



May/June 2017
Danville

I was privileged recently to attend a Tri-Region meeting in Charlotte, NC with Hadassah members from the ten states covered by the Southeastern, Southern, and Southern Seaboard Regions. The weekend meeting focused on the three pillars of Hadassah – Advocacy, Health, and Zionism – and the resources and opportunities that Hadassah provides in each area.

Hadassah has been working to educate women about the importance of heart health with its Every Beat counts, Every Step Counts, and now Every Bite Counts programs. These emphasize both preventive care and the importance of knowing women's distinctive cardiac symptoms. At the same time, Hadassah has been advocating for Gender Equity in Medical Research so that more can be known about heart health and heart disease in women.

Hadassah's Research in Service to Humanity is working to bring the cutting edge of medical research to address diseases such as Parkinson's, Multiple Sclerosis, ALS, melanoma, and breast cancer. And of course, the two Hadassah hospitals Ein Kerem and Mount Scopus remain the best examples of diversity and cooperation that can be found in the Middle East, providing the most up-to-date and caring medical treatment to everyone, regardless of ethnicity or religion.

Given all the good things we Zionists know about Israel, how is it that there are people who want to isolate and demonize the country and undermine its sovereignty? Avi Weinryb of the Israel Action Network provided a framework for understanding people's attitudes toward Israel and how to engage with those who can be persuaded to be more supportive. In particular, he pointed out the need to build relationships through dialogue, to discover shared values and common ground, and to recognize the importance of emotions in making moral choices. The situation in the Middle East does not have to be a zero-sum game, but rather we can work toward a win-win solution.

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Rabbi Judith Schindler, Director of the Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University in Charlotte, gave an inspirational presentation on Jewish values and how they can help guide us in providing not just social services to those in need, but in advocating for social justice as well. The Center provides Holocaust and human rights education and promotes advocacy to create positive change. Rabbi Schindler drew upon the Holiness Code in Leviticus ("Love your fellow as yourself") as well as the wisdom of Hillel ("What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor") to emphasize the need to create inclusion and acceptance for all. She pointed out that Abraham, Moses, and Isaiah all said to God, "Hineini, here I am." The question then becomes, to whom or for what cause would we say "Hineini, here I am"? I hope that Hadassah inspires that response from you!

Martha Woody, Chapter President

Happenings with our Members

Mazel Tov to **Joan Newman** on the birth of her great grandson Samuel Nathan Pokorney.

Did we miss your news? Be sure to contact Martha Woody, 276-638-4316, and we'll include you in our next newsletter!



You're Invited to Hadassah's Donor Brunch

Sunday, May 21, 2017

11:00 a.m.

At the home of Ronnie Mand
235 Brandon Court, Danville, VA

*Just as the wild flower seeds have been sown in Israel to beautify the land
We can sow seeds for healthy and productive lives through our Donor contributions*

R.S.V.P by May 12th to rkmand@comcast.net or 434-799-3434

Even if you are unable to attend, you can make a difference!

Send your Donor check, made payable to **Hadassah**, to
Jo Ann Howard, 326 Rosemary Lane, Danville, VA 24541