered how our ancestors would have recited the Seder that first Passover? Are you familiar with the early Rabbis understanding of the drowning of the Egyptians? Have you ever seen magic similar to that performed by Pharaoh's magicians as

related in the Torah? All this and more will bring joy to your mind, and warmth to your heart as Temple Israel celebrates the favorite holiday of the Jewish calendar year. Join us April 20 at 8:30 PM.

To reserve your place at the Seder table, contact Temple Israel, 704-362-2796.

Members: adults, \$45; children 9-12, \$30; under 12, \$20. Public: adults, \$50; children 9-12, \$35; under 9, \$30. ☆

Temple Israel Social Club

The Temple Israel Social Club, for active couples and singles, invite you to join our social group.

Meet new people and enjoy our interesting programs and trips. For information call Janine Rosner, 704-366-5631.

Save this date: Sunday, April 13

for the Mystery Bus Ride.

Where are we going?

Leaving Temple Israel at 8:45 AM in a comfortable coach.

Returning at 5:45 P.M.

Social Club Members will receive flyers in the mail with details of this event. ☆

Let My People Go - A Freedom Celebration

On April 13 at 7:30 PM, a special celebration will take place at Temple Israel. It will demonstrate the variety of musical expression inspired by the biblical Book of Exodus. "Let My People Go - A Freedom Celebration" will include a performance by Vox (Charlotte's best professional chorale ensemble) of Part 2 of Handel's "Israel in Egypt," with video choreography, excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," Hebrew can-

tillation of selections from the Song of the Sea, and spirituals from the African-American community.

The initiative for this celebration came from David Tang, Artistic and Acting Executive Director of the Firebird Arts Alliance, a local organization dedicated to honoring and embracing the creativity, traditions and expressions of all religious and ethnic groups. ☆



Havurat Tikvah: Hag Sameach Pesach

A Reconstructionist Thought: Jewish ritual in Jewish time - what a thought. The activities that lead up to Pesach, and the Seder itself, are Jewish rituals that we observe in connection with the millions of Jews who have cleaned the chametz from their kitchens for centuries. As Jews, we live our lives in a Jewish manner every day, but there are those special times that we set aside to celebrate our lives. These times are highlighted and dedicated to Jewish family, living, customs, tradition and religious practice. Pesach is one of those times.

Our community Shabbat service will be held on April 26 at 10 AM. We will celebrate Shabbat Pesach, and will include Yiskor on Saturday.

As part of our Adult Education Program, Havurat Tikvah has regularly scheduled Israeli film evenings. With each screening, the facilitator introduces the movie, providing any background information necessary for a full understanding and enjoyment of the movie, and it is followed by a discussion of the artistic merits of the movie as well as any political, social or historical issues it raises. The series presents a unique opportunity to learn about Israeli society through the (figurative and literal) lens of Israeli film-makers.

We have seen the struggles of underprivileged North African and Indian immigrants in "Turn Left at the End of the World," the human face of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in "Cup Final" and the paradoxical political and social situation of the Druze minority in the Golan heights in "The Syrian Bride." Not always so serious, we also laughed at the adventures of Haim Topol in "Salah Shabati," at the farce of mistaken identity in "Snooker Celebration," and revealed in the Broadway-like singing and dancing of "The Troupe."

On April 5 we will be watching "Yana's Friends." The winner of ten Israeli Academy Awards, this 1999 film follows the emotional journey of young Russian immi-

grants who encounter culture shock and love when they arrive in Tel Aviv during the first Gulf War.

Please come join us in April, or anytime. There are many other excellent movies lined up for the future, please visit our website for updated information.

Please join our warm and friendly services, a family atmosphere in which all Jews can feel comfortable, and guests are always welcome. We also welcome and encourage participation in our services including leading sections of the service and reading the Torah. Prospective new members are welcome; we are a growing congregation of 49 households as of December 2007.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. We celebrate all services and many events in the Fellowship Hall of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 2201 Springdale Ave. (at Magnolia) in the Dilworth neighborhood of Charlotte.

For an updated calendar and information for Havurat Tikvah, visit our website at www.HavuratTikvah.org or call 704-545-0894. ☆



Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Shmurah Matzah Available at Ohr HaTorah

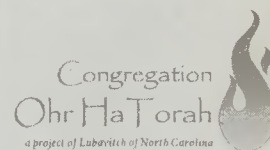
A beautiful tradition in many Jewish communities is the use of round Shmurah Matzah for the Passover Seder. Some of the reasons for this custom include the fact that the Shmurah Matzah is the closest replication of the original Matzah the children of Israel ate when they left Egypt in haste. This is especially true of the hand-baked Shmurah Matzah where no machinery is used and the matzah is prepared and baked by hand in the old fashioned way.

In addition, the Shmurah Matzah is baked with extra care which begins from the time of selecting and milling the grains for wheat, thus the name Shmurah, which means guarded. The matzah is made of only two ingredients, natural unbleached wheat and pure well water. The entire process of baking the matzah including the mixing and kneading needs to be completed in less than 18 minutes.

The matzah is baked in an old

style brick oven fired by wood logs which reach a very high temperature. The average time it takes to bake the matzah is less than three minutes. The matzah bakery shuts down production every 18 minutes and goes in to a total scrub down. After a careful inspection of all the hand equipment, the bakery starts up again. The oven remains fired up all day as the intense heat helps sanitize the oven interior.


A limited amount of Shmurah Matzah will be available for sale at Congregation Ohr HaTorah by special order at \$16.00 per pound. If you are interested, please call our office at 704-366-3984. ☆



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