Congregation Ohr HaTorah was formally established at the Chabad Center on Sardis Road in January 2000. Lubavitch (Chabad) had provided Orthodox services to the Charlotte Jewish community for over 20 years (beginning in 1980). By 2000 there was a consensus to form an Orthodox synagogue with full membership and services. The newly formed congregation chose the name Ohr HaTorah, which means “Light of the Torah”.

Congregation Ohr HaTorah provides an authentic and spiritual Jewish experience. Ohr HaTorah is a warm and friendly place where one can explore our heritage and learn more about the joyous traditions that have defined our culture and identity as a people for over 3000 years.

Jews from all walks of life feel comfortable at our Shul. A spirit of joy and camaraderie fills the air as we gather to worship and enjoy weekly Shabbat Kiddushim, the luncheons that follow Shabbat morning services. The Friday night Shabbatons which are scheduled every two months, attract many new families and help people experience the Shabbat joy on a new level. Congregation Ohr HaTorah welcomes Jews from all backgrounds to participate at their own comfort level. In a non-judgmental way, the synagogue facilitates the spiritual growth of each individual.

The board of the synagogue, made up of members of varied Jewish backgrounds, has the goal of bringing to our Shul the best in the genuine Jewish experience. The amity of the Shul family is obvious as we share our ideas at our periodic breakfast planning meetings and participate in our many activities. Here all voices are heard, all ideas are honored, and everyone may participate in a significant way.

Congregation Ohr HaTorah is a full-service synagogue that offers twice-daily prayer services each weekday, along with Shabbat and holiday worship. Our Shul has a junior congregation, with Bar and Bat Mitzvah training provided by our rabbinical staff. The Shul also provides adult education through the thought provoking Jewish Learning Institute classes and Talmud Torah classes for students who wish traditional Jewish education but are not attending the Charlotte Jewish Day School.

Congregation Ohr HaTorah is a project of Lubavitch of North Carolina and thus is closely connected with other projects of Lubavitch. These include the Jewish Preschool on Sardis, Friendship Circle, and community wide holiday celebrations.

For more information about how to create your Jewish legacy, contact Rabbi Cohen, 704-790-5016 or Rabbicohen@chabadnc.org

Support for Create Your Jewish Legacy comes from Life & Legacy, funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.