

Above: Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman shared his views on the evolution of synagogues.

Below: Rabbi Murray Ezring (holding book) leads Havdalah before a group discussion with Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman in January.



Hospitality and Chesed: Conversations with Rabbi Steve Sager and Beyond

Havurat Tikvah's year-long exploration of hospitality and chesed (kindness) is in full swing for the month of March.

We begin on March 3 with our third visit from Rabbi Steve Sager. Rabbi Sager (Rabbi Emeritus of Beth El Synagogue, Durham) directs Sicha, an organization that encourages communities to examine classic Jewish texts as they inform current and future Jewish lives and living. We invite you to join us for this unique opportunity to enjoy our always lively discussions as we relate the historical Jewish views of hospitality with modern Jewish perspectives. Attendance at our previous sessions isn't necessary. Feel free to contact us by e-mail, phone, or through our website (see below) for more information on location and time.

We also invite you to extend our hospitality and chesed themes at our Mostly Monthly Minyan. Minyan is generally held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month: this month on March 13. The evening service welcomes mourners, those with a yahrzeit, and all members who wish to daven, enjoy the warmth of our group, or partake in dessert goodies. When a death occurs in a member's family, we are always willing to schedule a special minyan at the family's home, one of our usual minyan homes, or another appropriate location. Call 704-332-4880 for more information about this month's gathering.

Not surprisingly, hospitality and chesed are integral to all of our Social Action efforts

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 and no more so than those involving Room In The Inn. On March 19, Havurat Tikvah continues its partnership with Avondale Presbyterian Church to provide a warm, safe place to sleep and three nourishing meals to some of Charlotte's homeless.

Other social action and chesed activities for this month include Project Linus (where blankets are made to help seriously ill, traumatized, or needy children – no experience necessary), volunteer work at the Dilworth Soup Kitchen (you can find the soup kitchen's facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/group.p hp?gid=77134194660), and the ongoing projects of our energetic teen group (Mitzvahs in Action).

For more information about Havurat Tikvah – as well as information about activities and our schedule of Shabbat, holiday services and other special events – go to our website www.havurattikvah.org or contact new member chair, Brian Feinglass through email (membership@havurattikvah.org) or by phone at 980-225-5330). You can also find Havurat Tikvah and Havurat Teens Charlotte on Facebook.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement and provides a comfortable, family atmosphere where all Jews can feel welcome. For those who are interested, we invite you to visit, get to know us, and to become part of our congregation of nearly 50 households. \Leftrightarrow

ttKi Jewish Reconstructionist

Federation

Temple Israel Social Club

Thursday, March 14, at 10 AM. A group tour of the Charlotte Aviation Museum located at the airport. This interesting exhibit includes the "Miracle on the Hudson" plane, old planes, and the history of aviation. Museum charge is \$7 payable in advance. Deadline for this discounted reservation is March 4.

Please send your check to: Douglas Mann, 137 N. Canterbury Rd., Charlotte, NC 28211. We will have lunch afterwards. For more information please call Ruth Goldberg, 704- 366-8903.

We invite couples and singles, affiliated with Charlotte area syn-

agogues, to join our group. Meet friendly people and enjoy our interesting programs and trips. For more information please call Irving Bienstock, 704-542-0094 or Ruth Goldberg, 704-366-8903, co-presidents. \$\$

Donating an Old Cell Phone Can Save a Life



Shalom Bayit-NC, in conjunction with Safe Alliance's Victim Assistance, is collecting cell phones for victims - or potential victims – of domestic violence. Old, used, and unwanted cell phones will be reprogrammed to call 911 and used in the event of an emergency. Donating is as simple as dropping the cell phone and battery charger (in a plastic bag or box, if possible) at the reception desks of the following locations: Levine Jewish Community Center, Ohr Hatorah Congregation, Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, or Jewish Family Services.

For more information check www.shalombayit-nc.org. ♥

How Healthy is Your Relationship?

Do you feel controlled by your partner? Do you constantly experience insults, humiliation, threatening acts or gestures, bullying? Does your partner control the finances, isolate you from friends and family, treat you like a servant, make everything your fault? Is there violence? Up to 25% of all Jewish women, teens, and even some men are cur-

rently in abusive situations. Shalom Bayit-NC is working to end domestic abuse in our Jewish community by raising awareness, offering education and providing services to people suffering at the hands of intimate partners. Call 704-756-9209. \$



³⁸⁰² Columbine Circle 704-366-6765

Open Thursdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.



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