

## Jewish Student Organization



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- 1 Rabbi Gisser and the new board members are in action trying to start the year off with many exciting events and activities. Last semester we had incredible turnouts for our Shabbat dinners, Rabbi teaching sessions, and parent's weekend dinner!
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## Welcome back!

This quarterly publication will be a resource for current students and parents as well as prospective students and parents to get a sense of the development of Jewish life at Wake Forest University. Throughout the year we will highlight students who are involved with Hillel and keep readers updated on upcoming events.

### 2012 Board Members

**co-President:**

Hanna Book & Jessica Leuter

**co--Vice-President:**

Erica Bower & Jeremy Hefter

**Treasurer:**

Daniel Benjamin

**Social Chair:**

Erin Levitas

**co-Social Action and Tikun Olam chair:**

Chelsea Eversmann & Shoshanna Goldin

**co-Religious Ambassador Chair:**

Hannah Berkowitz & Rachel Severance

**Marketing Chair:**

Celia Dubroof

Hillel would love student ideas, contributions, and articles to make this newsletter great!

Please e-mail **Celia Dubroof:**

dubrcr9@wfu.edu

### Find us Online!

- NEW website:

[jewishlife.wfu.edu](http://jewishlife.wfu.edu)

- Facebook:

**Wake Forest Hillel**

- NC Hillel Website:

[www.nchillel.org](http://www.nchillel.org)

### Hillel Lounge

The Wake Forest Hillel is in the works of finding a permanent on-campus lounge for functions, cooking, dinners, and lectures. Until a spot on campus becomes available, Hillel events will be held in the temporary lounge Reynolda room 17. Hillel students have access to this room by key card swipe and can use this space as a study room. Rabbi Gisser's office is also in this room and his office hours can be found on the new website calendar.

[www.jewishlife.wfu.edu](http://www.jewishlife.wfu.edu)



# February 2012 Calendar

## Thu Feb 2, 2012

3pm - 4pm Crash Course in Judaism, Reynolda 19  
 4:30pm - 5:30pm Board Meeting

## Fri Feb 10, 2012

4pm - 7:30pm Tu B'Shevat Event and Shabbat Dinner

## Wed Feb 15, 2012

7pm - 10pm Movie Night with MSA "The Infidel", Reynolda 17

## Thu Feb 16, 2012

4:30pm - 5:30pm Board Meeting

## Tues Feb 21, 2012

11:30am Jews n' Java, Campus Grind - Coffee is on Us!

## Thu Feb 23, 2012

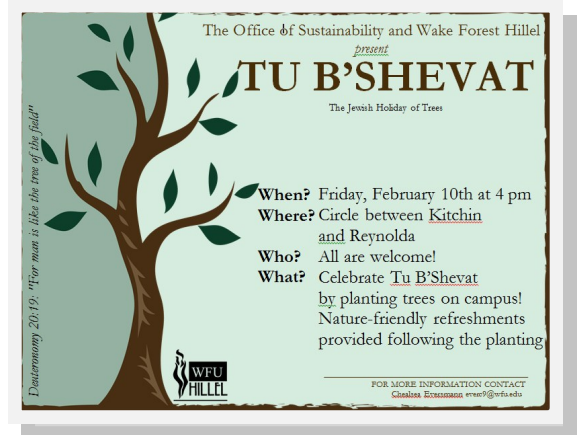
3pm - 4pm Crash Course in Judaism, Jewish Views on GOD  
 Reynolda 19

## Fri Feb 24, 2012

5pm - 7:30pm Shabbat Dinner-Spring Parent's Weekend  
 Guest Speaker: Dr. Shay Soker, WF Baptist Medical Researcher  
 on "The Ethics of Cloning"

More updates can be found on [www.jewishlife.wfu.edu](http://www.jewishlife.wfu.edu)

Look out for this flyer!



### Tu B'Shevat Event:

We will be planting trees on campus with the Office of Sustainability. Shabbat dinner to follow. Contact **Chelsea Eversmann** at [everc9@wfu.edu](mailto:everc9@wfu.edu) for more information.

# March 2012 Calendar

## Thu Mar 1, 2012

3pm - 4pm CRASH COURSE IN JUDAISM - PRAYER, Reynolda 19  
 4:30pm - 5:30pm Board Meeting  
 6:30pm - 10:30pm Eboo Patel Lecture - Interfaith

## Tue Mar 6, 2012

11:30am - 12:30pm Jews N' Java, Starbucks in the library

## Wed Mar 7, 2012

7pm - 10:30pm Purim Festival - Megillah Reading

## Wed Mar 21, 2012

5pm - 6pm WWII Hero and Liberator, Alan Moskin

## Thu Mar 22, 2012

4:30pm - 5:30pm Board Meeting  
 7pm - 10pm Movie with LGBTQ "Trembling Before God"  
 Pugh Auditorium, followed by a discussion on sexuality.

