

Shmoozeeletter

Temple
Or Olam



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Aug. 12 Service
- Charlie Mace Bar Mitzvah Aug. 20
- Tot Shabbat Aug. 27
- Aug. 09 study session on Tish B'Av
- Upcoming events in September: Yard Sale, Dream Act
- High Holy Days dates

AUGUST 12: KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE

Torah is filled with dreams. It is filled with longing. In the opening to this week's parsha, Moses begs God to allow him to enter the good land God has promised the Israelites. God answers: 'Rav l'ach' – you have abundance. At this Kabbalat Shabbat service, we will explore the nature of gratitude for what we have and the right to dream for what we desire.

Join us for a joyous family Kabbalat Shabbat!

When: Friday, August 12 at 7 p.m.

Where: McGill Baptist Church, Concord NC



AUGUST 20: SHABBAT SHACHARIT SERVICE

Temple Or Olam announces a Shabbat Shacharit service at the Piedmont Unitarian Universalist Church in Charlotte. **Charlie Mace will be called to Torah as a Bar Mitzvah.**

Please join us in celebrating this wonderful simcha!

When: Saturday, August 20 at 10:30 a.m.

Where: Piedmont Unitarian Universalist Church
9704 Mallard Creek Road
Charlotte NC 28262-9738

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AUGUST 27: TOT SHABBAT SERVICE

Our tradition of holding joyous, fun-filled services for our little ones continues. Our tot Shabbat will include singing and dancing and story telling. Please join us and bring something to nosh for our oneg after the service!

When: Saturday, August 27 at 10:30 a.m.

Where: McGill Baptist Church, Concord NC

MILEV HAPARDES

FROM THE HEART OF THE ORCHARD

Our economy is in difficult shape. The middle and lower classes continue to find themselves bearing a disproportionate weight – stressed by budget cuts that cost them the most, and the wealthy the least. We are living in hard times.

Recently, one of our members told me that he looked to congregational life for relief from the stress of workaday life. He wanted to have fun and share stories. He wanted to pray freely with people who had helped make a sacred and joyful space available in the first place.

I smiled, remembering how and why, so many summers ago, my friend Brian Cutler and I decided to try building Jewish community in our own home.



Rabbi Dr. Barbara Thiede

GREATER THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

We wanted to pray together with people who cared about leading a Jewish life. We wanted to find conversation and fellowship about things Jewish. We wanted inter-faith families to have a home they could call their own. We wanted enthusiastic companions and partners in our endeavors.

I am blessed to have a board and members who are thoroughly committed to upholding a community whose members care – beyond the High Holy Days, beyond their next life cycle event, beyond what is individual to what is greater than the sum of its parts: Judaism itself.

The work over this past summer of our Education and Tikkun Olam Committees is a case in point.

Let us consider what we have given to the Jewish project, what we have yet to give. Let us forgive each other mistakes and confusions; it is a worthy and difficult task to create a community that helps its members learn how to give and receive love.

With thanks and blessings for all you all do,

Rabbi Barbara

*A spiritually
mature commu-
nity is one that
helps its mem-
bers learn
how to give
and receive
love.*

*Rabbi Lawrence
Hoffman*



U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

This September, Temple Or Olam will participate in a neighborhood yard sale. All proceeds from our share in that yardsale will go to our Religious School. So if you have been sorting, organizing, and cleaning around your house lately, please save any items you think are sellable. We'll get back to you with more details as soon as they are available.



On September 17, Rabbi Barbara Thiede will be organizing our Kabbalat Shabbat service around a nationwide effort for Jewish communities to acknowledge the Dream Act. We will take note of the dreams of young people, who have lived in America, studied in our country, and worked alongside us, longing to become official citizens. We'll tell you more about that service in our September *Shmoozeletter*. Please look for details then.

High Holy Days are, amazingly, just around the corner. Below are dates and times for High Holy Day services, all of which will be organized around a magical and prayerful theme. Please mark the dates and times. We look forward to seeing you there.

- September 28 Erev Rosh Hashanah, 7:00 p.m.
- September 29 Rosh Hashanah Shacharit services, 9:30 a.m.
- October 07 Kol Nidre, 7:00 p.m.
- October 08 Yom Kippur Shacharit, 9:30 a.m.
- October 08 Neila, 6:00 p.m., break-fast at 7:00 p.m.

T I S H B ' A V

Daughter Zion has one of the most powerful voices of Tanakh. We hear her cry out in the opening chapters of the Book of Lamentations. There, she is not afraid to confront God with the evidence. God, she insists, has brutalized the people Israel.

Lamentations is read annually on Tisha B'Av, the anniversary of the destruction of the both the first and second Temples. The First Temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian king, in 586 BCE. The Second Temple was demolished by the Romans, in 70 CE.

The poetry of Lamentations is haunting, seeming, in some respects, to foreshadow even the horrific destruction of Jewish life in the twentieth century.



This year, we will engage in a special study session of Lamentations on August 9th at 8:00 p.m.. If you are interested in joining the conversation, please email Rabbi Barbara at Rabbi.Thiede@or-olam.org and she will send you more information.

Y A H R Z E I T S

08-09 Richard A. Gordon, father of Jason Gordon
08-19 Eva Miller, mother of Ellie Joffe
08-21 Elaine Cutler, mother of Brian Cutler



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BIRTHDAYS

08-01 Leta VanArsdale
08-03 Fred Commike
08-09 Andrew Chait
08-10 Erik Thiede
08-15 Evan VanArsdale
08-25 Will King
08-27 Phil VanArsdale
08-28 LingLing Jacobson
08-29 Fernando Sanchez, Jr.
08-31 Alison Cutler

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