

From the Lake Norman Rabbi "Where Everyone Knows Your Name"

Lake Norman is the next frontier for Jewish life in the greater Charlotte region. In just ten years the community has grown from just a handful of families to a community of more than 250 families spread across three congregations, a Hadassah chapter, and a local chavurah group. This has established the extended Lake Norman region as a viable option for Jewishly oriented families and individuals looking to move to or within the Charlotte region.

In general, Lake Norman offers the following and more:

- * Good schools
 - * Lower cost of living
 - * Beautiful natural surroundings
 - * Access to Charlotte without being in the city
- More specifically, the Lake Norman Jewish Congregation, the progressive congregation of Lake Norman, is like the "Cheers" of synagogues – a community where everyone knows your name. At Lake Norman your presence is felt and in your absence you are missed.

There is a lot to be said for "LJNC Jewish Living at the Lake":

- * The warmth and accessibility of Rabbi Shields
- * Our warm, personal, and interactive worship experience
- * Our engaging Religious School with more than 100 students
- * Our Sunday Pre-school
- * Our embrace of interfaith couples and families
- * Our welcome to families in all their forms
- * Our vision for the near future that will allow us to establish a permanent home and second

anchoring point for the greater Charlotte Jewish community.

Who Becomes Part of the Lake Norman Jewish Community?

Our members live in uptown, University, Gastonia, Concord, Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson, Mooresville, Salisbury, Statesville, Concord, Denver, Hickory, Terrell, Sherrills Ford, and even some from areas of Charlotte who enjoy the smaller feel that LNJC has. Some of our members drive a surprisingly long distance because spending time at the LNJC is like arriving home ... away from home.

The growth of the Jewish community in the extended Lake Norman region reflects the changing nature of the Jewish community of Greater Charlotte. Lake Norman now presents itself as a viable option for Jewish families thinking of moving to or within the greater Charlotte region. It is important to note that other congregations such as Kol Ami in Fort Mill reflect growth in other geographic areas as well.

Our path would have been much more difficult had it not been for the support of the Federation and a number of agencies at Shalom Park. The goodwill gesture in the form of an-allocation to the Jewish Council of Lake Norman helped give us the courage to initiate the Shalom Lake Norman Jewish Festival and other quality Jewish programs. I know that the Lake Norman Jewish Congregation and its members look forward to further deepening the relationship that has been forged with Shalom Park as we all move forward in the ongoing story of the Greater Charlotte Jewish Community. ☆

Life is Good Temple Beth El University Minimester

Why not enrich your life this New Year by registering for Temple Beth El University?

Registration for Temple Beth El University's next three week minimester begins October 1. TBEU courses are offered on three consecutive Wednesdays, November 2, 9, and 16. Our lineup for this fall includes three fascinating courses.

From 7-9 PM, Rabbi Chanoch Oppenheim will captivate his students with Jewish Thought Part I: Maimonides, a Core Course. Cantor Mary Thomas will delight her students with Jewish Prayer in the Age of Social Media in Elective One from 7-8 PM. Sara Schreibman and Susan Jacobs invite you to join them for Elective Two, the Jewish Book Club, from 8-9 PM, where they will explore Anita Diamant's *The Red Tent* including a look at the Biblical texts upon which it is based and the notion of modern midrash.

Temple Beth El University courses offer students the opportu-

nity to be challenged, engaged, enlightened, and entertained. It is the perfect and affordable answer for the community. Designed to attract Jews and non-Jews alike, class formats enable students to learn about our rich culture, religion, and past with a minimal time commitment.

Life is Good! L'Chaim! May this New Year be a healthy one; one of enrichment, fulfillment, and new adventures in learning at Temple Beth El University.

For more information on Temple Beth El University, please call Sue Hummel at 704-749-3054 or visit www.beth-el.com/RSVP to register, beginning October 1.

Courses are \$18/hour for members; \$26 for nonmembers. Financial assistance and scholarships are always available. ☆



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Orders MUST be placed by

Friday, October 7 to ensure we can process
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