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### Temple Israel A Message from Rabbi Noam Raucher

As I was driving that ribbon of highway, I saw above me that endless skyway, and below me that golden valley. While I roamed and rambled I could only really think about two things: Woody Guthrie and Abraham.

I wonder about Abraham's thoughts while he roamed and rambled across those plains of the desert. You remember, on the "go forth" from everything that was familiar to him to a place he could only imagine-trip. What were his prayers? What were his hopes? Even with those questions in mind



he ventured eagerly. And why not? He knew, that the trip he was about to take was in no way mundane. This trip was going to bring with it promise and opportunity in any number of avenues. He knew everything that

would go into that journey would have purpose and meaning.

I realize now, even though I was excited to start a new chapter with the Temple Israel, I wasn't excited about the road trip. I knew it was going to be long and intense, but it also needed to happen - so I embraced it.

Then I thought like Abraham.

This wasn't some ordinary road trip I was about to take. For each aggravation I had one sacred aspect for counterbalance - one thing to give me meaning in the journey.

Now we are in Charlotte, settling into our new home and surroundings. We have met so many wonderful members of the community already and can't wait until we meet the rest. We know the trip out here will lead to some sacred moments. Thank you for welcoming my family and me, as we become part of the Temple Israel community. *‡* 

Tovah, Shanah Metukah, Shanah

Mutzlachat. A Happy, Sweet, and

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## **Creating a Community of Learners That Lead By Example**

By Stephanie Glasser-Alfieri, TIRS Education Director

We, as Jewish parents need to be participatory and engage in our children's Jewish educational process so we can mentor them in developing their

own connections to Judaism. My goal as Education Director of Temple Israel is to build upon and strengthen the foundation of the three pillars of successful Jewish education; the home, school and the Synagogue.

We, as parents and teachers have a tremendous impact on our children. Their eagerness to learn, grow and be valued is often sparked by us, the parents and teachers who show enthusiasm, a love for everyday miracles, and a belief that they will succeed at whatever they set out to

do. I can't tell you how thrilled I am to have been given this opportunity to be the TIRS Director. I look forward to sharing

a year filled with challenges and blessings. I feel confident in sharing with all our parents that I will personally support your families' Jewish educational journey. It is a long road ahead, with curves and bumps that make the journey more interesting and such a worthwhile trip. May it be a journey of peace, happiness and enlightenment. I wish all our TIRS families and the Temple Israel families a Shanah



# **Temple Israel News**



The Vav Class stops for a group photo in front of the US Holocaust Museum.

#### TIRS Vav Class Visits DC

Twenty-four Temple Israel families journeyed together to Washington, DC over Memorial Day Weekend to complete their 6th grade TIRS Holocaust education unit. The trip included a visit to the US Holocaust Museum and Memorial, an incredible personal bonding opportunity, and more. For pictures and details, go to www.templeisraelmen.com. Special thanks to Temple Israel's Kristallnacht Fund and the Men's Club for co-sponsoring the 17th annual trip.

#### *TI Sisterhood Judaica Shop* Summer Gift Shop Hours

Open Tuesday and Thursday, 10 AM-1 PM

For your convenience, we are happy to open the shop outside of

regularly scheduled hours. Just call us to arrange an appointment. Contact Lisa Strunin at 704-281-9150 or Tess Berger at 704-708-4857.

#### Temple Israel Social Club

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

On Thursday, September 1 at 10:45 AM, we will tour WCNC TV-News Channel 36 and have lunch afterwards. Flyers will be sent. For more information call Marvin Barman, 704-364-4683.¢

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