



Or Olam's Chuppah

May Days, May Days!

- ✧ May 04: Shacharit service, 10:00 a.m.
- ✧ May 12: Hebrew School Party, 10:00 a.m.
- ✧ May 17: Kabbalat Shabbat service, 7:00 p.m.
- ✧ May 19: Shavuot picnic, 12:00 p.m.

One pack of cigarettes per day	\$5.14
One Starbucks grande latte per day	\$3.26
One TOO family membership for a day	\$2.74
Being a member of an accepting community	Priceless

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Did you know?

Temple Or Olam has a [web presence](#). Our [Facebook page](#) features videos and pictures; we also have a [YouTube channel](#) and a [flickr account](#). Rabbi Barbara blogs on Jewish life on [adrenalinedrash](#). Explore, participate, have fun!

These are my Heart's Desires... *Eli Chamda Libi*



I would like to take a survey. It will be easy, I promise.

My survey would only ask all of us to name those things that our hearts desire for Temple Or Olam. It would ask: What is sacred to you in your Jewish community? What must you have to feel sustained, nourished, safe?

Would it be the Torah reading, and hearing it chanted regularly in the cadence you know so well? Or is it the moment during services before the Barchu, when everyone looks at each other with gratitude and pleasure? We are realizing (again) how much we mean to one another.

Or perhaps it is that moment when a child learns something about Yiddishkeit that makes the teacher and parent nearby fill with pride and hope for our future. Or the picture of Noah Huneycutt raising Little Torah high in hagbah. Or the one of Julia Chait running a yad across Hebrew words.

Or maybe it's the easy humor that is so characteristic of Temple Or Olam? After stepping up to our non-existent bima and energetically singing our English version of Aleynu, John reminds the rabbi that she forgot a line. Everyone laughs. The rabbi does, too.

Certain members pun and others groan. Others tell a story of a family success and everyone nearby is really and truly happy to share in the naches.

We are a tiny community with really good things going for us, though it happens – frequently – that newcomers say that they had no idea we existed for the longest time. Members come from far away to attend our services because (we think), they have fun when they are there.

What is absolutely sacred to you in your Jewish community?

Is it the knowledge that no one cares to ask if you converted or were born into Judaism? At Temple Or Olam, I sense that no one keeps count of any category of members – and that includes those who aren't Jewish. We're a family, and that's all that

Millev HaParodes

From the
Heart of the
Orchard

matters. Which category anyone belongs to is a question we don't bother to raise. We're not about categories. We're about community.

That, in the end, is what is sacred to me.

When Brian Cutler and I founded Temple Or Olam (then Havurat Olam) we hoped to build a sacred community in which participants would feel both treasured and safe. We hoped for stability and security. We hoped we would build something that could help make a future for Jewish life in Cabarrus County.

What is absolutely sacred to you in your Jewish community?

Don't hesitate to write up a few words. Send them to our board members, who are busy at work on long-term planning for our congregation. Help us make a list we can subscribe to, a list that will tell us: These are the desires of our hearts. This is what is sacred to us.



Rabbi Barbara



News for the Jews

What do You Know about Temple Or Olam?

Did you know...

- ☆ That TOO will be celebrating ten years of existence in December? We were founded as a havurah in 2003 and incorporated as Temple Or Olam in 2008.
- ☆ That TOO is a member of ALEPH, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal, an organization that fits nicely with our creative and accepting “No Jew Left Behind” policy of inclusion.
- ☆ That Rabbi Barbara has been here from the first day, helping TOO to grow into the more mature and independent community that we are reaching for?
- ☆ That our religious school was one of TOO’s first organized activities, opening in a congregant’s home in 2004? Education joins community and ritual as the three legs of the Jewish foundation.
- ☆ That Rabbi Barbara was not always a rabbi? She so enjoyed her lay leadership role in the first years as a havurah that she added rabbinic studies to her full-time teaching job and TOO responsibilities, graduating as an ordained rabbi from ALEPH in January 2011. She was ordained as a mashpiah (spiritual director) in January 2012.
- ☆ That TOO has been fortunate to be welcomed for nine years as a partner-in-use by McGill Baptist Church, though we have never been able to pay the true value of what we receive?
- ☆ That though our hearts are large, our budget

is small? Very small indeed. Not large enough to pay McGill for our building use or Rabbi Barbara for her time and care for our members.

- ☆ That as a caring community we have an opportunity to make our next ten years a joyful success for both ourselves and our hard-working staff in synagogue and school?

When do we start on this journey? At the ANNUAL MEETING ON JUNE 09. SEE YOU THERE!

