

SYNAGOGUES & CONGREGATIONS

Temple Beth El's 70th Birthday

You've probably seen the lamp post banners along Shalom Park Drive and know that Temple Beth El is celebrating our 70th birthday.

We invite the entire community to commemorate this significant occasion as we reflect, celebrate, and move "from strength to strength."



As Jews, we observe many milestones – brit milah, bar/bat mitzvah, confirmation, marriage, and death. At Temple Beth El, we also mark "special decade" birthdays and anniversaries with blessings from the clergy. Most secular birthdays, however, are generally overlooked in Judaism. The 70th birthday is different. In Psalm 90, the phrase "the days of our years are threescore years and ten" is used to describe human lifespan; thus, we celebrate the 70th birthday as a full life, and at age 83 we celebrate a second bar/bat mitzvah.



Our yearlong festivities began at the January kickoff with a special oneg after the Martin Luther King, Jr. Shabbat services. In February, we marked our Lifelong Learning Weekend with the annual Arthur Tirsun Education Shabbat honoring religious and secular teachers. We welcomed back Rabbi Jeremy Barras and Rabbi Micah Streiffer as our Sadie Levin Scholars-in-Residence, who brought learning to life with many special worship and study programs.

Throughout 2013, the celebration continues. Please mark your calendars for these upcoming

events and visit www.beth-el.com/70thbirthday for more information.

* April 13: "Seven Decades" dance party and live auction

* May 17-19: Social Justice and Caring Weekend (including Mitzvah Day)

* November 8-10: Leadership Weekend (honoring our Temple's Past Presidents and other congregants)

We also invite you to view our Seven Decades Exhibit. The Temple's history, beginning in 1943, comes alive through old photographs, newspaper articles and historical documents from our archives. Learn about the Temple's clergy, leaders and congregation, as well as our commitment to education and social justice, in this exhibit on display now in the Temple lobby. ✪



In recognition of the 65th Anniversary of the birth of the State of Israel, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and the Charlotte Jewish community are offering special Israel programs throughout 2013.

Through speakers, educational workshops, musical and cultural performances, and unique travel opportunities, our community will learn about and be inspired by the enormous accomplishments of this small country.

ISRAEL@65 Calendar of Events

- MARCH 2013**
- Charlotte Jewish Film Festival Israeli Films**
March 5: "The Other Son"
 7:00 pm, Temple Israel
March 10: "The Bottle in the Gaza Sea"
 7:00 pm, Regal Ballantyne
March 12:
 "Follow Me: The Yoni Netanyahu Story"
 Special Guest: Sharon Kabalo, Deputy Consul General of Israel
 7:00 pm, Sam Lerner Center
- Sifryat Pijama**
March 10:
 Bedtime Stories in Hebrew
 4:00 pm, Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
- LJCC/ Partnership 2Gether Cooking Class**
March 18: Passover
 10:00 am, RSVP to ariel.krusch@charlottejcc.org
- Israeli Wine Tasting**
March 23: Featuring Israeli Wine Expert Zvika Amitai
 7:30 pm, Sam Lerner Center
- APRIL 2013**
- LJCC/ Partnership 2Gether Cooking Class**
April 10: Yom Ha'atzmaut
 10:00 am, RSVP to ariel.krusch@charlottejcc.org
- Yom Hazikaron (Israel Memorial Day)**
April 15:
 6:00 - 7:00 pm, Sam Lerner Center
- Community Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration (Israel Independence Day)**
April 21: The Fountainheads
 Details to Follow
- Sifryat Pijama**
April 28: Bedtime Stories in Hebrew
 4:00 pm, Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
- MAY 2013**
- JCRC Speaker**
May 8: Featuring Ralph Nurnburger
 7:30 pm, Temple Israel
- Sifryat Pijama**
May 12: Bedtime Stories in Hebrew
 4:00 pm, Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
- LJCC/ Partnership 2Gether Cooking Class**
May 13: Shavout
 10:00 am, RSVP to ariel.krusch@charlottejcc.org
- Israel@65 programming is funded by generous donors and sponsors. If you would like to be an Israel@65 sponsor, please contact Rachael Levine at 704.944.6751.
- If you would like more information about these programs, please contact Rachael Levine, Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs, at rachael.levine@jewishcharlotte.org or 704.944.6751.

Passover at Temple Beth El

For full details on the Passover events at Temple Beth El, including a Seder Supplement to add to your Seder, see www.beth-el.com/Passover.

• **Passover-Themed Tot Shabbat** -- Saturday, March 16, 9:15 AM at Temple Beth El

• **Women's Chocolate and Red Wine Seder** -- Sunday, March 17, 6-7 PM at Temple Beth El

From modern day plagues to bitter chocolate on your Seder plate to dipping in salted chocolate ganache, this is not your Momma's Passover Seder. Experience this blend of humor and tradition, expressed in the unique way only women can. Admission is your favorite chocolate dessert and/or red wine (or other goodie). Go to www.beth-el.com/RSVP to register. Brought to you by the

Women of Reform Judaism.

• **Brotherhood's Annual Men's Seder** -- Tuesday, March 19, 6 PM at Temple Beth El.

• **Second Night Community Passover Seder** -- Tuesday, March 26, 6 PM at Temple Beth El.

o Prepaid reservations are required by March 18 at www.beth-el.com/RSVP.

o Members have priority registration until March 6.

o Have specific seating requests? Contact Sue Hummel at 704-749-3054. Tables are for parties of 8-10 people. If you have a larger group requiring special setup, please let us know.

o Prices: Adults: \$45/person (\$55 non-member)

o Children 6-12: \$25/child (\$30 non-member)

o Children 3-5: \$15/child (\$20 non-member)

o Children 2 and under: no charge.

Participants can expect an engaging, uplifting Seder filled with rabbinic wisdom, music led by our Cantors, and the warmth of our congregational family. A complete Seder meal – from gefilte fish and brisket to matzo kugel - will be served.

• **Alternative Passover - NextDOR and Beyond** -- Sunday, March 31, 10 AM-1 PM at Freedom Park, by the Locomotive.

Special Passover Yoga, playground for kids, nature walk, and Passover spiritual practice with Rabbi Jonathan and Shelley Bear, Temple Beth El's Torah Yoga instructor. ✪



Our synagogue section continues on page 5.

"The Exodus from Egypt occurs in every human being, in every era, in every year, and even in every day."
 – Nachman of Bratslav

Luck doesn't buy & sell homes... Experience does!

Buying... Selling... Relocating...
 Connecting people to the Jewish Community Since 1972

Ann Langman
 704-367-7240
ann.langman@atmail.com

GREENSPON & ASSOCIATES

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND PERSONAL & BUSINESS INSURANCE

AN INDEPENDENT BROKERAGE FIRM SERVING THE REGION SINCE 1974
 Our objective is to find you the most comprehensive plans at the lowest price while providing a high level of service and support.

SPECIALIZING IN:

- Life Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Dental & Vision Insurance
- Disability & Long Term Care Coverage
- Annuities
- HSA's

Keith Greenspon • Stanley Greenspon
 704-376-7434
www.greenspon.com