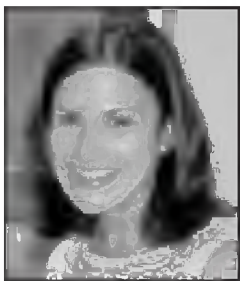


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Scott is a long time community volunteer, leader, and sponsor in the Jewish community since 1985. Both he and Tricia, along with their dental team, volunteer their time and expertise to make a positive impact in our community.

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Peace in the Park Vigil Held to Unite Charlotteans against Violence, from Ferguson to Paris to Chapel Hill

In recent weeks, Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, and the Federation's Jewish Community Relations Council joined in planning a community-wide interfaith vigil to respond to recent regional, national, and global events that threaten the peaceful coexistence of people from different backgrounds.

As the Jewish community began preparations to celebrate the freedom of Passover and the Christian community embarked on their spiritual journey toward the renewal of Easter, the interfaith community felt the need to come together for a "Peace in the Park" vigil at Marshall Park. Their goal was to affirm and celebrate their shared commitment to reli-

gious freedom and equality for all people, here and overseas.

Nearly a dozen interfaith organizations signed on as sponsors. In reflecting on the tragedies of Paris and Copenhagen, the vigil addressed global anti-Semitism. In mourning the three students who were shot in Chapel Hill, the rally confronted Islamophobia. In reflecting on the increasing number of unarmed African American killed by law enforcement, the gathering addressed the issue of racial injustice. The LGBT community shared the deep hurt they experienced with the hateful discourse in the debate over the proposed City Council's Non-Discrimination Ordinance.

Participants were invited to

wear their difference with pride. "I am Muslim," "I am Jewish," "I am Christian," "I am Buddhist," "I am Bahai," "I am Sikh,"...or simply "I am" as they stood together to share music, poetry, and affirmed their commitment to make Charlotte a safe place for all. ✨



TEMPLE BETH EL

Second Seder With Temple Kol Ami

The month of March was a whirlwind of activity for Temple Kol Ami of Fort Mill, SC. Highlights included the Purim Carnival, the Purim Shpeil presented by our Religious School students (The Megillah according to Dr. Seuss), a field trip to Molly Mays Clay Days to paint mezuzahs, and an amazing weekend of worship, learning, and fellowship with Rabbi Bruce Aft of the Institute of Southern Jewish Learning. As we spring forward into April, we are excited to celebrate the second night of Passover Seder on April 4 with the York County

community. The Second Seder has become a wonderful tradition at Temple Kol Ami. This year we are excited to have a professional chef, Johnson and Wales trained Margo Morrill, preparing our festive Seder meal. The amazing meal includes traditional Passover favorites with a twist such as beef brisket with sour cherry sauce and date glazed roasted chicken. The complete meal from matzah ball soup to dessert and everything in between costs \$23/adult (age 13 and up), \$10/child (ages 5-12) and free for children aged four and under. Seder will be held at Tem-

ple Kol Ami in Unity Presbyterian Church, 303 Tom Hall Street, Fort Mill, SC at 6 PM. Tickets can be purchased via paypal on our website www.templekolamisc.org or at the door. For more information, please contact us at 803-701-0149. We look forward to welcoming you to our Seder table. ✨



Temple Or Olam Presents Yom Hashoah 2015

Anti-Semitism, Anti-Judaism, Anti-Zionism: Assessing Today's Prejudices, Perspectives, and Politics Regarding Jews in the Light of the Holocaust

In recent years, European newspapers have reported a significant rise in acts of violence against Jews. In January and February of 2015 alone, Jews have been beaten, graves have been defaced and overturned in Jewish cemeteries, and Jews attending synagogue or going shopping have been murdered. Polls across the continent demonstrate a rise in antisemitism.

Some suggest that this phenomenon is linked to tensions in the Middle East, Israel's settlement policies, treatment of Arab citizens, and control over Palestinian territories.

Is the mounting frustration over Israel's position and politics actually linked to the rise in anti-Semitism elsewhere in the world? Is anti-Zionism simply anti-Semitism in disguise?

This year, Temple Or Olam will mark Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, with a program that seeks to explore these questions. Rabbi Dr. Barbara Thiede, who teaches the history of European anti-Semitism at UNC Charlotte, will lead our discussion.

Participants will be offered the opportunity to reflect – mindfully



– on the nature and history of antisemitism and its relationship, if any, to current events. Small groups will work with relevant terminology and definitions, examples taken from past and present history, and consider the effect or impact of the Holocaust on our understanding of anti-Semitism. A larger discussion will offer opportunities to share our conclusions.

Please join us for a thoughtful exploration of these issues at Piedmont Unitarian Universalist Church, 9704 Mallard Creek Rd, Charlotte, on Wednesday, April 15, at 7:30 PM. This event is free and open to the public. ✨



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