

Haverim (Friends)

Who: Grades 4 and 5

What: A youth group where participants have fun and enjoy the opportunity to spend time regularly with their Temple Beth-El Religious School classmates. The youth group also provides a place to engage parents in the value and meaning of such a youth group by providing opportunities for their participation.

When:

Sunday, October 5 – Tashlich Picnic and River Boat Cruise

Saturday, October 18 – Religious School/Youth Group Sukkot under the Stars

Sunday, November 23 – Pins for Pennies

Sunday, December 14 – Hanukkah Baking



Olim (Moving Up)

Who: Grades 6 and 7

What: During the busy and exciting time of the first year of Middle School and preparation for Bar/Bat/ Mitzvah, students have the opportunity to relax and enjoy one another, as well as participate in Tikkun Olam projects.

When:

Sunday, October 5 – Tashlich Picnic and River Boat Cruise

Sunday, November 9 – Cooking for the Homeless

Saturday, December 13 – San Antonio Food Bank Holiday Baskets



Gesher (Bridges)

Who: Grade 8

What: As students prepare for high school, being together and building a community is even more important. A weekend retreat at the beginning of the year is planned by the students and solidifies their community. Towards the middle of the year, students will have the opportunity to assist and participate with SAFTY in Winter Conclave.

When:

Sunday, September 21 – It's Your Retreat!- Dreaming it Up!

Sunday, October 12 – It's Your Retreat!- Food, Activities and Fun

October 24-26 – Gesher/Religious School Retreat

Sunday, November 16 – Fill the Basket: the Mitzvah of Shopping for Others

Sunday, December 21 – Hanukkah Brunch and Winter Conclave Planning Session with SAFTY

January 23-25 – NFTY-TOR Regional Retreat- local Eighth Graders invited!

Youth Group Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How does my child become a youth group member?

A: Joining youth group is simple! Complete a membership form and permission slip and return to Temple with a check for dues. Dues are used to directly subsidize the youth program at Temple Beth-El. Occasionally there is a cost to the event; this cost will be publicized before the event. Membership is good for one year!

Q: How can I obtain a membership form and permission slip?

A: Forms will be mailed to you in early August, or you can log onto the Temple website at www.beth-elsa.org/Youthforms.htm and print the forms. Dues vary according to the age of the youth group and are between \$25 and \$40.

Q: Does my child need a permission slip to participate?

A: Yes, all students participating in Temple Beth-El youth group events must have a completed permission slip on file or bring a completed form to the event. Just log onto www.beth-elsa.org/Youthforms.htm to obtain one. These forms are good for the entire year.

Q: Are scholarships available for dues and youth events?

A: Of course, confidential scholarships are available for dues and events. To obtain a scholarship, please contact Jean Kolovson, Youth Director, at youthadvisor@beth-elsa.org or 733-9135 ext. 222. You may also discuss scholarships with Rabbi Bergman Vann at abergmanvann@beth-elsa.org or 733-9135 ext 102.

Q: Where can I find out more information about the events listed in this bulletin?

A: Information and flyers about upcoming events will be available in the monthly Temple bulletin, the weekly Temple email, and on the Youth group page on the Temple Beth-El website at www.beth-elsa.org/YouthGroups.htm. You can also contact Jean Kolovson at youthadvisor@beth-elsa.org or 733-9135 ext. 222.

SAFTY

(San Antonio Federation of Temple Youth)

Who: Grades 9-12

What: SAFTY strives to create a meaningful and fun environment for students to be enriched as individuals in areas such as leadership, Jewish identity, social action, worship and involvement in a community. Affiliated with the Texas-Oklahoma Region of the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY-TOR) of the Union for Reform Judaism, there are five regional events so that young Jewish adults to strengthen ties with each other and Reform Judaism.

When:

Check back with SAFTY in early September as more social events are created once high school schedules are developed for the fall.

New this year! Café Schmooze! Lunch will be served in the Youth Lounge on Sundays from 12:00 Noon to 12:30 P.M. on days that Confirmation and Pre-Confirmation students have class. More information will be coming soon.

Friday, August 29-Monday, September 1 – NFTY-TOR Summer Kallah at Greene Family Camp

Sunday, September 7 – Café Schmooze

Saturday, September 13 – “Across the Universe”

Sunday, September 14 – Café Schmooze and Winter Conclave Committee Meetings

Saturday, September 20 – SAFTY Havdalah before Selichot Service

Sunday, September 21 – Café Schmooze

Sunday, September 28 – Café Schmooze and Winter Conclave Committee Meetings

Sunday, October 12 – Café Schmooze

Sunday, October 19 – Café Schmooze and Winter Conclave Committee Meetings

Sunday, October 26 – Café Schmooze

Friday, October 31-Sunday, November 2 – NFTY-TOR Fall Conclave in Spring, Texas

Sunday, November 9 – Café Schmooze and Winter Conclave Committee Meetings

Friday, December 5-Sunday, December 7 – Na'aseh V'Nishmah at Greene Family Camp- NFTY-TOR Social Action weekend

Sunday, December 14 – Café Schmooze and Winter Conclave Committee Meetings

Sunday, December 21 – Hanukkah Party Brunch and Winter Conclave Meeting with Grade 8 Gesher Youth Group

Sunday, January 4 – Winter Conclave Meeting

Monday, January 19 – Winter Conclave Meeting

Friday, January 23-Sunday, January 25 – NFTY-TOR Winter Conclave hosted by SAFTY and Temple Beth-El

