

Would you like
to join
a Havurah?



The word *havurah*—חֲבוּרָה comes from
the Hebrew word *haver*—חֵבֵר
meaning friend.

A *havurah* is a Jewish group, especially an
informal one, that meets regularly.

Being a member of a *havurah* can help members make new friends within our Temple family and enjoy social gatherings and holiday celebrations with other members.

Each *havurah* is a small community of congregants who gather together to socialize, learn more about Jewish subjects, celebrate Jewish holidays, or take any focus that the group chooses. Some groups are formed for religious study, some are purely social, and many are a combination. While a *havurah* may form to fulfill one particular need, ideally all the other expressions of Jewish life will be experienced within this self-selected Jewish community.

Each *havurah* defines its own goals and means for growth and self-expression. Some *havurot* (pl.) will meet many times throughout the year, such as monthly, while others will meet less frequently. The *havurah* may meet in members' homes or at a chosen place such as a museum, park, restaurant or theater. Typical activities may include:

- creating family holiday celebrations
- joining together for Shabbat meals
- working on a volunteer project
- attending temple activities together or meeting afterwards
- arranging a group outing to a local museum, amusement park, etc.

The group is encouraged to create programs that celebrate Jewish life and build community. A *havurah* may consist of singles, couples, families or any combination of the above. Typically, a *havurah* has about 20 members or 8-10 families.

Why join a *Havurah*?

Being part of a *havurah* provides members of Temple Beth El with an opportunity to develop and strengthen friendships with others who share similar interests. Whether you're a new member looking to meet other congregants or an existing member seeking new friendships, a *havurah* is a great way to create an extended family within the Temple Beth El community.

To learn more about joining a *havurah*, contact:

Joan Friedman
#3 Coral Tree Lane
Rolling Hills Estates 90274
310-541-1188
joanfriedman@cox.net

Please indicate your interest in joining a havurah by completing the form below. We look forward to helping you find like-minded families here at Temple Beth El.

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Your age range (circle) 20-35 35-50 50-65 65+ Marital status _____

Children at home:

Names

Ages

Interests:

Social

Jewish Study

Family Activities

Holidays Celebrations

Singles Activities

Other _____

Comments or questions:

*You may return this page to Marla Shwarts (address on previous page)
or to Temple Beth El:*

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