

New Stained Glass Dedicated at Temple Kol Tikvah

At Sabbath services on Friday evening May 1, Temple Kol Tikvah accepted and dedicated a series of 12 stained glass window panels (each 18" x 18") for its sanctuary in Davidson. The service conducted by Rabbi Michael Shields was attended not only by congregants but also the artisans' family and friends from as far away as Florida and Connecticut.

The panels, representing symbolism related to the Jewish religion and done in Tiffany tradition, are the work of congregant and stained glass artisan Alan Schaefer of Denver, NC. Alan's primary artistic glass work, for the past 12 years, has been designing and building unique stained glass American scale doll houses. The window project was supported by the Executive Board of Temple Kol Tikvah for the last two years and afforded Schaefer full artistic license of the design.



The series of 12 art glass panels is titled Kavod, the Hebrew for "tribute, honor, and homage." "Although when you gaze upon the panels you may focus on the pictures or words in each pane," the stronger driving relationship

for the artist was in the background glass and what it meant to him. "The sections used were culled from over 100 sq. ft. of five color hand-laid glass; each piece was individually cut to shape and prepared without a pattern. There

are no background pieces amongst the panels that are the same. Just often as in Jewish history, each piece of the background was separated from its original position on the glass sheet and none were placed adjacent to its original neighbor. The background is indicative of a Jewish history of uncertainty, individualism, separation, and strength. The pieces are a reflection of the strife related to the scattering of people for centuries: the remembrance of broken glass and destruction of Kristallnacht and the holocaust and carnage that followed, indicative of the chaos of generations separated, yet coming together and unifying Jewish people just as the individual pieces of background glass are unified by frame and color threads. Like most of us as individuals, the background glass continually changes its color de-



pendent on the amount of light it receives.

The 12 panels in the series "Kavod" are:

Peace, depicted by the Hebrew word "Shalom"; Eternity, depicted by an eternal flame; Celebration, depicted by a dreidel; To Life, depicted by the Hebrew word "L'Chaim"; Identity, depicted by the Star of David; Harken, depicted by a shofar; Exodus, depicted by Moses parting the waters; Teachings, depicted by a Torah; Tenets, depicted by the Ten Commandments; Unity, depicted by a seven-candle menorah; Sabbath, depicted by candles, Kiddush cup, and challah; Generations, depicted by a Tree of Life. ☆

You Are Invited to Summer Services at Temple Beth El

By Cantor Andrew Bernard

Our new summer service model began Friday, May 22 and is in full swing.

Our hope is that Friday evenings, Temple Beth El fulfills the central meaning of "synagogue" as a place of assembly, and the central meaning of "Shabbat" as a time to stop/rest/refresh. Jewishly, Friday evening — the onset of Shabbat — should be the moment of transformation from the work week to that time of stopping or resting. While traditionally it is an important time of worship (and has become the primary worship time in the Reform movement), it is also an important time to gather with family and friends in an atmosphere of gratitude and appreciation for the many gifts that fill our lives. While we are delighted to have you participate in all our Friday evening offerings, what we truly hope is that you will "tag" Temple Beth El as the meeting place and catalyst for moving from the workweek to Shabbat.

Our "preneg" with Kiddush wine bar begins at 5:15 PM. Twice a month there is a 5:30 Songfest for little ones and their families. Our informal, family-friendly worship begins at 6 PM and finishes around 7:10 so you can go off to Shabbat dinner or other social activities. Once a month, the Service of Healing and Comfort will follow the Shabbat evening service.

During services, the "preneg" and Kiddush wine bar continue to be available in one of the social halls just off the Sanctuary for

those who arrive late or those who want to continue to sit in a more casual space with friends and family. That area has tables and a kid-friendly activity center with the wall to the sanctuary open so you can continue to be connected to our worshipping community.

Stuck in traffic? We know some people are frustrated that they can't be at Temple for the start of services. If you bookmark our streaming services you can listen to the start of worship in your car — and when you arrive, join us in the Sanctuary for the service or relax in the social hall with food, drink, and prayer.

Our motto for summer services is "Come as you are. Come when you can. Leave early or stay. Shabbat your way!" We understand that every individual has different needs, and that those needs change from week to week. Come let Temple Beth El be the source and the catalyst for what Shabbat means to you — and may you truly experience Sabbath rest and joy with friends and loved ones. ☆

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