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Scott is a long time community volunteer, leader, and sponsor in the Jewish community since 1985. Both he and Tricia, along with their dental team, volunteer their time and expertise to make a positive impact in our community.

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# Temple Kol Ami Welcomes Rabbi Yosef Levanon to Lead the Congregation

Temple Kol Ami is excited to welcome Rabbi Yosef Levanon to lead our congregation. Rabbi Levanon comes to Temple Kol Ami with an extensive background that includes many years of pulpit and scholarly experience. He recently retired from Beth Israel Congregation of Fayetteville, NC where he served as Rabbi for the past 17 years. Rabbi Levanon is a renowned scholar, widely-published author, Ph.D and past professor of Hebrew language and literature, Jewish Medieval History, and Biblical Studies at six universities. The Rabbi comes from a history of leading both a Reform and Conservative congregation, making him a perfect match for us. He will be bringing his many years of



Rabbi Yosef Levanon

knowledge and strength in congregation leadership to help bring Temple Kol Ami to its next level of growth.

For Temple Kol Ami this is a major milestone. In our brief two year history, we have built a congregation with families coming from all around the area. We have grown a thriving Religious school, as well as boasting an active Sisterhood. Temple Kol Ami will now fulfill a key goal in its long-range plans of bringing even more opportunities for learning and worship to the families of York County and the surrounding areas.

Rabbi Levanon will be here monthly conducting services, leading Torah Study, creating en-

richment programs, and being a mentor in our Religious School.

In addition to Rabbi Levanon joining us, Temple Kol Ami has just been recognized by The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte with a generous grant that will enable the engagement of a visiting Scholar-in-Residence.

With modest membership dues, a rich offering of services and learning to help enhance or restore one's Jewish identity and a centrally-convenient location in the historic sanctuary at Unity Presbyterian Church, 303 Tom Hall Street, Fort Mill, SC. We welcome Jews of all levels of observance to join us for services or any of our other programs.

For more information and a schedule of services please contact us at 803-701-0149, by email at: yorksynagogue@gmail.com or visit our website: www.templekolamisc.org. ✨

## Schools

# Jewish Preschool on Sardis Hosts Open House

By Dedee Goldsmith, director, Jewish Preschool on Sardis

Recently, a family came into the Jewish Preschool on Sardis for a tour. New to town, they were looking for a preschool program and heard about us through a new acquaintance. After the tour, the family seemed surprised by all our program offerings. The family heard that we were a preschool, but didn't know just how many options were available to meet the

that as well. During the summer we offer four weeklong camp options for children 18 months-5 years. Camp options offer an extended day as well.

One additional perk is our on-site enrichment. At least four days per week, JPS offers classes that will challenge your critical thinking skills, fine motor development, coordination, science sense, creative juices, and more. During the fall, we offered Yoga classes, Bricks 4 Kidz, Noah's Art, and Amazing Athletes. This winter we are excited to offer Kicks 4 Kidz, Fine Motor Fun, Amazing Athletes, Einstein Labs, and Gymnastics as our enrichment options.

In addition to our a la carte, personalized preschool program, we offer the best education in town. The Jewish Preschool on Sardis is a North Carolina 5-star preschool program. Being a 5-star preschool is a declaration to the state that we are committed to hiring well educated, state certified, and experienced teachers and administrators. It means that we have the best student/teacher ratios. It guarantees that children are individually challenged by developmentally appropriate curriculum and that we uphold the best practices in the field of early childhood.

Sound like a lot of professional jargon? Well, imagine walking the halls and hearing laughter, discussions, or singing. Envision classrooms with shelves filled with purposeful and engaging games that enhance critical thinking skills and friendships or toys that develop creativity and play that is related to their ages/stages. Feel the comfort of knowing your child's teacher loves and nurtures your daughter or son that you can walk out the door confident that she will leave school at the end of the day and at the end of the school year as a happy, confident



Miss Betty and Rom.

varying needs of families. Mom left with a smile saying, "This might allow me the opportunity to go back to work, or stay home to figure out what I want from my life in Charlotte." We are so happy to make that happen for so many families.

What I would love the Jewish community to know is that our program is quite versatile. We offer programming for children ages 1 through 5. The base portion of the day is from 9 AM-1 PM. Our early drop off begins with a smile and an open door at 7:50 AM. Our after school program, our extended day as we call it, is available until 6 PM. Need an occasional drop in for extended day for those busy days? Yep, we offer



and successful child.

My heart swells for this school and I would be delighted to share my love for JPS with you at our Open House this January 8 from 9:30-10:30 AM. You are invited to visit with us, meet some current parents, tour the school, and hear about our program options, while you enjoy coffee and a snack. Please RSVP to info@jpsonsardis.org or call our office at 704-364-8395.

Can't make our Open House but would like to see our program? Please call Lisa or Dedee at 704-364-8395 to schedule a time for a personal tour. For the first time ever, the Jewish Preschool on Sardis is offering free registration for families who register by January 11. ✨



Dylan celebrates Shabbat.