



CHAVURAH SPOTLIGHT

~ written by Keri Gee Semmelman

October, 2013

This month, we feature the “**KinderClub**”... a Young Family Chavurah that got started in mid 2011 and has tripled in size since then. The spirited group of up to 15 families (29 adults and 25 kids) meets monthly.

We kicked off with a nature hike that included story-time. There has been a trip to Santa Ana zoo, pool and beach parties, a couple picnics in the park (one with train rides and jumper house), Trick or Treating, bowling, and some Jewish themed festivities like the Purim Party where kids made groggers and played Pin the Crown on Queen Esther. We recently joined together for a Mezuzah hanging ceremony and then in honor of High Holy Days, the kids made New Year’s cards and painted a banner to greet congregants and guests (which appeared at the Temple front doors during Yom Kippur). They also played games with apples while the adults enjoyed “speed-friending” to get to know one another even better as we begin the New Year. The questions from everyone were both fun and thought provoking! Most recently, we had a break-the-fast.

This thank you note from one family says it all:

Dear Chavurah,
It was so wonderful to see you all today. The Mezuzah hanging ceremony was so special, thoughtful, and will last in our memories for a lifetime. We want to thank everyone who was present to share this experience with us and for making it so meaningful. We feel so welcomed and hope to continue to make lasting friendships.
Love,
Smith Family (Dave, Susan, Sophia, and Emma)



The Members of the Chavurah include the following families: Aldorty, Axel, Baldwin, Brenneman, Cantus, Cohen, Kalish, Obritz, Pantel, Pasternak, Pink/Nguyen, Reingold, Roth, Semmelman, and Smith.

What is a Chavurah?

One of the many benefits of Temple membership is to be part of a Chavurah - a group of usually about 8 to 20 people with similar backgrounds or interests.

The group defines its own schedule - most gather once a month and enjoy all kinds of festivities. Some are purely social while others also delve into Jewish topics for shared learning. It's a special way to make lifelong friends.

If you want to be in a Chavurah, please let Membership Committee Member Claudia Geller know by emailing her at gellerclaudia@aol.com or fill out the [Chavurah Interest Form](#).

