

# The Whole Megillah with Rabbi Marc Wilson

This year, Purim at Havurat Tikvah will be brightened by a visit from Rabbi Marc Wilson. Rabbi Wilson comes to us from Greenville, SC, where he is an essayist, community activist, and consultant in organizational development and community relations. Marc, an engaging speaker known for his scholarship and his wit, will lead the first part of our holiday observance with "Shabbat Morning Learning" on Saturday, March 19. The festivities continue on Saturday night with a Megillah reading and other surprises.

For more information about our Purim celebration or other events listed here check out our website or contact us through e-mail and phone number listings below.

We're happy to announce that our ongoing mitzvah activities have an added dimension in the form of a newly organized Havurat Tikvah Teen Group. The group's goal is to come together for fun social activities while also contributing to the community-at-large through various service projects.

Mitzvah activities also continue



at the Dilworth Soup Kitchen which provides nourishing meals and a warm welcome to those in need. Visit the kitchen's Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=77134194660](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=77134194660) for more information about this vibrant community resource.

And helping hands are always needed at "Project Linus" where Havurah members and friends meet to produce hand-made "security-blankets" for children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. No experience is

needed and there's a job for everyone.

Finally, this month's news includes a warm mazel tov to Anna Offerdahl and her family on the anniversary of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Anna was called to the Torah at our February Community Shabbat service to mark this happy occasion.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, providing 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 curriculum and opportunities for B'nai Mitzvah preparation, is open to Havurat Tikvah member families. We invite you to visit, get to know us, and become part of our growing congregation of nearly 60 households.



**Jewish Reconstructionist Federation**



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.havuratikvah.org](http://www.havuratikvah.org) or contact new member chair, Brian Feinglass, at [bfein1@gmail.com](mailto:bfein1@gmail.com) or at 1-877-203-5848. ☆

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## Temple Israel News

### Men's Club Shabbat March 4-5

Join the Men's Club as we lead services, host a delicious Kiddush lunch, and present special guest Ron Blomberg on Saturday morning. As a professional baseball player growing up in the South as a Jew, Ron had some truly eye-opening experiences. In addition to being the first designated hitter in the majors, Ron was also the manager of the Bet Shemesh Blue Sox in the Israeli Professional Baseball League.

### The Kosher Passover Wine Sale is Back -- March 5

Join us for a fun and relaxing tasting event on Saturday night, March 5 at the Weinberg Senior Center at the LJCC beginning immediately after the end of Shabbat. There will be samples of at least twelve of this year's wines - wines that were chosen to provide exceptional value, taste, and quality starting at only \$6.99 a bottle. Cost of the tasting is \$20 per person. You can pay at the door for the wine tasting, but you need to make a reservation by sending an email to [events@templeisraelmen.com](mailto:events@templeisraelmen.com) or calling 704-779-0768. In addition to wine samples, there will be non-alcoholic drinks, snacks, music, and we are planning to have a certified sommelier join us to share his expert opinions and answer your wine and food pairing questions.

### Temple Israel Megillah Reading Saturday, March 19

Ma'ariv, 8 PM; Megillah reading, 8:16 PM

Temple Israel will host an exciting, multi media Mega Megillah experience. Music! Lights! Magic! Join as we journey back to the days of Royal Persia. Experience the delights of Esther's Wedding. See and hear the intrigue, the fear, the danger and the beauty of the Story of Esther. The Festivities begin at 8 PM at Temple Israel. Purim as only we can do it.

### "Oy Story - A Purim Celebration"

Sunday, March 20 at 10 AM

Temple Israel is excited that for

the 3rd year in a row, our CORE Hebrew High Schoolers will be putting on a Purim Shpiel for the entire congregation. Whether acting, singing, painting sets, or helping to choreograph great dancing, the entire 9th grade CORE class is involved with creating a Shpiel to remember. This year, Becca Weiner and Sara Abadi are guiding the students in their preparation. So, now, the Purim announcement you have been waiting for. Temple Israel invites you to join, Andy, Potato Head, Sheriff, Slinky, and Buzz to enjoy "Oy Story - A Purim Celebration: To Shushan and Beyond."

### Temple Israel Social Club

We invite couples and singles, affiliated with Charlotte area synagogues, to join. Meet friendly people and enjoy our interesting programs and trips. Call Janine Rosner at 704-366-5631 for more information.

**Tuesday, March 22 at 6 PM:** A dinner meeting at Temple Israel. Riveting guest speaker Mor Green will talk about "Israel-Arab Relations and the Peace Process." Members and non-members are invited. Flyers with information will be sent out. For more information, call Ruth Goldberg, 704-366-8903. We are planning a visit to CPCC's Culinary School.

### Temple Israel Announces "The Passover Academy of 2011"

The Passover Academy takes place Sunday mornings beginning

March 27. Topics under discussion will include, "The Meaning of Passover," "Discovering the Freedom to be Jewish," "Understanding the Structure of the Seder," "New Seder Music" and "Hidden Recipes of Sephardic Tradition." The Program will be a series of interactive discussions concluding with the wonderful world of Sephardic recipes and tasting. Cost of the three week program is \$18 per person. For more information, contact Carole LaRossa at 704-362-2796.

### The Temple Israel Book Club Songs for the Butcher's Daughter: A Novel By Peter Manseau

Monday, March 28 7:30 PM

The author Peter Manseau is not Jewish. But, using an alter ego, he tells the story of a fictional Yiddish poet Itsik Malpesh, through two world wars and mass migration, a Jewish history full of humor, tragedy, love and loss. The reader will get a wonderful view of how it was to be a Jewish immigrant in early twentieth century New York.

Copies of Peter Manseau's *Songs for the Butcher's Daughter* are available at the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and the public library and for purchase at local bookstores or on-line for under \$15.

Temple Israel book club meetings are open to all members of the community, including "drop-ins" and those who haven't read the book. For additional information contact Linda Levy at 704-366-6362 or [levyollie@aol.com](mailto:levyollie@aol.com) ☆

Thank you to Rea Contracting for donating asphalt in Temple Israel's mitzvah project at Turning Point Academy. Part of the project was to provide a basketball court for the school. Rea Contracting, formerly part of Charlotte-based JA Jones Corporation, and now part of The Lane Construction Company, was contacted to see if they could assist by providing asphalt for the basketball court - hopefully at a good price. Rather than providing the asphalt at a good price, Rea Contracting donated the asphalt, and donated the labor to form the basketball court. "To be honest," says David Ross, who participated in the project, "Rea's donation was well beyond my expectation, even though I know that they regularly perform community service. I hope that people in the community will remember the good deed if they have projects that require asphalt."