



Congregation Kol Ami
Religious School
CHAI TIMES

May 1, 2011

We hope you enjoyed your first Sunday off and that you had a happy Mother's Day.

Last Sunday we gathered in God's Garden to celebrate a year of learning together and to remember Yom HaShoah. We began with the dedication of the mosaic designed and created by students in the 5-8 class. Students explain to us their section (month) in the mosaic and the inspiration behind their design. The results of their efforts are beautiful and will be enjoyed by all who visit the garden. We thank the Sackins for the work they put into the mosaic on Sundays and the extra time put in after Chai School and during the week.



Carla spoke about Yom HaShoah and read a declaration affirming our conviction to always remember those who perished and survived the Holocaust. We remember the millions of Jews who died as well as the many of others who did not fit the Nazi norm who also perished. We would not be true to our Judaism if we did not remember these people as well on Yom

HaShoah. Several participants said the names remembered of people they had researched or those they had personal connections with. This ceremony was truly touching.



Our attention then focused on God's Garden. The crops are growing and some were ready for harvesting. Cantor and Steve spoke to the trees that Cantor helped fund to begin an orchard. Cantor told the story of man who was asked why he was planting fruit trees when he would never see the fruits of his labor. His reply was that just as those before him had planted for him to enjoy, it is his responsibility to plant for future generations to enjoy. This story encapsulated one of the meanings of God's Garden.





The weather forced us inside to eat lunch together before departing. The cold and rain, however, did not dampen our spirits. It has been a wonderful Chai School year! The staff of Kol Ami wants to thank you all for your participation and support.



All that outdoor fun made us hungry!



Mazel tov! What a beautiful sight!



Ditto! :o)



Oh, and in case you are not recognizing the girl on the left, it is Ellie Lasky. She got a new haircut and her sister, Hannah - on the right, said the style was called a 'kabob'. :o)

Have a wonderful, fun, and safe summer!

Maybe we will meet up in God's Garden!

Celebrate life!