



Yahadut Zmaneinu, Moreshet Ha'am

YOZMA

AN ISRAELI JEWISH INITIATIVE IN MODI'IN



Kehillat YOZMA celebrates PURIM!

Once again YOZMA is setting precedents.

YOZMA is the first non-Orthodox community to have been granted a synagogue building by the State of Israel. And now, just two years later, this building was too small to accommodate the crowd that attended the *Megillah* reading at YOZMA this year. In yet another precedent, YOZMA held its reading at the Modi'in cultural center. Every one of the 600 seats was occupied.

Unfortunately, many more were turned away for lack of space.

The event was led by two Reform rabbis – YOZMA's own **Rabbi Kinneret Shiryon** and **Rabbi Nir Barkin** - and three Reform cantors from the Jerusalem HUC campus. YOZMA's TELEM youth group ran a *Purimon* fair for the children that included games, face-painting and cotton candy. Residents of the Beit Eden group home for developmentally-challenged adults – adopted by YOZMA's social action committee - also attended.

This is an amazing feat for a non-Orthodox community in Israel. In a city with not one but three Orthodox chief rabbis, it is impressive that the Reform community of Modi'in held its *Megillah* reading under the auspices of the city's cultural center. The fact that the turnout was so large is just one sign of the success of YOZMA in attracting largely-secular families to Reform Judaism.

YOZMA - Judaism of Our Time, Heritage of Our People

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