

REPORT

September

September 1



Rav Reuven Stamov had two meetings of the Central Election Commission in Vaad Ukraine. The election results on World Zionist Congress were announced. It was long, hard and time-consuming work, which was associated with these elections, was finally completed with a good result for Conservative communities in Ukraine with good results. Thus Rav Reuven Stamov becomes one of the delegates from Mercaz Olami Ukraine at the congress, which will take place in October.



On the Master program Jewish studies in Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, that are partners of the community, took place Yakov Rabkin lecture “Evolution of Judaic Attitudes to the Modern Science”. Lena Stamov attended the lecture. Such gained contacts are very important for the further development of the community.

The first day of the new school year has also been connected with moving to the new community center. The rest of the day was spent on planning how to use new space and furnishing the room. Many community members gladly come to help.

September 4 – Shabbat

This was the first Shabbat to the community in this new place. Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov said a lot of warm and pleasant words. Community members also wished community to grow and prosper.

The official opening will take place later. But even now the number of people who come is rapidly increasing. Members of Kiev community meet Shabbat in wonderful atmosphere and tried to spend time useful. Members of the community do not want to miss this experience. Not everyone knows about the recent relocation of community center but many people came on this Shabbat. All community members were very happy to spent Shabbat with Rav Stamov and his family.



Lena Stamov organizes a Culinary Midrash before Shabbat candles lighted. With new inspiration and enthusiasm members of community cooked different delicious dishes, learned about Kashrut. There were more than 40 people on Kabbalat Shabbat.

September 11, 18 and 25 - Shabbat



Every Friday community members prepare to Shabbat. As much as Shabbat may be an opportunity for families to spend time together, it is also a chance to enjoy the company of extended family and community in a relaxed atmosphere. Everyone enjoy our atmosphere and new people start to visit your other activities. Of course,

girls and women from community want to be able to cook much delicious food on Shabbat in their homes too. Therefore, Lena Stamov organizes a Culinary Midrash every Friday, before Shabbat at 5:00. She also talks about Kashrut. These classes are very important and necessary not only for those members of our community, who want to convert to Judaism but also for all who want to know more about the tradition. Members of community were cooked dishes from different Jewish cuisines. Also runs a children's group before Shabbat. Children happily hear about Parashat, reading Jewish stories and play fun games. Parents completely calm for their kids. There were at least 45-60 peoples of all ages.

September 5, 12, 19 and 26 – Parashat Hashavua and Havdalah



On Shabbat day community members spent time with Mincha and lessons on Parashat Hashavua and Halacha in community. Gathered with almost all community started of the new week with Havdalah. On Shabbat day gather more than 20 members of our community. Also Rav Reuven Stamov prepared people for conversion.

Lena and Reuven Stamov had meeting with the families of our community for dinner. Also Rav Reuven Stamov do personal meeting for Conversion preparation.

September 6

This day was very eventful, a lot of new people and a good impressions. Members of the community have been very glade to meet in the new academic year. Thanks to the exhibition of Jewish Organizations, which took place on August 16 many information about community were fined out but different people. They wanted to participate in a lot of projects.



On this day, was an acquaintance with the English language teacher, a native speaker Ryan Brit. He ran a test for all interested to determine the level of proficiency. He told about himself, teaching methods. Many people were interested. Now we have two children and three adult groups with regular and very interesting classes.

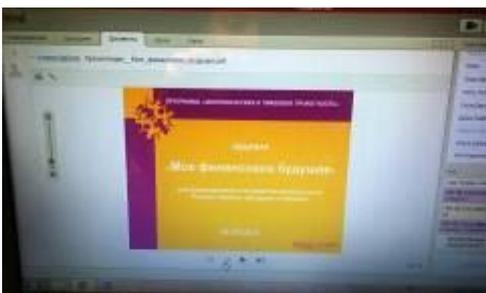


Members of Masorti community also had great opportunity to create Rosh HaShanah presents.



In art studio talented painters drew beautiful Shana Tova still life, listened about holiday tradition.

September 8



Continuing cooperation with the Project Kesher women from the community took part in the webinar "My financial future". A lot

of interesting information was about financial decisions, "prudent financial behavior".

September 10



It was an acquaintance with the new teacher in Ulpan. Now there are three groups for adults of different levels and two groups for kids. Now two wonderful teachers will train the students in Hebrew. Many new children and adults started to attend Ulpan this year.

