

Experience the Ten Commandments at Ohr HaTorah

A fascinating program which is sure to enthrall children and adults alike will take place on the first day of the Shavuot holiday, Wednesday, May 26, at Congregation Ohr HaTorah. This day commemorates the giving of

the Torah by God to the Jewish people on Mt. Sinai some 3,316 years ago.

The idea is to relive this momentous milestone which forever changed the landscape of world civilization and gave soci-

ety as a whole a new heritage which is held dearly even today.

According to Jewish tradition, it was in the merit of the children

celebrated with a grand ceremony and march in to the sanctuary.

The morning service will begin at 10:00 AM, and the children's service will begin at 11:00 AM. The reading of the Ten Commandments will start at 11:30.

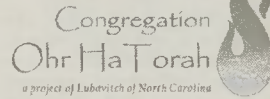
A full dairy luncheon will follow the service with many delicious Shavuot holiday foods. A special children's menu will be served, including an ice cream party for the stars of the show.

The tradition for dairy food on the Shavuot holiday goes back to the original Shavuot when the Jewish people were first introduced to Kosher food laws. The only food available to them in the desert was milk. We commemorate their dedication to the Torah and its mitzvot by eating a festive dairy meal. ☆

All Night Torahthon

Another Jewish tradition is to stay awake the first night of Shavuot and study Torah in anticipation of the awesome moment of receiving the Torah. The Midrash relates that the Jews overslept on this most exciting day of their young history. By staying up and studying Torah all night, we seek atonement for that first misdeed.

Ohr HaTorah will host a Torahthon beginning at midnight and lasting till the crack of dawn. There will be a variety of classes based on popular demand. For more information, please contact Rabbi Shlomo Cohen at 704-366-3984. ☆



that the Torah was given to the newly liberated Israelites. The people of Israel gave their children as guarantors by ensuring their continued education in the ways and teachings of the Torah.

On Shavuot morning the story of the Ten Commandments is read in full detail from the Torah scroll. At Ohr HaTorah the children are the heroes of the story and will be

Temple Israel News

Shavuot is coming and so are our holy heroes. Tuesday, May 25 at Temple Israel, 6:15 PM, please join the Temple Israel family as the anniversary of the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai is celebrated with a very special evening of study and competition.

There is a long-standing tradition that the first night of Shavuot be spent in study, in symbolic anticipation of re-receiving the Torah. Come and re-affirm this beautiful tradition by having special guests (Torah heroes) present to teach us about their role in our history.

The evening will conclude with a very friendly test of knowledge

in a Too Hot for Torah competition.

An ice cream bar will be provided and no reservations are necessary. Free to all that attend.

Shavuot evening services - 6:15 PM
Shavuot dinner (by reservation only)

- 7:15 PM

Holy Heroes study and competition - 8:15 PM

Parents and Cool Kids (P.A.C.K.) Celebrates Shavuot

Come join the P.A.C.K. (Parents and Cool Kids) on Sunday, May 23 from 3-4:30 PM as we celebrate Shavuot in advance by unrolling the entire Torah for all to see and by making our own ice cream. If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Sunshine at 704-362-2796, or any of the following committee members: Amy Adler, amyadler@bell-south.net; Donna Birnberg, tbirnberg@carolina.rr.com; Tracy Brown, tbrown2@carolina.rr.com; Allie Lerner, erical-



lie@aol.com; Jodi Michel, jodimm@aol.com. Cost is \$5 per person; reservation deadline is May 18.

Temple Israel Congregational Meeting and Picnic

This year's congregational meeting and picnic will be held on May 16, 5:30-7:30 PM at Camp Mindy. Join us for fun, food, family and friends.

5:30-6: Congregational meeting; 6-6:15 PM: evening minyan; 6:15-7:30 PM: picnic and games.

Subs, chips, potato salad (vegetarian upon request), cupcakes and soda will be served. \$6 per person. Reservations must be made by May 7.

Temple Israel Gift Shop

We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Gift and bridal registry available.

Gifts and presents galore for confirmation, graduation, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, new births, b'nai mitzvah, or just for fun. Special orders are no problem.

Hours: Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 10 AM-1 PM or by appointment. ☆

Temple Beth El's Mitzvah Day is Sunday, May 16

The community comes together on Sunday, May 16, for a day of caring and sharing with our neighbors and friends. Temple Beth El's annual Mitzvah Day has become an annual event that many look forward to as a day for families to reach out to others in the Charlotte area.

First, participants will meet at the Temple Beth El Silverman Social Hall at 8:30 AM for juice, bagels and coffee. Following a prayer and invocation, groups will go out and perform mitzvot around the community.

Projects for 2004 are:

A. Seven different Religious School projects. Both sessions of Religious School will join together for these special events. Parents must accompany their children.



Temple Beth El

1. **Mitzvah Circuit.** Family Program for pre-K through first grade. Participants will rotate to four stations to learn about mitzvot and do related projects. Please bring one full size toiletry item. The stations are: *Feeding the Hungry*—decorate bags and make lunches for the Salvation Army; *Visiting the Sick*—create gifts to cheer sick children at CMC Children's Hospital;

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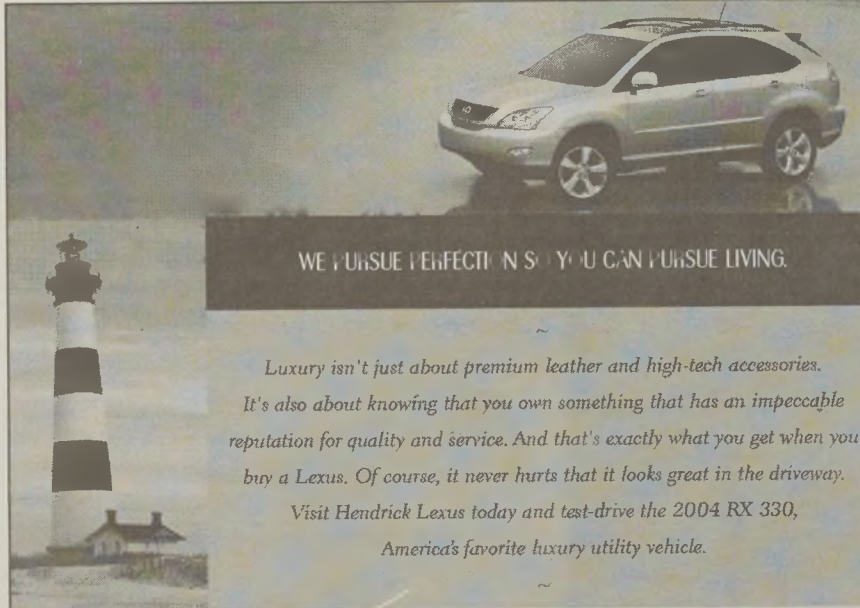
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