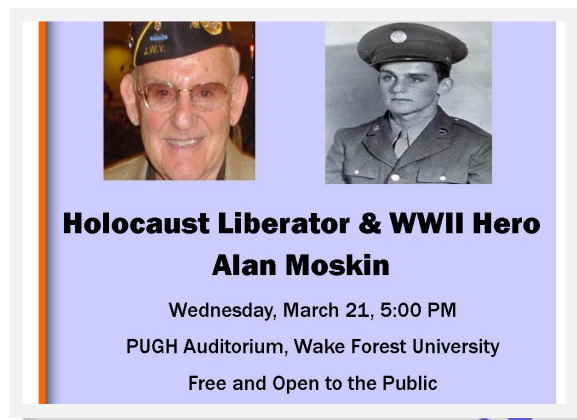
## Fri Mar 23, 2012

5pm - 8pm Shabbat Dinner South Campus &

## Sun Mar 25, 2012

12:30pm - 5pm Mystery Program

More updates can be found on [www.jewishlife.wfu.edu](http://www.jewishlife.wfu.edu)



Look out for this flyer!



## A Trip to Israel: Taglit-Birthright

Sand crunches beneath sandaled toes. The silence slips around our movements as one by one students find their place to think and dream. As the moonlight highlights the endless sand dunes, I sink to the ground. With no hint of civilization ahead, we connect to the desert that our forefathers traveling across to reach the promised land.

Taglit-Birthright. The words encompass so much more than the ten day trip exploring Israel to up the Golan Heights to across the Dead Sea. Birthright offered the opportunity to delve into our homeland and touch the sites we've dreamed of for decades. Whether climbing Masada or slipping a note into the Western Wall, the forty students on the trip bonded with our roots and developed friendships to span a lifetime. The eight soldiers who joined our bus quickly became an

unforgettable part of the trip. With curiosity and spunk they introduced us to Israeli culture.






Don't let the fear of safety scare you away. Throughout my month in Israel, I never felt in danger. Experiencing Israel with peers is not an opportunity to ignore. Apply to Taglit-Birthright because it is more than a free flight across the ocean, Taglit-Birthright is a chance to develop a part of yourself and your ancestry as you explore an incredible country.

Shoshanna Goldin is a Sophomore from Allentown, PA.

From teaching us where to find the best hummus and falafel to answering our flood of questions about life in the Middle East, the soldiers who accompany us on our trip provided a glimpse into a life so different from our own yet still grounded by the same Jewish values and passion for the land of Israel.

For more information about birthright please go to :  
[www.birthrightisrael.com](http://www.birthrightisrael.com)  
 Summer Registration Opens Feb.15  
 For NC Hillel Summer Trip

### Other Demon Deacons who been on Taglit-Birthright:

		
<p>Andrea Beck Biology Major North Carolina</p>	<p>Sophia Goren Political Science Michigan</p>	<p>Celia Dubroof Business Major Maryland</p>





Office of the Chaplain :  
336.758.5017

Rabbi Gisser's Office:  
336.758.4056

**WAKE FOREST HILLEL**

e-mail: [jewishwf@wfu.edu](mailto:jewishwf@wfu.edu)

**JEWISH STUDENT YOUTH ORGANIZATION**

# Thank you

- Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lazarus
- Mr. & Mrs. Aviv Tuchman
- Mrs. Bonnie Leto
- Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Levin
- Mrs. Gail Severence
- Mr. & Mrs. Barry Goldin
- Mr. & Mrs. Chet Ven Wert
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Falcone
- Mr. & Mrs. Steve Breiter
- Mr. & Mrs. Marton Forkosh
- Mr. Andrew Farb
- Mr. & Mrs. Randy Lisch
- Mrs. Marci Goldsmith
- Mrs. Shoshana Hoose
- Mr. Art Powell
- The Segall Family Foundation
- Mr. Jesse Cohen
- Mr. Charles H. Samel
- Mrs. Paula Zigman
- Mr. Steven Akman
- Mr. & Mrs. Barry Eisen

To make a contribution to Wake Forest Hillel please go to our webpage:  
[www.jewishlife@wfu.edu](http://www.jewishlife@wfu.edu)

## About Rabbi Michael Gisser:

A native of Montreal, Rabbi Gisser knows his hockey. The same enthusiasm that he brings to the ice, he brings to Wake Forest. This manifests through his dedication, creativity and energy to build a vibrant and caring Jewish community at Wake Forest.

Rabbi Gisser has previously served various positions in Hillels in Canada and the Northeast, at Vanier College, McGill University, Ramapo College and Fairleigh Dickinson University. He has also been the executive director at the Holocaust Museum and Study Center in Spring Valley, New York.

Rabbi Gisser holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Dalhousie University, A Master of Arts in Religion from Concordia University, a Master of Education from Touro University and Rabbinical Ordination from Kollel

Ayshel Avraham Rabbinical Seminary. He is currently studying at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro in the Ph.D program in Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations, hoping to graduate in 2013. His main focus of study is Holocaust education for the next generation of learners. Rabbi Gisser, along with his position at Wake Forest, is currently the Associate Dean of Jewish Studies at the American Hebrew Academy and an adjunct faculty member of the Religion department at High Point University. Rabbi Gisser will also be commissioned as an Army Reserve Chaplain this coming summer.

He lives in Greensboro with his wife of 16 years, Jodie and their 2 daughters, Jordanna (a 9th grader

at AHA) and Sarena (a 4th grader at B'nai Shalom Day School).

