

Being "Out" as a Straight Ally in the Bible Belt

Inclusion Shabbat at Temple Beth El, November 15-16

Temple Beth El holds an annual Inclusion Shabbat Service emphasizing a variety of issues surrounding building a truly inclusive community. Temple Beth El's

LGBT advocacy group, the Keshet Committee ("Keshet" is Hebrew for Rainbow), sponsors this event to raise awareness and strengthen the bonds between our

diverse congregants and community members. We invite you to join our Inclusion Shabbat on November 15 at 7 PM. The focus of the Shabbat evening sermon will be on the importance of allies in the fight for LGBT Civil Rights.

On Saturday morning November 16, we will conduct a Shabbat Workshop from 9-10:30 AM, looking at issues of transgender education and inclusion. Marcia Rogers, a cherished participant in Beth El life and experienced pre-

senter on this topic, will share her personal story entitled, "Being T [transgendered] or the World of Tall Women and Short Men."

This workshop provides a tour of the transgender experience, especially as it impacts individuals who are transgendered, their families, and their careers. It provides an overview of the status of transgendered persons as currently defined by the psychiatric, medical, and legal communities. Participants will be encouraged to ask



the questions (there are no bad questions) they may have always wanted to ask about living as a transgendered person. The program will include discussion of Jewish sources on the topic with Rabbi Judy Schindler. Bagels and coffee will be served. Please consider a donation of \$5. ☆



Second Annual Chanukah Wonderland

After last year's extremely successful Chanukah Wonderland at the Ballantyne Jewish Center. We are so excited to be offering this opportunity once again this year.

Imagine a world where everything is Chanukah. From the walls to the windows, the music, the games the food the smells and of course the fun. Welcome to Chanukah Wonderland!

Chanukah Wonderland offers children and adults an opportunity to enter into a festive atmosphere, where the holiday of Chanukah is not just celebrated, but experienced. Inside our funhouse, Chanukah virtually comes alive with various unique centers including an intriguing hands-on olive press demonstration, a creative crafts corner, and a dreidel bounce house. Children are also given the opportunity to meet Yehuda the Maccabi, build menorahs and dreidels in Legoland, and experience the joys and traditions of the Holiday in our Chanukah multi-media room.

Our doors will be open to the community for three magical days.

Here is a glimpse of what you will experience:

- Chanukah sand art
- Make your own menorah
- Toddler area
- Dreidel arts and crafts



- Doughnut making
- Edible dreidels and menorahs
- Face painting
- Dance, Dance, Revolution – Chanukah Style
- Olive oil press daily
- Dreidel bounce house
- Dreidel tournaments
- And much, much more!

There is something for every age. Toddlers – through teens.

Lunch/Dinner will be available for purchase.

Cost is \$8 per child 2 and up.

We will be open on these dates:

Wednesday, November 27, 11 AM-3 PM

Sunday, December 1, 11 AM-2 PM

Tuesday, December 3, 4 PM-6 PM

Special thanks to Sew-Fun Parties and More by Wendy for co-sponsoring this event. (704-254-9111 or wendy@sewfunparties.com or www.sewfunparties.com)

For more information call 704-246-8881 or email info@Jewish-Ballantyne.com or visit us online www.JewishBallantyne.com/wonderland. ☆



Mason Jones, grandson of Mae and Julius Goldman, appreciates the menorah at Chanukah last year. Photo courtesy of Jenny Jones.

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