

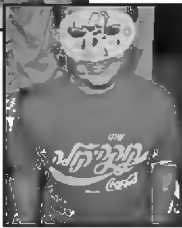
Ballantyne Jewish Center Purim Report

Pre-Purim Fun Day

Over 30 children enjoyed a pre-Purim fun day at the Ballantyne Jewish Center. Activities included baking hamantaschen filled with chocolate chips, jelly or even brownie mix. Baking was followed by fun games and mask decorating.



The fun at the Ballantyne Jewish Center started even before Purim day.



An African Purim Party – Building Our Community Through Music and Rhythms

The Ballantyne Jewish Center's annual Purim celebration was

enjoyed by over 140 men, women, and children. Held on March 8 at the South Charlotte Banquet Center, the African-themed party offered a unique way for Jews of diverse affiliations and backgrounds to unite and celebrate Purim together. Rabbi Yisrael and Leah Levin, dressed in authentic African garb, welcomed the crowd.

The evening began with the traditional reading of the Megillah scroll of Esther, which depicts the story of Purim. Simultaneously participants viewed a multi-media slide show illustrating the historical events of Purim as well as a bingo game and activity bags to keep the kids entertained. To drown out the name of the wicked adversary Haman, adults and children alike shook graggers (noise-makers) and drummed on African drums.

All enjoyed elaborate kosher African cuisine, including dishes such as kuku paka (curry chicken), African Beef Stew, and



Mr. Nigel and some of his drumming friends

Zanzibar pilu (sweet rice). A special Purim Martini was served for the adults. The banquet hall was creatively decorated to provide an African style atmosphere.

Children enjoyed booths including tribal face painting, drum decorating and making their

own shalach manot basket. The highlight of the evening? A community Drum Circle led by Mr. Nigel. Everyone enjoyed drumming, shaking and making awesome music together as a community.



Joe, Jessica, Alana, and Andrew Pries enjoying Purim with an African twist.



Chabad Hebrew School Purim Video

Scan this QR code to watch! ✪



Temple Kol Ami Celebrates 100 Years of Marriage

Recently members, friends, and guests joined together at Temple Kol Ami to celebrate a combined 100 years of marriage. Founding family members Gail and Ken Danberg and Barbara and Bob Landis each celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss. Student Rabbi Ronda Young led our congregation as our sanctuary was overflowing with people enjoying the wonderful service to celebrate and commemorate these momentous occasions. The service was followed by a bountiful oneg that included a specially made cake honoring the occasion. We know

that this is just one of many celebrations that our congregation will continue to come together for.

We hold Friday night services the first and third Friday of the month at 7 PM. Our services are held at Unity Presbyterian Church in Fort Mill, SC (303 Tom Hall Street, Fort Mill, SC 29715). To learn more about Temple Kol Ami and our programs please visit us online at www.kolamitemple.com or email us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com. ✪



Babies and Bagels at Temple Kol Ami

Temple Kol Ami has recently added a new program to our already great list of programming. In February, we had our first Babies and Bagels. Every generation deserves a home at Temple Kol Ami and our youngest genera-

tion is no exception. We started the morning off with stories and songs celebrating Tu B'Shevat and then headed off to Ivybrook Academy's Discovery room for creative expression and treats. If the laughter and smiles were any

sign then we would have to say a great time was had by all! For more information on Babies and Bagels, please contact Bonnie Shaw or Stacey Constant at yorksynagogue@gmail.com. ✪

Extra, Extra! Temple Kol Ami Holding Inaugural 2nd Night Seder

Come one come all. On Saturday night, April 7 at 6 PM Temple Kol Ami will be holding a second night Passover Seder. As we continue to grow our congregation and reach out to the community we invite you to join us. The Seder will be held in the

Fellowship Hall at Unity Presbyterian (303 Tom Hall Street, Fort Mill, SC) where we currently hold our services. The menu will include brisket, turkey, and gefilte fish. As a way to keep the cost down you will supply a side dish. The cost is \$11 for

adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, and under 5 is free. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Gail at gdanberg@comporium.net or Marge at hifi03@comporium.net by March 24. Information is also available on our website: www.kolamitemple.com. ✪

New JLI Course: The Art of Marriage

(Continued from previous page)

the American Psychological Association, the personality type of one partner alone can be a reliable predictor of marital harmony or distress. This lesson focuses on the character traits that influence marriage for better or worse. It provides practical key skills to being successful in marriage, such as how to be more appreciative of others and how to manage anger.

Lesson Five: Sacred Space: No Trespassing!

Defining Marriage's Boundaries

In Judaism, a marriage is considered consummated before any

conjugal act, when the bride and groom are secluded together for a few minutes following the marriage ceremony. The intimate space provided by this seclusion defines the marriage and should remain sacred and exclusive only to each other throughout the marriage. How does one defend a marriage from the threats of boredom, lust, pornography, and extramarital affairs? This lesson introduces a mystical approach and practical ways to form and fortify an exclusive and powerful relationship.

Lesson Six: Make Up or Break Up

Negotiating the Challenge of Our Generation

Surprisingly, the option of divorce can help stabilize a shaky marriage. This lesson explores Jewish insights on divorce, which provides powerful instruction on how to stay married when the going gets tough. A discussion of what constitutes grounds for divorce, according to the Jewish legal code, will demonstrate how far one might need to go to make a marriage work. What degree of tolerance can be realistically expected of any individual? ✪

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