



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Congregation Beth Evergreen Updates Religious School Curriculum in Response to Parent Survey

Experiential Education Inspires Community

EVERGREEN, Colo. — Instilling a collaborative philosophy that offers experiential education, Congregation Beth Evergreen updated its religious school curriculum to include a format that both teaches and inspires.

“We responded to input from parents and the students, to ensure the classes are meaningful, educational and cultural,” said Jill Wildenberg, education director for Congregation Beth Evergreen. “We conducted a summer survey and adjusted our program to meet these needs.”

Held Monday afternoons for Preschool-3rd graders from 4-5:30 p.m. and Wednesday afternoons for 4th-7th graders from 4-6 p.m., Beth Evergreen’s religious school curriculum includes the following:

- *1st period:* Grade level homeroom/*Parashah haShavua* (Torah portion of the week)
- *2nd period:* Hebrew, which will be ability-grouped, determined by extensive Hebrew assessments the first month of school
- *3rd period:* *Holiday Chugim* (“clubs”) integrated grades, rotating through Art, Music and Drama. The *chugim* will alternate with Model *Minyanim* (short, model Shabbat services) with Rabbi Jamie Arnold.
- *Homeroom:* The students will return to homeroom for the last 15 minutes of school, to evaluate their day, discuss what they learned, with their grade-level peers.

For 8th-12 graders, “Hebrew High” is held Wednesday evenings with spiritual discussion and social outings that keep the teens connected.

For questions and registration information, contact Jill Wildenberg at 303/670-4294 or educationdirector@bethevergreen.org.

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About Beth Evergreen

Established in 1974, Beth Evergreen is a member of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation and respects and fosters inclusive Judaism. Jews from a wide variety of backgrounds, including Conservative, Reconstructionist, Reform and Interfaith families can enjoy the experiences of religious school, Sabbath, holiday services, celebrations and life-cycle events. Located in the mountains of Evergreen and set peacefully next to Elk Meadow, this 35-year-old organization opened the doors to its new synagogue building in 2003. More than 200 households celebrate the wisdom of and worship with full-time Rabbi Benjamin “Jamie” Arnold. For more information, please visit www.bethevergreen.org.