What We'll Be Doing for Our Summer "Vacation"

Most of us think of summer as a time when plans - for vacation, for relaxation, for warm weather activities - become reality. But at Havurat Tikvah, summer is a time for planning the realities to come. Our summer planning kicks off with Havurat Tikvah's annual community meeting on June 7. The Havurat Tikvah family will come together to review and celebrate the past year while we look ahead to the projects, events, and activities being planned for the year to come. This year's meeting will have a special focus on our religious school. Changes are in the air with a vibrant new curriculum set to begin in the fall. Feel free to join us, to meet the Havurat Tikvah community, and to get a preview of coming events.

Summer planning for the High Holidays is also on the agenda. Our member-led services are not only a tradition at Havurat Tikvah, they're a meaningful high point for the year. The summer months find Havurat Tikvah members organizing sections of our services, learning Torah and Haftarah portions, and preparing for High Holiday lunches and our breakfast.

Our mitzvah and tzedakah projects continue throughout the summer months. June 14 is tentatively set aside for gleaning; Havurat Tikvah members will harvest food, at a local farm, that will then be donated to organizations feeding the hungry. We'll also continue work with "Project Linus," Samaritan House, and the weekly soup kitchen at First Christian Church in the Dilworth section of Charlotte. Interested in participating? Visit our website or contact us at the number below.

This year's summer months are marked by a bittersweet event for Havurat Tikvah and its members. Student Rabbi Arlene Berger, in her third year with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, will be leaving Havurat Tikvah for six months of study in Israel. We'll miss Arlene, but wish her mazel tov as she begins this next step in her rabbinic education. We look forward to hearing about her adventures when she returns to visit next spring.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. We provide a comfortable, family atmosphere where all Jews can feel welcome. We encourage participation in the community and in our services. Sunday School and B'nai Mitzvah preparation are available for children. We invite all who are interested to visit, get to know us, and to become part of our growing congregation of over 50 households.

For an updated calendar and information about Havurat Tikvah and the events listed above, visit our website at www. HavuratTikvah.org or call 1-877-203-5848. \$



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A Decade of Music and More Mark Your Calendar: July 31 at 6 PM

Who else is known to strike dread due to the often anticipated "Cantor's Revenge" on Saturday mornings? Who has expanded our musical horizons through Kabbalat Shabbat services, teen ensemble, teen band, adult and family choirs, concerts and more? Who has brought a culture of student leadership through our madrachim program, keeping our teens involved and engaged at the Temple far longer than they might have been? Who has broken our hearts and lifted our spirits with stories of his time on the pediatric ward at Carolinas Medical Center?

This summer, Cantor Andrew Bernard celebrates a decade of music and more at Temple Beth El. Now, we all have a chance to celebrate the decade of "Andy" through a special service dedicated to music and fun.

On Friday evening, July 31 at 6 PM, we will celebrate the many facets of Cantor Andrew Bernard with a special service of music and memories. We'll celebrate with special guests on the bima. Mary Thomas will return for the weekend. Cantor Bernard's friend and colleague Cantor Jen Frost from B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim in Glenview, IL will also join us to sing.

We'll follow this inspiring



Cantor Andrew Bernard

service with a reception where the kids and teens have a chance to "Roast and Toast the Cantor" and a dinner for the entire congregation (look out, Andy).

Cantor Bernard has made us proud through his work here and nationally through his leadership at URJ. Andy is a sought after voice, not just for singing, but for his opinion, writing and creating the direction of much of the music in the Reform Movement. It's time for us to gather and celebrate his insight, his sense of humor and his music.

Please visit www.beth-el.com in June for more details and RSVP information for this event. ♥

