

Becoming a Member

Our group is constantly evolving and eager for new members and new ideas. We pride ourselves in creating a warm and interesting community of people committed to sharing, learning and supporting each other.

If you want to see our calendar of events or learn more about us, visit www.havurattikvah.org or contact our Membership Chair, Brian Feinglass, at bcfein1@gmail.com.

Financial Dues

Traditionally, every Jew is responsible for maintaining the Jewish community, according to her or his resources. As an inclusive group, Havurat Tikvah affirms the value of being financially accessible to all, yet wants to give everyone the opportunity — and dignity — of contributing.

Our range of suggested membership dues includes a minimal donation option. Members are asked to give freely from the heart. Dues cover our basic operating expenses and include High Holy Days admission for those who pay the non-minimal option level. Dues can be paid in installments. Religious School fees are separate from annual dues.

Meeting in Dilworth

Havurat Tikvah religious services and other events take place in Charlotte's Dilworth neighborhood at Avondale Presbyterian Church, 2821 Park Road, Charlotte, NC 28209. We share an assembly hall, kitchen and classrooms with St. Andrews, with each group respecting the needs of the other.

For more information, call our Message Center at 877-203-5848 or write to us at P.O. Box 12684, Charlotte, NC 28220.



PO Box 12684
Charlotte, NC 28220



***“Havurat Tikvah is like
being with all your
favorite relatives.”***

an egalitarian,
welcoming and caring
Reconstructionist
congregation
meeting since 1988

**Membership
Brochure**

Havurat Tikvah

the havurah of hope

Membership Information

Thank you for your interest in Havurat Tikvah. We invite you to join us for upcoming events.

Identity & Mission

Havurat Tikvah is a member-led, egalitarian group that began meeting in 1988.

After 11 years as an independent organization, we affiliated with the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation (JRF) in 1999.

The essence of Reconstructionism is community-building through learning, revitalization of prayer and mutual support. The movement has strong commitments both to tradition and to searching for contemporary meaning. It also encourages all Jews to reclaim our shared heritage and become active participants in the building of a Jewish future.

Founded in the fall of 1988, Havurat Tikvah began as a fellowship of about 15 families that celebrated holidays and some Shabbats together. We ambitiously decided to hold our own High Holy Day services in the fall of 1989. We learned and led all the services. High Holy Days have been a major highlight of our year ever since. We later added a Sunday school and monthly Shabbat services.

This Community of Hope shared a mission to develop a community that was participatory and egalitarian while embracing the richness of all Jewish history, culture and practice.

Like many Reconstructionist congregations, Havurat Tikvah brings together elements from all branches of Judaism to enrich and enhance our worship and our community. We continue to be lay led and are dedicated to active participation in our beloved Havurah, as well as in Jewish affairs and in the Charlotte community.

Inside the Havurah

Gatherings include:

- A full schedule of High Holiday services
- Monthly Shabbat morning services, followed by a Kiddush luncheon
- Havdalah services, coupled with adult programs
- Minyans and life-cycle special events
- Holiday celebrations: Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Chanukah, Tu B'Shevat, Purim and others

We frequently schedule and organize adult education classes and programs.

From time to time, at her parents' discretion, women gather for a Rosh Hodesh service whenever a 12-year-old girl enters her year of Bat Mitzvah study.

We have many child-friendly events, and babysitting can be provided at Shabbat and other services. Some services include a special liturgy for children.

Havurat Tikvah Religious School is dedicated to providing Jewish children a quality Jewish Education that will help not only prepare them for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, but also encourage a joyous attitude towards Judaism that will be the framework of a strong Jewish identity and the foundation of a Jewish life. It is fully-staffed and continues to grow to meet the challenges of educating our youth. Other members are often employed to tutor individual students in helping them study liturgy, Torah, ethics, and Hebrew to to prepre them for their B'nai Mitzvah.

On occasion, we offer special programs — including Shabbatons — led by outside speakers, visiting rabbis and rabbinic students.

Events are announced in a weekly eblast and online at havurattikvah.org and in some situations are confirmed by email or telephone. As you would expect of a real Jewish organization, most of our events include food! Most often, this takes the form of a pot-luck. We observe Kashrut guidelines and only prepare dairy/veggie/parve dishes using Kosher products.

Tzedakah & Tikkun Olam

We encourage our membership to engage in the Jewish precepts of Tzedakah (charity) and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world). Social action projects help us to fulfill these principles and provide our members with opportunities to interact with each other and the rest of the Jewish and non-Jewish community. Some of our on-going projects include Project Linus (knitting blankets for patients and others in need), Friendship Trays (food for the elderly and disabled) and Jewish Family Services.

Mitzvah Dues

From the beginning, Havurat Tikvah has had a strong commitment to member participation. We see this, first and foremost, as a way to develop a vibrant and caring community of friends. But, it also means that we can remain affordable to all who wish to participate. As a result, Havurat Tikvah does not have a permanent rabbi or professional staff to direct programming. Instead, we rely on our members to plan and lead religious services, generate programs and holiday celebrations, provide food for events, support members in need, and perform hospital-ity tasks. You will be appreciated whether you give a Divrei Torah or push a broom! Committee participation is the lifeblood of our existence. The rewards are abounding and you help shape the future for our community.

Every adult member is expected to contribute "Mitzvah Dues" of service in addition to Financial Dues. As part of that, each family serves for one month per year on Chicken Soup & hospitality duty. You may be called upon to coordinate support for members experiencing a birth, death, or other situations calling for gemilut hasadim (deeds of kindness).

Another bonus of volunteering: it's a great way to make new friends, deepen existing relationships and expand your Jewish learning.