

*Testing the warm milk
on her wrist, she sighs softly.
But her son is 25.*

Jewish haiku

The Temple Or Olam Shmoozeletter

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Welcome to our Newest Members

We continue to grow stronger with the addition of talented, good-hearted, and amazing families. We would like to welcome **Robbin, Stephen, Jillian, and Rebecca Smith** to our congregation. Robbin has been a Jewish educator for many years (in *addition* to the day job). Steve owns his own construction company. Daughters Jillian and Rebecca may seem shy, but they can surprise you at unexpected places and moments (ask the kids who worked with Rebecca at Sunday School this past year). A very warm welcome to the Smiths – we are thoroughly honored by your presence.

Annual Shavuot Celebration in the Park

We Receive Torah (and we give Chai in Thanks)

MATZAH BALLS



Let's hope it's a sunny day as we party down on Shabbat Shavuot.

We'll begin with brunch. (Blintzes? Cheesecake?) As usual, there will be a plethora of Silly Games. Don't miss the matzah-ball eating contest, the marshmallow obstacle course and kickball, when parents square off against their kids. Food and drinks will be supplied. Expect bagels, cream cheese with lox, muffins, yogurt,

fruit, and ice cream following the games!

We are asking for a donation of \$18.00 per family; payable the day of the event. Please R.S.V.P. so we are sure to have enough to eat!

Event: Shavuot Picnic in the Park
Date: June 7, 2008
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Location: Shelter 3 (by the tennis court)
Dorton Park
5790 Poplar Tent Road, Concord
<[satellite image](#)> <[map](#)>

Annual Congregational Meeting June 1: Resolutions

by *Ralf Thiede, President*

Temple Or Olam held its annual congregational meeting at McGill Baptist Church on June 1. We elected the following slate of officers to the Board for the years 2008-2010:

President: Dr. Ralf Thiede
Vice President / Secretary: Ginger Jensen
Membership Director: Julie Gardner
Director of Social and Adult Programming: Jackie Kessler
Director of Religious Services: Dr. Barbara Thiede, student rabbi
Director of Public Relations: Jody Mace
Treasurer: Sam Leder, CPA

Thanks to the Nominating Committee for proposing this slate.

We also officially adopted the new membership dues scale on which we had tentatively agreed during a previous congregational meeting:

Family \$1,000
Seniors - family \$800
Single \$500
Senior - single / Student \$400
Religious School per child \$300

We will be posting new membership forms shortly.

We voted on two amendments to our Constitution: To change all references to "Havurat Olam" and related references to "Temple Or Olam," and to add the office of rabbi to the list of officers in Article IX. Those changes go into effect when we receive federal recognition as Temple Or Olam. A resolution was passed to thank co-founder and former President **Dr. Brian Cutler** for his vision and guidance and for leading by example.

Thanks to all who attended the meeting. I am looking forward to working with all the members of our Temple in realizing our vision of creating a synagogue.

Ralf

Friday Night Services

June 13 and 27, 2008

Kabbalat Shabbat services are actually intended as something like an exuberant song-fest deepened by intensely experienced prayer. It's summer – a perfect time for extended song, so expect a service that is choc-filled



with *niggunim*, wonderful familiar melodies, and a few recent additions to our congregational repertoire.

Event: Second Friday Family Service
Date: June 13, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: McGill Baptist Church
 5300 Poplar Tent Rd.
 Concord NC 28027 -9757 [map](#) [directions](#)



Korach is a parsha filled with challenges. Literally. A group of Israelites rebel against Moses and Aaron, and the conflict leads to all sorts of anguish. Is the present leadership overstepping its bounds? When one man sins, shall the community pay the price?

We'll be chanting from Parsha Korach and holding a straightforward and, we hope, intense discussion of difficult and challenging questions Torah raises.

Event: Fourth Friday Evening Service
Date: June 27, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: McGill Baptist Church
 5300 Poplar Tent Rd.
 Concord NC 28027 -9757 [map](#) [directions](#)



Speaking about Services...

A Workshop for Those who Wonder

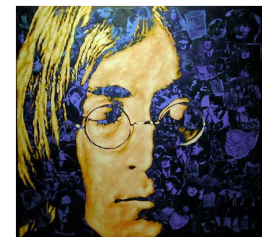
Dr. Barbara Thiede is offering a workshop on the Shabbat Service again for those who could not attend or didn't know they wanted to last winter. Questions to consider: Why might we consider the *Barchu* communal, the *Shema* philosophical, the *Amidah* personal? Why are there "stages" in a Shabbat service, and what do they mean?

Please let us know if you are interested in attending by clicking [RSVP](#). We'll collect names and emails and try to set times that are convenient for all players. [<RSVP>](#)

Upcoming Milestones

Summer Bat Mitzvahs and July Beatle's Service

Pamela Partridge labored as a teacher assistant all year for The New School for All Things Jewish. Now she'll get to show us what she herself learned during her bat mitzvah training. We congratulate Pamela on her upcoming bat mitzvah in June – we are looking forward to it very much!



And coming up in July, we'll hold Temple Or Olam's first **Beatles service**. We'll interpret each part of the service with a different Fab Four song. Perhaps Kabbalat Shabbat will begin with "Eight Days a Week." Maybe we will create a mi sheberach prayer for healing with a beautiful and soft rendition of "blackbird." We'll let you know more as we travel our own Magical Mystery Tour....



A Difficult Goodbye

We'd like to take this space to acknowledge our loss: **The Cutler Family** will be moving to Toronto, Canada, this July. Members of the congregation know that Brian co-founded Temple Or Olam, and served as its president for many years. For years, Karin has given us so much, help on press and public relations, organizing skill on behalf of the Rosh Hodesh group, unfailingly exuberant singing at services, and much more. We will all miss the children dreadfully, of course. Penelope, Dennis, and Alison have been part of our congregational family for so many years that we cannot imagine a service or event without them.

We wish you all well in your new home; we will miss you more than we can say.



Have fun this summer!

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