Communication 101

We are turning a new leaf. No, it’s not the end of the year, Gregorian or Hebrew, but it is a natural stopping point when school ends and we have more time to indulge ourselves.

Rabbi Barbara and Ralf will be taking a communications sabbatical so that they can finish their semester-ending duties in record time and be able to enjoy a relaxed commencement weekend at UNC with Erik. They will not be replying to email or returning phone calls from Monday, May 6, through Wednesday, May 15. If you have a dire emergency, please note it as such. Other answers can be coaxed out of Board members or school directors, or maybe found in the website. Check it out!

- ☆ The TOO directory of names, addresses, and phone numbers in the Members section of the website is for use in TOO business only. We are asking everyone to avoid making personal solicitations for political groups, charities, outside activities, or businesses. If you have a social concern or outside activity you would like the congregation to consider addressing, please bring it to our board for consideration as a TOO cause and subject for tikkun olam. You are, of course, perfectly welcome to address someone in person and in private about issues dear to your heart.

- ✧ Our TOO website is the gathering place for all things Or Olam. Use it! All you need to know about services, holidays, and activities is on the calendar. See something missing? Let the administrator know: templeadmin@or-olam.org. If you want to get the word out about outside entities please do so privately among yourselves or communicate with the Board of Directors so we can consider whether the topic should be included in congregational communications of some kind.
- ✧ Our website also has a year's worth of assignments for setup, takedown, and oneg. Please use it to put your assigned dates on your calendar. Can't make your commitment? Take the time to make a swap or get a sub in plenty of time beforehand. We are all responsible for making those calls ourselves and then amending the schedule.
- ✧ Using email is easy. It is so easy it seems to reproduce like rabbits. Please THINK before you hit the "reply all" button. Everyone you are replying to should be directly related to the message. Do not include recipients just for "info" purposes. Wait until a final decision/date/time has been made, then send to the congregants who need to know that information.

Remember that Rabbi Barbara and Board members all have fulltime jobs outside their work for TOO. Be mindful of their precious hours of private family time. Of course, emergency situations should be advertised as such immediately.

Thanks for your understanding and for your help in maintaining a healthy congregational environment.

E-mail Charlotte Miller at templeadmin@or-olam.edu

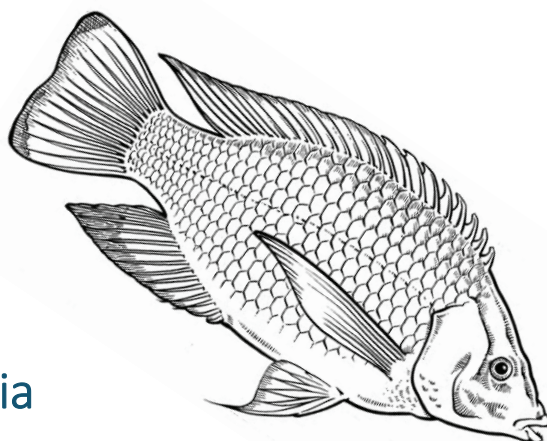
Men For Change 2013

Since 1982, the year of its foundation, CVAN (Cabarrus Victims Assistance Network) has served 23,254 battered women and children. Not all men in this county are okay with that number; it is not how we define 'family values.' As North Carolina is about to descend to a new low in support for welfare and public education, we can expect more women and children to end up bearing the brunt of disaffected rage.

Temple Or Olam has, for years, joined Men for Change in support of CVAN. Men of Temple Or Olam, please send a check to Robbin (or hand to her in person) and put 'Men for Change donation 2013' on the memo line. Make it a non-trivial donation. I have personally driven an abused older woman to CVAN and can testify both to the anguish I witnessed and to the welcoming, empowering assistance that CVAN can render.

Ralf

News for the Jews



Robbin's

Broiled Tilapia

Parmesan

- ✧ ½ cup Parmesan cheese, grated
- ✧ ¼ cup butter, softened
- ✧ 3 tbsp. mayonnaise
- ✧ 2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- ✧ ¼ tsp. dried basil
- ✧ ¼ tsp. ground black pepper
- ✧ ⅛ tsp. onion powder
- ✧ ⅛ tsp. celery salt
- ✧ 2 pds. tilapia fillets

Try this; it's to dive for.

Directions:

1. Preheat broiler.
2. Grease a broiling pan (or just line a pan with aluminum foil).
3. In a small bowl, mix: Parmesan cheese, butter, mayonnaise, and lemon juice. Season the mix with dried basil, pepper, onion powder, celery salt. Mix everything again well and set aside.
4. Arrange fillets on the prepared pan (in a single layer). Broil a few inches from the heat, for 2 to 3 mins. Flip the fillets, broil on (another couple of minutes).
5. Remove fillets and cover with the Parmesan mix. Broil again (2 mins.). You want the topping to be brown and the fish to flake easily with a fork.

