

## Ukraine REPORT - August

### *August 5, 12, 19, 27 – Shabbat*



Everyone enjoys our atmosphere and new people start to visit your other activities. Every Friday one of the community members prepared several interesting moments from Parashat Hashavuah, everyone took part in Shabbat quiz, Drama Midrash related to Parashat Hashavuah topic. While Rav Reuven is not in Kiev Shabbat conducts by Lena Stamov or community members. There were at least 15-20 peoples of all ages.

August, 20 – Shabbat Hatan for David Lebovich before chuppah.

### *August, 20 – Parashat Hashavua and Havdalah*



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

Lena and Reuven Stamov had a meeting with the families of community for dinner. Also, Rav Reuven Stamov do a personal meeting for Conversion preparation and the couple who wants to do Chuppah. Rav Reuven devotes every day 2 hours for the work on the Siddur and the preparation now at the finish line.

### *August 1-10 – Summer Camp Rama Yahad*



Thirty children from Kiev spent 10 perfect days in Summer Camp Ramah. This year campers were joined by 11 North American Ramah counselors.

### *Lena Stamov meetings*

- August, 2 – Meeting with Julia Goldenberg – Head of the Charitable Foundation "2U".
- August, 2 – Meeting with Lilia Vendrova – director of the Charitable Jewish organization JUICE. Were planed to organize in cooperation Tohnit Elul for the community and celebration of the MAROM Sukkot.
- August, 3 – Meeting with Ilona Didenko – coordinator of the educational program in Kiev Hillel. This meeting was devoted to the planning of the future cooperation.

- August, 3-4 – Meeting with Arkadiy Monastirskiy - President of The Jewish Forum of Ukraine, Chairman of the Board of The Jewish Fund of Ukraine, President of the Association of non-governmental organizations, Member of the Assembly of Nationalities.
- New educational project. The last year program was dedicated to Sholom-Aleichem works. This give us idea to dedicate this year to Agnon and 50<sup>th</sup> Nobel Prize anniversary. This year we plan lectures about Jewish authors, Jewish and Israeli literature. We can study different Jewish authors. It gives us the opportunity to join the Jewish community in Chernowitz, Odessa, Berdichev, Kiev, Lviv, Rivne and maybe Kharkiv. We are working on this program. We can gain all ages in this program.



- August, 7 - Meeting with Marian Maksymyak, program director of Art Court, of The "Yard Art" Buchach. The Kiev Community Masoret will participate in the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the date of receipt of the Nobel Prize by Agnon. Visiting Municipal District Local History Museum of Buchach.



- August, 15 - Visiting archives and local lore museum in Rivne, a place where which Amos Oz wrote in his Nobel Prize. Meeting with Valentina Danilishin – historian and archive worker, author of the book about Ukrainian Jews and Zionism on Poland territories (now these territories are part of Ukraine) Planing new projects and working with sources and archival materials. With Agnon work “A Tale of Love and Darkness”.
- August, 16 - Skype conversation with Project “Keshet” board - Sara Schtern, Tatyana Voitalyuk and Elena Kulevnych, Ella Sidorenko and Elena Kalnitzkaya.
- August, 17 - Skype conversation with NOAM madrich from Odessa – Georgiy Batirov. Planing new season and work.
- August, 31 – Skype with ReutYahav – NOAM Olami Director.
- August, 5-26 – Lena Stamov prepare a series of lectures about Agnon. In addition, these lectures about Zionism and Jewish history in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### ***Rav Reuven Stamov meetings***

- August 17 – In cooperation with Chief Editor of the publishing house "Dukh i Litera (Spirit and Letter)" - Leonid Finberg under the preparation for the 75th anniversary of the Babi Yar tragedy Rav Reuven took part in the shooting of documentary films which conducts group from Germany. Starting from September 7, 2016 will be held various events dedicated to the tragedy in Babi Yar.
- August 17 – Meeting with Kamenetzky and Telegin family from Kiev. This meeting was discussion, preparation for children`s Bar-Mitzva.
- August 18 – Lesson before chuppah with Lebovich family.
- August 18 – Meeting with Limud coordination board.
- August 19 – Meeting with Alosa Zilbeershtein who just come back from the fellowship in JTS and will be leader of MAROM Ukraine project.
- August 22 – Meeting before chuppah with couple from Kiev Community. Rav Reuven met with the groom and Lena Stamov with the bride.
- August 28 – Meeting in JAFI.
- August 31 – Shehita exam.

Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov prepared lectures on the Limud Ukraine, which will take place in Lviv on November.

August 28 – Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov had a meeting with Elena Kremer - Head of the Charitable Found "Step Forward".

***August 2, 18, 22, 31 - Tzevet meetings***



Kiev Masorti Community team gathered four times this month to do final preparation before the new season in the community center and create the program for the 75th anniversary of the Babi Yar tragedy.

***August 23 - Charity Yoga Class in aid of the Righteous Among the Nations***



Kiev Masorti Community in cooperation with Ukrainian Charitable Foundation "2U" and physically orientated psychotherapist Julia Iorsh organized charity yoga class and the goal was to raise funds to help the Righteous Among the Nations which apartment was badly damaged by fire. There were 10 people. All raised funds were donated to the women who saved Jewish family in The Second World War.

***August 24 – Chuppah in Munkach***



Rav Reuven Stamov officiated at the wedding ceremony for a young couple and active members from the Kiev Masorti Community. The place in Munkach, Zakarpattia Oblast, was decorated as never before. There were special carpets, flowers, something about 50 guests, and a big chuppah. Rav Reuven was perfect in conducting the ceremony. First of the Sheva Berachot's, was read by the groom's father. After the bridegroom declares, "Behold, thou art consecrated to me with this ring, according to the law of Moses and Israel," the bride usually replies, in Hebrew, "I am my beloved's, my beloved is mine." Members of MAROM Club were present on chuppah, 15 people. Many youth from Kiev Community were invited to the ceremony and it was, it was an unforgettable experience for them, their friends, community members become the Jewish family. Avrum Lebovich, groom's father – head of Munkach Jewish community, he was very proud that his son keeps tradition. Lebovich family is very famous in Munkach. The groom's grandfather wrote Ketubot and great grandfather officiated all Jewish weddings in Zakarpattya during the Soviet Union. It is such a great tradition which is transmitted from generation to generation to be in masorti, to create a traditional Jewish family. During the Soviet Union Lebovich family keeps tradition and was really famous.

### ***August 25- Excursion around the Munkach***



It was MAROM meeting in synagogue in Munkach. The groom's father told about the history of Munkach Jewish community and the history of Lebovich family. All visited a synagogue, there is a big Jewish center. We had Tfila with Sheva Brahot, and dinner at the Jewish center.

Rav Reuven sad, that it was a big honor for him to officiate at the wedding ceremony for this family.

We are finishing work on schedule. The opening of the new season will be on September, 4. The program will be with Tohmit Elul and volunteer project.

The more photos you can find on our page on Facebook –

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

Our YouTube Channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfBOQS\\_ABBnns150PBifDzQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfBOQS_ABBnns150PBifDzQ/videos)