

# SYNAGOGUES & CONGREGATIONS

## What's New(s) This Spring?

Our April 17 and 18 "Spring Forward Shabbaton" will have something for everyone at Havurat Tikvah. We're delighted to have

Student Rabbi Arlene Berger join us, once again, for a weekend of activities. This is the Arlene's last visit as our Rabbinic Intern;

Student Rabbi Arlene is about to graduate from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and will soon be heading towards new adventures and opportunities as Rabbi Arlene.

The weekend begins with Shabbat morning services on April 17. Services start at 10 AM and conclude with a vegetarian potluck lunch and social hour. We invite you to join us at the Fellowship Hall of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 2201 Springdale Ave. (at Magnolia) in the Dilworth neighborhood of Charlotte.

Our Shabbaton continues on Saturday evening. Student Rabbi Arlene will lead an adult education program - sweetened with dessert and coffee - on her recently completed semester in Israel and

her perspectives as a "Woman of the Wall." Interested in attending? Check our website, call the number or send a message to the e-mail listed below for information about location and times.

You can also contact us for information about our "Young (and young-at-heart) Intergenerational Program" on Sunday morning, April 18. Young and not-so-young alike are invited to help us conclude the Shabbaton by looking ahead to Shavuot and the events and themes that lead us into the holiday.

Our other spring news involves a newly launched series of monthly Sunday morning adult education sessions. Recent sessions included "Shabbat Services 101: a guided tour" and "A Passover Primer: making the Seder fun." Contact us for information about upcoming sessions.

Mitzvah and tzedakah projects continue this month with The Dilworth Soup Kitchen, founded by Havurah member Allen B. Saxe. The noon-time meals are served at 1200 East Blvd. (First Christian Church). For more information, visit the

soup kitchen's Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=77134194660](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=77134194660).

And "Project Linus" participants continue to knit and assemble "security" blankets for children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. For more information, call the number below.

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. Our Sunday School, with its exciting new curriculum, and B'nai Mitzvah preparation are available for children. Feel free to visit, get to know us, and become part of our growing congregation of nearly 60 households.

For an updated calendar or to find out more about Havurat Tikvah, our worship services, Sunday School program, and community activities - please visit our website at [www.havurattikvah.org](http://www.havurattikvah.org) or contact new member chair, Brian Feinglass, at [bcfein1@gmail.com](mailto:bcfein1@gmail.com) or at 1-877-203-5848. ☆



**Jewish Reconstructionist Federation**

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## ISN'T IT TIME FOR A CONVERSATION ABOUT YOUR ESTATE?

Without an estate plan in place, federal and state laws dictate how property, personal items and assets are divided. Family conflicts and legal problems may result. Talk to Scott for expert guidance in estate analysis and a network of specialists to help get you closer to all of your financial goals.



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### JEWISH FEDERATION ENCOURAGES JEWISH EXPERIENCES FOR CHARLOTTE'S YOUTH

**Jewish Experience Fund:** Promotes Jewish identity building among our Jewish youth through Jewish camping, community building, leadership development, and informal educational opportunities.

Need based subsidies are available for families meeting at least one (1) of the following criteria:

- Household gross income not to exceed \$75,000
- Change in household circumstances within the last 6-months necessitating financial assistance (ie: medical concerns, job loss, change in family status, etc.)
- Multiple children attending camps and/or Jewish programs
- Extenuating chronic family circumstances (ie: special needs children; disability, etc.)

For an application or more information, please contact Lynda Woodburn, Jewish Family Services 704.364.6594.

**Gorelick Teens to Israel Fund:** Enables and encourages local Jewish teens to have positive and lasting Israel experiences creating Jewish teens who are passionate about Israel, committed to the Jewish community, and influential in encouraging other Jewish teens to share their passion.

Subsidies are available to local Jewish teens ages 13-19 traveling to Israel on a Federation approved program.

For more information, please contact Sarah Kaplan, Community Relations and Israel Affairs Coordinator at 704.944.6751.

Special thanks to Bill and Patty Gorelick for their ongoing support and generosity.



## Temple Beth El's Historic Construction Project on Its Way

As spring approaches, you need only look through the trees at our building from Providence Road or various vantage points around Shalom Park to see daily progress on Temple Beth El's historic construction project. Samet Construction, our general contractor, reports that 10% of the project has been completed, and we're essentially on schedule to move back in by the end of this year. For those who are interested in the inside scoop, you can watch the exciting progress on our Temple Beth El website at [www.beth-el.com/construction](http://www.beth-el.com/construction).

Beth El cherishes its sanctuary arks. The ark from Dore Academy that was once in the Gold Chapel will be the centerpiece of our new Beit Midrash - our hall of study for adults and b'nei mitzvah students alike. Our white marble ark will serve as the focal piece in the Memorial Building soon to be built at the Hebrew Cemetery for the entire community to appreciate. A rendering of our marble ark in its new home can also be found on our Beth El website by going to TBE President Adam Bernstein's

Blog at the bottom of the home page.

When Beth El rededicates our magnificent sacred space next winter, a new ark, which has been designed by Sanctuary Artists Michele and David Plachte-Zuiback, will inspire us all. Their impressive work can be found at renowned synagogues across the country. The difficult yet appropriate decision to design a new ark for our renovated Beth El Sanctuary was made for safety, space and spiritual reasons.

While our building project continues at one end of the Park, so does Beth El communal life continue across the way in our Bernstein Education Building and in the Levine JCC. As Jews we are experienced in wilderness wandering. Our weekly created sacred space in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts has provided a beautiful setting for lifecycle and Shabbat celebrations. Our Martin Luther King services were equally as awe inspiring as attendance flowed out of the Sam Lerner Center and into Gorelick Hall. Our Purim celebration was as festive and fun

*Bulldozing out front.*

as ever. We have learned through the centuries, and we have learned today that wherever we are we can create community and we can find God.

We thank Beth El's Building Committee, which has spent months and years poring over designs in order to create a space that is spiritual, warm, intimate, and timeless, and connects us to our past, present and future as a congregation. We hope you will join us in watching this monumental project unfold, and we pray that as a Beth El community, we can soon welcome all of you into our new home. ☆

*Photos courtesy Arthur Mattos, ArtShots*

*The former front office.*