

Havurah Community Home Shabbat Gatherings

What is a Home Shabbat? As part of our effort to provide a Shabbat experience for our community almost every week, in addition to Shabbat services at the Havurah led either by Rabbi David, Rabbi Sue Morningstar or lay leaders, our community members open their homes to members and friends of the Havurah once a month. These gatherings are an informal opportunity to make new friends and have some good *schmoozing* time with our old friends. If you are new to the Havurah, or just checking us out, this is a great way to connect to our community and meet the widely diverse people who make up our membership. We light Shabbat candles together to bring in the light of Shabbat in community, say blessings over the wine and Challah and enjoy a meal together.

When? We gather at 5:30 p.m. on Friday evenings so that families with young children can easily participate, when there are no Shabbat services scheduled.

Want to host? If you are interested in hosting a Home Shabbat, please contact Scott Bandoroff of the Membership Committee at scott@peakexperience.org, who will help you to choose a date. Whether you know the blessings or not you are invited to host a home Shabbat in your home or garden. There is always someone on hand who can lead the Kiddush (blessings).

What do I need to provide when hosting? You provide two Shabbat candles (available in the Havurah gift shop, red wine (enough for one glass to do the blessings) and a challah (available from Market of Choice) and perhaps something to drink with glasses or paper cups. Whether or not you provide food is optional.

What should I bring as a guest? These gatherings are Vegetarian Potluck dinners, unless otherwise noted. Please plan to bring a dish to serve 8-10 hungry people, so that there is plenty for everyone. If you don't like to cook, the Ashland Food Coop, Greenleaf Restaurant, or Market of Choices delis are great places to pick up ready-made food to contribute. If you bring dessert, don't assume someone else is bringing dinner ☺. Also, please bring plates and utensils for your family.

How do I find out the date, time, location? Home Shabbat gatherings are usually on our Havurah calendar, but once in a while they are planned after the calendar has been distributed, in which case you may check on our website for the most updated info, as well as the Havurah weekly e-mail or by calling the office at 488-7716 to listen to the recorded info. Should you wish to be added to the Havurah e-list you may contact Bari, our Office Manager at ashlandhavurah@yahoo.com and request that your name be added to the e-list.

Do I need to RSVP? Most often hosts do not request an RSVP, however, please note that they sometimes prefer to know if you will be attending, so please check the announcements for individual gatherings.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our upcoming Home Shabbat Gatherings!