September 12

Our partners and good friends of our community Project Keshet and Renat Akhmetov Foundation give us good opportunity to start new project – psychological support it's a very good help for psychological health of our members. Also everyone who has questions can be presented on these consultations. On Shabbat day Women's Club held a session. On this time it was the theme of life creation and self-improvement.

September 13 – Rosh HaShanah



This year, this wonderful holiday came in the middle of September. Till lighting the candles, we gathered the

whole community to make final preparations for the holiday. In a family atmosphere, children and adults have finished decorating space and prepare a festive table. Despite the fact that this day was working day a lot of people came to us. We had about one hundred people with children. Community center was filled to capacity.

Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov held a very funny auction where everyone could buy one of the attributes of a holiday, but in comic form.

With best wishes from Ron Garfeld - Branch Director JAFI-Ukraine, heads of educational, youth and family programs - Irina Knopova Anton Gotlib and Katerina Rabina, head of educational projects in Hillel Kiev - Ilona Didenko, Yulia Lyalka - representative of the department of religion Kiev City Administration, and Arkadiy Monastirskiy president of the Jewish Forum of Ukraine, Chairman of the Board of the Jewish Fund of Ukraine which came to celebrate Rosh HaShanah in Kiev Masorti Community. Rav Stamov with Ron Garfeld hanged mezuzot in new center. All participants of the celebration had the opportunity to write notes to the Kotel and notes for Tashlikh.

All joined - men and women, boys and girls, children and the elderly. We were in a festive atmosphere. After all an exciting time candles lightening by women tell us about the occurrence of Rosh Hashanah. After lighting the candles, we went to prayer. It was a special prayer which was held Rav Reuven Stamov. Felt a certain awe of such a time of changes in one's life. Everyone was delighted to be able to meet the Rosh Hashanah among a large Jewish family.

During prayer madrichim separately were engaged with children. We are once again reminded them about the meaning of the holiday, its symbols and traditions. Children received sweet gifts for correct answers in the quiz, but no one is left without sweet treats.

At the end of the prayers were all invited to a festive meal. Tables were set with special dishes, traditional for Rosh Hashanah. We sincerely talked about the future and asked for peace, consent and health. From time to time were sounded warm congratulations from all sides. Also Rav Reuven Stamov Again reminded us of the

importance of this period for each Jew. At the end of the evening everyone could take cookies with phrases from Koelet, they are very suitable to understand meaning of this day.

September 15 – Tashlih

For the execution of one of the most important commandments - listen to the sounds of the Shofar we gathered on the banks of the Dnieper River. There was a celebratory prayer of Tashlich. We emptied our pockets and asked to throw away all our sins. As each of us was able to think about what he wants to leave in the past year. We were about 20 people.

September 17 – Rav Reuven Stamov in Hillel Kiev

Rav Reuven Stamov was on Rosh Ha Shanah celebration in Kiev Hillel. He talked about traditions of this important for every Jew days.

Hosting for Shabbat

Stamov`s family had meetings at their home with families from Donetsk, who visit the community.

Cooperation with other organizations and foundations

The partnership continues with Hillel, project KESHER, Found “Step Forward” and Jewish Agency for Israel. To Family camp team joined two madrishim from Hillel. Also youth from Hillel visited Kabbalat Shabbat. Two families from Jewish Agency for Israel started visited events, especially Rothschild project and Shabbat services; they become active members of the community. Also with Found “Step Forward” some events were created and organized. Also was cooperation with the Organization of families with many children.

Lena Stamov`s meetings

Lena Stamov during this month had meetings with Julia Smelyanskaya on educational program from Rothschild Fund, and Tatyana Voitalyuk Project Keshet representative and Alex Khamray, Lilia Vendrova.

September 20



On the eve of Sukkot in the community held a master class on making decorations for the sukkah. In the art studio everyone can draw lulav and learned new techniques. Lena Stamov told about the traditions of the approaching holiday. Also lesson took place in the Ulpan.



Together with the project Step forward Alexey Dotsenko told about how to filter the information that was received from various media sources.



At the end of the evening lecture Anatoly Podolsky spoke about the tragedy in Babi Yar. This was the first lecture of the project Kiev and neighborhood this year.

