

SPARKS

CHABAD of GREENSBORO | DECEMBER 2024 | KISLEV 5785



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Dear Community Member,

As we approach the joyous holiday of Chanukah, we reflect on the miracles that illuminate our lives. The Festival of Lights reminds us that even in darkness, a single spark can ignite a radiant glow.

At Chabad Greensboro, we've experienced our own miracles this year:

- Inspiring programs for children and adults
- Vibrant community events
- Support for those in need

Chanukah is a time to:

- Rededicate ourselves to Jewish values
- Strengthen community bonds
- Share light and kindness

Join us for our Chanukah celebrations!

Menorah Lighting: Wednesday, Dec. 25, First night of Chanukah

May the warmth and light of Chanukah fill your heart and home.

Wishing you a joyous and illuminating Chanukah!

Rabbi Yosef & Hindy Plotkin
Co-Directors

RECIPE
MOROCCAN CARROT SALAD



INGREDIENTS:

- 2-3 teaspoons lemon juice.
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1-2 cloves garlic, crushed or grated
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoons salt or to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper or to taste
- Pinch or two of Aleppo pepper or crushed red pepper (optional)
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro or Italian parsley or a mix, chopped small
- 1 pound fresh grated carrots (5-6 medium or 3-4 large)

DIRECTIONS:

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, oil, paprika, garlic, cumin, salt, pepper and Aleppo or red pepper if using. cilantro and/or parsley and mix thoroughly.

Pour the dressing over the carrots and mix well.

The salad can be served immediately, but if refrigerated for several hours or even a day the flavors will blend better.

FROM BAKING BOUREKAS TO DAILY DEVOTION

There is nothing like bonding over food with fellow women!

For 50+ women from the Chabad of Greensboro community, that meant getting together for an evening of laughter, exploration, and baking with writer, chef, and cooking instructor **Susan Barocas**. Barocas's authentic Sephardic cooking was on full display at several of President Obama's pre-Passover "Seders."

Bourekas are popular in Israel and many parts of the world, but not many people know their history or how to make them properly.

Led by Chef Barocas, the women learned how to make the perfect bourekas, all while enjoying her insights into history, food, and life.



That was just one of many events the Chabad Women's Circle puts on each year. The group aims to inspire the Jewish home through meaningful pre-holiday events.

Most recently, in honor of Thanksgiving, the women enjoyed an elegant event during which they heard from Rebbetzin Hindy Plotkin about how Judaism incorporates prayer and other daily activities that foster a keen awareness of G-d's kindness and an attitude of gratitude.

"It was deeply meaningful to me," says

Chabad community member **Simara Levi**, who attended the event. "I've grown up Jewish and celebrated holidays my entire life. But this event—like others by the Women's Circle—opened up my eyes to another layer of meaning and spirituality I never knew existed!"

TISHREI: A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITY

The High Holiday season began early at Chabad of Greensboro, with a pre-Rosh Hashanah challah bake at the Well-Spring retirement community (thank you, **Michele Titlebaum!**). It then continued with a holiday-themed Mommy-and-Me to help the youngest set get into the holiday spirit.



night. Steaming bowls of soup, rousing songs ringing into the night, and lots of good conversation made for a Sukkot evening to remember.

Young professionals had an event in the sukkah of their own, including gourmet ramen bowls, candle-making, and a presentation on mysticism by Rabbi Plotkin.

The holidays themselves were punctuated by well-attended and meaningful services followed by delicious kiddush receptions. As in past years, many reported enjoying the uniquely uplifting prayers and speeches, conducted by Rabbi Yosef Plotkin, combined with the heimishe and welcoming atmosphere.

For children, there was Shakshuka in the Sukkah (thank you **Kenny Miller** and **Ido Singer** for making the shakshuka!), which featured an array of fun activities and games for all ages.

The inspiration continued right into Sukkot, with a community dinner in Chabad's giant sukkah on the first

For those who could not make it to Chabad, the Sukkahmobile traveled around town, making housecalls for the homebound and others, ensuring that everyone got to celebrate.

KINDNESS IN THE FACE OF DEVASTATION

Hurricane Helene devastated Asheville on September 27, 2024, with heavy rainfall causing catastrophic flooding. At least 30 lives were lost, and 6,900 sites were damaged.



which they were ready to distribute as soon as it arrived.

As soon as the news hit, the Chabad of Greensboro community sprang into action.

Friends and neighbors came together to donate supplies. And soon enough a truck was ready to go to Asheville, filled with donated water and other supplies.

Rabbi Shaya and Chana Susskind, co-directors of Chabad of Western North Carolina, eagerly awaited the shipment,

But who would make the 8-hour drive, which included flooded-out bridges and more? Chabad community mem-

bers **Mark Spielman** and **David Kriegsman** were up for the task.

Thanks to your generosity and their bravery, thousands of people in Asheville had water, food, and other necessities.

On behalf of their community, the Susskinds express their thanks to each and every one of you who reacted so generously in their time of need.

2023 Annual Campaign

We would like to thank all of our precious partners who helped and continue to help to make the dream of Chabad of Greensboro possible.

It takes vision, it takes selflessness, and it takes sacrifice to part with one's own resources for the sake of a greater good.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH 2024
1st night Chanukah 5785

3:30 PM: LINEUP AT CHABAD | 4:30 PM: PARADE BEGINS
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ADMISSION FEE:

Please bring 10 cans of non-perishables for the Can-orah.

RSVP email HindyPlotkin@gmail.com