

# **CHAV \_ \_ AH**

What's Missing? U R!

## ***Join a Chavurah***

A Chavurah is a group of synagogue friends who share holidays, Shabbat, lifecycle events and social activities. A chavurah can enrich your religious and cultural lives and act as a source of lasting friendships.

We will be forming new Chavurot and adding to existing groups as needed. Please return your completed questionnaire to

Steven Orkand  
5340 Angelina Ave.  
Carmichael, CA 95608

For further information call 916-283-4325  
or E-mail [orkandsac@pol.net](mailto:orkandsac@pol.net)

**Dear Congregant,**

**The Chavurah Program at Congregation B'nai Israel provides a wonderful shared Jewish experience for everyone who participates. It is one of the many ways to enhance your experience as a Temple member. This letter will provide answers to some frequently asked questions and hopefully encourage you to join a Chavurah.**

**What is a Chavurah?**

Chavurah comes from the Hebrew word *chaver*, meaning friend or fellowship. Each Chavurah is a small group of Temple members who come together to learn, to socialize and enjoy Jewish living with their families. They study together, worship together, celebrate Jewish holidays together, and eat together. For many, the Chavurah is an extended family.

**What does a Chavurah do?**

The Chavurah celebrates Jewish life. Through programs of study, observances of holidays and festivals, socializing and sharing of *simchas*, members personalize and vitalize their Jewish life experiences. They also participate together in Temple life and in community concerns.

**When and where does a Chavurah meet?**

Chavurot usually meet once every 6 – 8 weeks, generally at members' homes. Each group decides on the most convenient dates and times for themselves.

**How large is a Chavurah?**

Each group should have approximately 10 – 16 people. However, there are no hard and fast rules about the size. Chavurot exist for families and for individuals.

**How do I join a Chavurah?**

Just complete the application and mail it to the address below. You will be contacted soon afterwards. New Chavurot are formed on the basis of age, children, spheres of interest, etc. You will be placed in a Chavurah just as soon as enough applications are received to form a new group. We will invite you to a social evening so you can learn more.

For over 15 years, the Chavurah program at B'nai Israel has been a successful way for congregants to connect with the Temple and to make lasting friendships. If you have any questions or desire additional information, feel free to call. We look forward to hearing from you and meeting you in person.

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