



What Do We Like About Shabbat?

by Beth and Rebecca Davis

Friday morning Shabbat at Charlotte Jewish Preschool is always a special experience. "We are very fortunate to have one of the Rabbis or Cantors in the community as guests at our Shabbat each week. Each one brings a unique talent to Shabbat that makes it a special and memorable part of preschool for the children," said director Debby Block.

Daniel likes the Challah! That's what we like about Shabbat!

"Coming to CJP for Shabbat is the highlight of my week!" said Rabbi Bennett. "What is special about CJP morning Shabbat is that the preschoolers often encourage their families to begin to celebrate Shabbat at home."

Jewish families make Shabbat. E-I-E-I-O

"Children are so eager to

to Moses through a bush that burned, but was never consumed.

Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat Shalom! Shabbat Shalom (Hey!)

"Even the smallest two-year-olds keep singing the Shabbat songs throughout the week," said Carol Klein, CJP's Judaica teacher. "Music is an important part of making Shabbat a fun, and yet a memorable experience."

Thanks a lot, Thanks a lot, Thanks for the sun and the sky!

Rabbi Bennett notes that the children really understand the concept of Tzedakah as they bring their pennies each week for children who don't have as much as they do. It is wonderful to see the Tzedakah bear become filled with pennies throughout the year.

Set the table, set the table - get ready for Shabbat!

The children are thrilled to be able to call out to Miss Carol each



Judaica specialist, Carol Klein, celebrates Shabbat with students Rachel Levine (l) and Brittany Shapiro

learn, their eyes are always wide open," said Rabbi Ezring. "It is wonderful to laugh with them and show them the pleasure of being Jewish." Rabbi Ezring has tied his monthly chats with the children around what is being read in the Torah that week. He notes, "It is always a challenge to try to make the Torah passage comprehensible to preschoolers."

Hallelu, Hallelu., Hallelu, Hallelu., Halleluyah!

Recently Rabbi Ezring told the story of Moses and the burning bush to the children at Shabbat. He illustrated the story by showing the children how a piece of paper burns to nothing - something few of the children had ever thought about. Then he told them how God spoke

of the parts of a Shabbat table. And it is always an honor to be chosen as the helper in preparing for Shabbat. CJP always welcomes family to come and join Shabbat on these special days with their children.

Bim Bam, Bim Bam Bim Bam, Bim Bim Bim Bim Bim Bam!

As you can see, Shabbat at CJP is a wonderful experience for everyone. CJP welcomes you to come and join with us in Shabbat every Friday morning. We know you can't help but keep humming the Shabbat songs remembered from childhood as you prepare your family for Shabbat.



Teens Learn about Summer Programs in Israel

On Wednesday, February 28, 1996 Jewish teens and their parents gathered together to learn about the large number of summer Israel programs available for 1996. "Teen Israel" was co-sponsored by the Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies and the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. The program had as its major focus, encouraging teens to go to Israel - not on a specific trip, but on any trip that interests them. The message for the evening was that it is important to go to Israel, because it is an incredible experience; an experience that will cement your Jewish identity as nothing else can.

The highlight of the evening was the enthusiastic panel of CHS teenagers who went to Israel last summer and spoke to their peers about their trips. Michael Aron, Jill Freiberg, Elissa Golembe and Jesse Lepow spoke with warmth, excitement and maturity about their journeys in the promised land; and each told of bonds of friendship formed with fellow travelers and a longing to return. Their love for the country and its people was apparent in their short talks.

Over thirty agencies responded to letters asking for brochures and information. The infor-



Jill Freiberg (l) and Elissa Golembe share photos from their summer trips to Israel during "Teen Israel"

mation was displayed in Gorelick Hall, several videos were set up for viewing; and representatives from Alexander Muss High School in Israel, NFTY (National Federation of Temple Youth), and USY (United Synagogue Youth) were on hand to speak about their programs. Shel Goldstein, Vicki Hopkins and Sue Brodsky, the program coordinators, were on hand to introduce and moderate the program on behalf of the sponsoring organizations.



Shel Goldstein, Program Chair and Ann Abel promote teen trips to Israel

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