September 22 - Mourning procession dedicated to the 74th anniversary of the Babi Yar tragedy



At the National Historical Memorial Reserve ‘Babi Yar’, leaders of Jewish organizations in Ukraine and guests participated in mourning events dedicated to the 74th anniversary of the beginning of shootings and commemoration of the victims of this tragedy. Rav Reuven Stamov was also invited and did speech in memory of the dead, read the memorial Kaddish.

September 22-23 – Yom Kippur

All that day behaved with some sort of special awe. Rav Reuven Stamov explained how important for everyone on these Ten days of repentance to find time to reflect on the whole complex of problems related to Tshuva for everyone. At the prayer prevailed special atmosphere as on this day no one wanted to leave the community. Because for everyone was important to feel the support of our extended Jewish family. The next morning, everyone could come to the synagogue on Yom Kippur Shacharit. We had about 45 people. All day members of community learned specifically things of Yom Kippur and all together met the end of that day.

September 24 - Rav Reuven Stamov in Hillel Kiev



rav Reuven Stamov was on sukkah building in Kiev Hillel. He talked about how to build a kosher sukkah, about Yom Kippur, Aseret Yemei Teshuva and the importance of this period of the year for every Jew.

September 24



On Master Program Jewish studies in Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, that are partners of the community, took place Zeev Khanin lecture "Multiculturalism and the political process: the experience of Israel". Such gained contacts are very important for the further development of the community.

September 24 -Rav Reuven Stamov in Jewish Agency for Israel

Rav Reuven Stamov had a meeting in JAFI.

September 27 – Sukkot



First, we wanted to note that the preparation for this holiday began not only to the manufacture of decoration for Sukkah, but also with her construct. Very pleased for us those in our community men with great pleasure were building Sukkah under the watchful guidance of Rav Reuven Stamov. We gathered with our community on the first day of the holiday. For some of members of our community who have never done it before, binding lulav was a bit tricky. At the same time, Rav Reuven Stamov told about the four varieties, about what each of them means. Also this year sukkah is much bigger; everyone could stand in sukkah and say a blessing. Adults and children learn new songs for the holiday, learnt several Jewish dances. This day was a special atmosphere. In addition despite the fact that the beginning of the holiday were more than 90 people come.

September 29 – Guests from Kyive-Mohyla Acadimy. MA program Jewish Studies



Masorti Community invited teachers, students and independent students of the Master's Program in

Jewish Studies at NaUKMA celebrating Sukkot holiday. Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov told about community, celebration and traditions of Sukkot. Everyone could join to perform certain commands.

September 30 – Musical evening in sukkah with cheese and wine



On one of Sukkot evening youth from our community and guests from JAFI and Hillel Kiev were invited to the musical evening. There were very tasty food, beautiful instrumental music and of course a lot of pleasant time. That evening, there were more than 25 people.

October 1



On Thursday Rav Reuven Stamov and Lena Stamov visited JUICE event Lu-ovely Sukkot in PODOL Inn Kosher Hotel.

On Friday before Shabbat teenager from JAFI visited sukkah. Rav Reuven Stamov told about how to build a kosher sukkah, about Yom Kippur, Aseret Yemei Teshuva and the importance of this period of the year for every Jew.

October 3 – Project Keshet



Rav Reuven Stamov

with Lena Stamov was on Project Keshet Youth Forum "Communication without Borders". Rav did Havdalah and told about secrets of the success. Project Keshet is a good partner of Kiev Masorti Community.

On Sunday evening the board of Project Keshet of USA visited Masorti Community sukkah. The leaders of project from Ukraine, Belorussia and USA expressed their gratitude to the community for assistance in the sukkah building. And of course they said words of appreciation to Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov.

Songs

Members of our community are very fond of singing. People did not just sing, they learn new songs from our vocal coach and even invent your own songs. After these lessons all enjoy musical performances on Shabbat.

Ulpan

Furthermore, as usually pretty large number of students come to our community Ulpan. In community there are three groups for adults – senior, middle groups and group for beginners. In addition there is fully launched group of studying Hebrew for children. They with great pleasure attended classes and tell parents about their achievements.

Preparation to the holidays

It was really long proses of preparation for all this holidays. All tzevet with Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov were met together many time, to create program, discusses all moments of each holiday and so on.

Rav Reuven Stamov and Lena Stamov created program of the camp, had meetings with madrishim and helped them to learn more about the main topic of every meanful day.

More photos you can find on our page in Facebook –

<https://www.facebook.com/masoretinkiev>