

SYNAGOGUE & CONGREGATIONS

Rabbi Ben Tzion and Rochel Groner to Lead Ohr HaTorah Talmud Torah and Friendship Circle in Charlotte

Welcome to Congregation Ohr HaTorah's Talmud Torah, an exciting and innovative educational program in Charlotte. Our Hebrew School enjoys a well-earned reputation as a trendsetter in creative Jewish education for children in Grades 1 through 7. Talmud Torah does not replace day school education, which is our highest recommendation for quality Jewish education. It is only intended for those members of our synagogue who are not able to attend Charlotte Jewish Day School. Our student body is made up of children from various backgrounds and affiliations. Synagogue membership is required.

As the Talmud Torah at Congregation Ohr HaTorah continues to grow and expand for the new school year, we are pleased to announce the hiring of Rabbi Ben Tzion Groner to lead the new expanded Talmud Torah.

Ben Tzion, who is the son of Rabbi Yossi and Mariashi Groner, has a passion for education and is a highly motivated organizer of Jewish programming. Ben Tzion has a wealth of experience in his young rabbinic career. He has led educational programs in Leeds, England and has organized Jewish theatrical productions for children all over South Africa.

Rochel Groner (nee Adler) has received superior ratings for her teaching ability at the Beth Tefilah School in Baltimore. She has also



Rochel and Rabbi Ben Tzion Groner

worked as project developer for Chabad of Baltimore. Rochel has taught at the Queens Gymnasia in Queens, New York and in the Jewish school in Vienna, Austria.

Ben Tzion and Rochel will help lead the Talmud Torah with assistance from Channie Weiss and Devorah Leah Gordon who helped launch the Talmud Torah last year. Please visit our Talmud Torah website at: www.talmudtorah.net.

Ben Tzion currently heads the Friendship Circle, an international children's organization based in New York with over 60 branches in North America. Ben Tzion will continue to direct this phenomenal organization and its local Charlotte chapter. The Friendship Circle in Charlotte extends a helping hand to families who have children with special needs and involves them in a full range of Jewish and social experiences. The Circle's unique formula introduces teenage volunteers to the children, and through shared expe-

riences both are enriched. Every member of our community deserves to share the joys of our Jewish experience. Sharing our tradition with children who have special needs is particularly rewarding. The Friendship Circle offers a unique opportunity for teenagers to connect with these children.

The child with special needs looks forward to a weekly visit and the opportunity to play with and learn from his or her older friends. The teenage volunteer learns the value of giving and cherishes the experience of making a difference in a child's life and bringing a smile to his or her face. The child's family gets a needed respite and the pleasure of seeing their child become part of the community circle. The Friendship Circle in Charlotte has been active for more than one year under the leadership of Rochel Vorst. It will gear up for major expansion with Ben Tzion at its helm. Please visit www.friendshipcirclenc.com for more information. ☆

Congregation
Ohr HaTorah
a project of Lubavitch of North Carolina

Temple Israel Book Club

People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 7:30 PM,
TEMPLE ISRAEL

The global journey of the Sarajevo Haggadah as imagined in *People of the Book* is the subject of Temple Israel Book Club's next selection. The Sarajevo Haggadah, one of the earliest Jewish religious volumes to be illuminated with images, survived centuries of purges and wars thanks to people of all faiths who risked their lives to safeguard it. "Geraldine Brooks, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *March*, has turned the intriguing but sparsely detailed history of this precious volume into an emotionally rich, thrilling fictionalization that retraces its turbulent journey A complex love story, thrilling mystery, vivid history lesson and celebration of the enduring power of ideas, *People of the Book* will surely be hailed as one of the best of 2008."

Critics accolades such as these, enthusiastic, positive comments

from readers, and its position as number one on Hadassah's list of top ten Jewish best sellers, made Temple Israel Book Club members overwhelmingly choose *People of the Book* as its next selection.

The book is available at the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library, the public library, on line and at local book stores for under \$25. Get your copy now for good summer reading and attend the Temple Israel Book Club September 16 meeting to complete your literary experience.

Temple Israel Book Club meetings are open to the entire community, even those who haven't read the book. For additional information contact Linda Levy at 704-366-6362 or levyollie@aol.com or Sandra Hirschman at 704-867-7051. ☆

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If I do not have long term care insurance, do I need coverage?

I am a Certified Long Term Care specialist and I can help answer your questions.

Milton Goldstein, CLTC
Long Term Care Specialist

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