Tilapia Parmesan

Know your ALEPH-BET

The Dalet

Last month, our dromedarian guest editor had a field day with *gimmel*, which brings us now to *dalet*. The letter took its shape from a hieroglyph depicting an open door (and indeed there is a word *delet* in modern Hebrew that means ‘door’). Related also is the root *dalah*, which means ‘impoverish.’ Since, as we recall, *gimmel* has to do with generosity and kindness, it is popular to associate the letter sequence with the words *gimmel dalim*, i.e. the mitzvah of ‘being kind to the needy,’ and to visualize the letters *gimmel* and *dalet* side by side as ‘knocking on the door of the poor man.’

These days, the poor man probably won’t open the door for fear of being evicted.

As the fourth letter, *dalet* brings on all kinds of things that come in fours (or sometimes *on* fours, after four cups):

- ✧ The Four Worlds: Atzilut (Emanation), Beriah (Creation), Yetzirah (Formation), and Asiyah (Action);
- ✧ The Four Hemispheres (up, down, right, and left, I never could tell them apart);
- ✧ The four awesome women, Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, and Leah;
- ✧ Yud-hey-vav-hey (you know who);
- ✧ The four elements (fire, air, earth, and Perrier);
- ✧ The Four Seasons (you expected the Waldorf Astoria maybe?);
- ✧ A square;
- ✧ Four ways of reading Torah (discovering the literal, the allusion, the allegory, and the secret);
- ✧ Four questions to ask at a Seder.



Oh, and the Beatles.

The ד is cousin to Greek Δ (named ‘Delta’ after the Aramaic pronunciation), turned clockwise from the Phoenician ◁. The Romans turned Delta clockwise again to ▷ (all this before the clock had even been invented yet) and rounded out for D. Changing it from a triangle to ד had its price, as open-door policies sometimes do: It became easily misread as ר ‘resh,’ sometimes with unintended consequences. The Shema, for instance, declares God to be ‘one’ – אחד ‘echad’ – but a slight inattention will turn that word into אחר ‘acher,’ which means ‘other.’ Not the word you’d want in your mezuzah.

May BIRTHDAYS

05-01

Rabbi Barbara Thiede

05-19

JingJing Jacobson

05-12

Judah Malin

05-20

Noah Huneycutt

05-18

Tom Jensen

YAHARZEITS

05-03

Ralph D. Dorzback

brother of Ruth Kingberg

05-10

Caroline Haut

great-aunt of Arlene Filkoff

05-17

Morton G. Atlas

father of Marilyn Atlas

05-17

Phyllis Greenwald

mother of Earl Greenwald

05-25

Eugene Greenwald

father of Earl Greenwald

05-26

Audre Spivock

mother of William Spivock

Annual Meeting

The congregation of Temple Or Olam will convene its annual meeting in June. Besides electing a slate of new officers to the Board, we will discuss our long-term planning process. We want very much for all our members to be involved with this process, as so many important decisions are being made this year.

Many thanks for the following donations in appreciation for the Yom Hashoah candles that were prepared and distributed by our Temple Or Olam Brotherhood :

- ✧ Harriet Bogage
- ✧ Keri, David and Noah Huneycutt
- ✧ Cheryl and Earl Greenwald
- ✧ Doris and Jason Gordon
- ✧ Ginger and Tom Jensen
- ✧ Rabbi and Ralf Thiede
- ✧ Heather and Sergio Chait
- ✧ Robbin and Stephen Smith

Kvell Korner: Mazel tov to Erik Thiede upon his graduation with honors this month from UNC Chapel Hill (B.S. in Chemistry). Erik is the son of Rabbi Barbara and Dr. Ralf Thiede.

Mazel tov to Rebecca Smith for being awarded a 2013 Charlotte Rotary Youth Award (scholarship). Rebecca is the daughter of Robbin and Stephen Smith and granddaughter of Janet Sternbach.

If you need to add a date to the temple calendar or check the availability of meeting space, please contact:

templeadmin@or-olam.org

Religious school:

school@or-olam.org

Submissions to the shmoozeletter:

editor@or-olam.org

Rabbi Dr. Barbara Thiede:

rabbi.thiede@or-olam.org

Treasurer: P.O. Box 362

Huntersville NC 28070-0362

Phone: 704-720-7577

CONTACT INFO