



Temple Shir Tikvah & Telem Present:



Second Family Service Trip to New Orleans

Friday, April 16 - Thursday, April 22

High school students and adult family members will live and work closely together for six days, re-building homes in St. Tammany Parish and exploring the life and culture of the New Orleans area.



February 2008 New Orleans trip: Teamwork setting up floor joists. (Photo: Dan Stone)

Cost: \$400 per participant* — includes housing, most meals, transportation in Louisiana, volunteer expenses, and tourist activities.

Questions? See FAQ and schedule sheets. If you still have questions please contact Shahr Colt (scolt@shir-tikvah.org; 781/801-0128).

To Register: Space on the trip is limited. To reserve a slot, contact Shahr.

*Financial support is available. Please contact Rabbi Rim.

NOLA Service Trip FAQ

What does my \$400 cover?

The trip fee covers your room, most meals, transportation within New Orleans, volunteering expenses, Katrina Tour, group T-shirt, safety equipment, and some evening activities. It does NOT cover your transportation to New Orleans.

Is there financial support available?

Yes. If you are seeking financial assistance, please contact Rabbi Rim.

Where will we be volunteering? What will we be doing?

We will be working with Habitat for Humanity – St. Tammany West doing a variety of construction related activities. We will also spend some time touring New Orleans, connecting with the Jewish community, listening to local music, and learning about Hurricane Katrina.

What does it mean that this is a *family* trip? Who can go?

This trip is open to Shir Tikvah families with high school aged children. **Each student must be accompanied by an adult family member.** Habitat for Humanity requires volunteers to be age 16 or older to work on a construction site. Interested students age 15 should talk to Shahar.

What is the time frame?

We will meet on Friday night, April 16 in Louisiana. Our last day of volunteering is Thursday, April 22. Families may choose to stay the following weekend in New Orleans at their own expense, which is also the first weekend of the New Orleans Jazz Festival.

Where will we be staying?

We will be staying at Peace Lutheran Hostel in Slidell, LA. The living conditions will be dorm-like, with several bunk beds in a room. Living closely together is part of the group experience and helps keep the cost down.

Where will we be eating? Can my dietary needs be accommodated?

Peace Lutheran Hostel provides a breakfast buffet, bagged lunches, and dinner. They have said that they will serve kosher style food (i.e., not pork or shellfish) and that they can accommodate vegetarians. Most evenings we will be going out for dinner at various local restaurants. If you have allergies or other dietary restrictions, please speak with Shahar. It is probable that we can make arrangements.

Are there any commitments beyond the trip itself?

High school students will participate in the New Orleans class during spring trimester. This class will include learning about Hurricane Katrina and studying *tikkun olam*, the Jewish responsibility to repair the world. We will also spend part of the class learning some basic construction skills that will apply once we're on site. **Adults and students** will participate in the construction skills class Wednesday, March 31 and an orientation Wednesday, April 7. In addition, we will plan a Shabbat service in which we share our experiences with the broader Shir Tikvah community.

How can I learn more?

Come to the information meeting Wednesday, January 27 from 8–9 PM. *Please email Shahar if you are planning on attending.*

NOLA Sample Schedule

This schedule should be used to get a sense of the kinds of activities we will be involved in. These are not set in stone.

Friday, April 16

Families arrive. As families are responsible for getting themselves to Louisiana, people may arrive at different times. If people are arriving in time, we will plan a dinner together. Hopefully everyone will be at the Peace Lutheran hostel by 8 PM for an opening group program / orientation.

Saturday, April 17

Habitat Build Day 1

Havdalah, dinner, and evening activity with Northshore Jewish Congregation

Sunday, April 18: (Habitat closed)

Day trip into New Orleans

- Beignet Brunch in New Orleans, free time
- Katrina tour 1–4 pm
- Cajun dinner and free time in French Quarter

Monday, April 19: (Habitat closed)

Single-day community service project TBD

Dinner in New Orleans

Tuesday, April 20

Habitat Build Day 2

Open evening — dinner at Peace Lutheran or elsewhere in Slidell area

Wednesday, April 21

Habitat Build Day 3

Last group dinner

Thursday, April 22

Habitat Build Day 4

Goodbye!