

REPORT. MAY

On this month Kiev Community had special events. We were part of global Kiev life.

May 11 and 16 – Israeli Cultural days in National library for children with Kiev Community “MASORET”



In order to disseminate information about the history, culture and traditions of the State of Israel National library for the children invited Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov with some community representatives. The direction of the library has already become good community partners. In May, was the grand opening to the series of events. Madrich from the Masorti community had dancing workshop. On the Mat, 16 Lena Stamov spoke about traditional Jewish music and studied song "Hava Nagila" with kids, which then sang together. Then, during the master class with Alina Dotsenko library members have created their own flag of the State of Israel, but rather unusual way - with paper and floral foam.

May, 28 – The festival of Podol nations culture



Kiev

Community of traditional Judaism “MASORET” took part in the Festival of Podol nations culture with excursion about Jewish Podol and Israeli dance master class.

May 5, 12, 19, 26 – Shabbat



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. On May, 5 the group from “Minyanim” (The Regional Jewish Leadership Project) was on Shabbat as guests. It was international group from eight countries - France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Israel, Belorussia, Ukraine and Russia. They were very excited about being in the Masorti Community in Ukraine and gain experience of Kabbalat Shabbat in Kiev. There were at least 50-55 peoples of all ages.



On May, 26 was the lecture about Jewish theater by Edna Nahshon (professor of Theater and Drama at The Jewish Theological Seminary) before Shabbat. There were about 40-45 people.

May 6, 13, 20, 27 – Parashat Hashavua and Havdalah



On Shabbat day community members spent time with Mincha and lessons on Parashat Hashavua and Halacha in the community finished with Havdalah ceremony. On Shabbat day community attended from 15 to 25 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 does a personal meeting for Conversion preparation. Rav Reuven also works on the Siddur.

May 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 2, 26, 28 - NOAM



Children happily take part in Kabbalat Shabbat prayer, Parasha Shavua peula, reading Jewish stories and play fun games. Twice every week is working on NOAM activity program. This month, mostly all peulot were dedicated to the Weekly Torah Portions and Shavuot. There are two groups in age between 8-10 years and 12-15 years. NOAM group started to count Omer and created with madrichim really an extraordinary calendar. Together were nearly 25 people.



On May, 28 in the NOAM Kiev group was activity dedicated to Shavuot. It was interesting quest with all details and traditions of Shavuot.

May, 7, 10, 17, 28 - Tzevet meetings and preparation before Shavuot

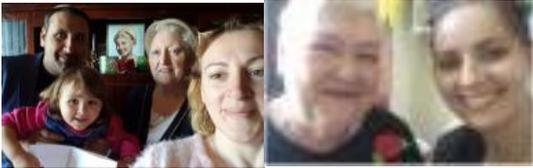
The Kiev Masorti Community team gathered five times this month to do preparation before the Lag ba-Omer and Shavuot, prepare activities and programs for the whole month. At each meeting, all share their impressions and gave feedback. With all tzevet we thought over all the details of the evening and all activities.

May 8, 15, 22, 29 – Shacharit



Community members read from the Torah and gathered on Shacharit on the working week. About 10-15 people gathered every Monday morning.

May, 9 - Representatives from Kiev Community congratulated veterans of the World War II



Members of Kiev Community congratulated veterans on the Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation for World War II victims. From community members were prepared presents with really desired product and gifts.

May 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 - Songs

After these lessons all enjoy musical performances on Shabbat. Every Sunday children with great pleasure learn a song, performing with them on Shabbat and holidays. Also, all had a great opportunity to learn Hebrew in the process of learning the songs, because the Hebrew teacher also helps in these classes. For Shavuot celebration was prepared songs by children and singing teacher. This class attended by 10-15 people of different ages.

May, 7, 14, 28 – Lecture by Rav Reuven Stamov

In addition to the traditional program community members had great pleasure to listen really interesting lesson about Sfirat HaOmer, Lag ba-Omer and Shavuot. There were about 20 people.

May 1, 4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 22, 25, 28, 29 – Ulpan. Hebrew Classes

As usual in Kiev Community took place Ulpan three times a week. We have groups for children, teens and adults in two groups of different levels. There were about 15 people.

May 7, 14, 28 - Hebrew lessons for children

Children from Kiev Community, especially the NOAM group with great pleasure learn Hebrew in a playful way. There about 10 participants in the group. On May, 28 was Mesibat Ivrit dedicated to the Jerusalem and Kiev days and oncoming Shavuot for all community members.

May 7, 14, 28 – Culinary Midrash



Everyone had the opportunity to cook Israeli kosher food with Lena Stamov on the Culinary Midrash. Everybody had a great opportunity to learn how to cook the Jerusalem breakfast dedicated to the Jerusalem Day. The next Culinary Midrash was dedicated to vegetarian food in Judaism There were about 25 participants.

May 7, 28 – Master classes and Artistic Studio



Talented painters study tradition in such an interesting way and it is one of the best methods to grasp information for them. This time artists drew beautiful pictures of Migdal David. On master class which was dedicated to the victory over Nazism. It was very beautiful red poppies - a symbol of this day in Ukraine. Lena Stamov told about the oncoming Lag ba-Omer and Shavuot. All community members with great pleasure helped in the decoration of the community center to the oncoming Jewish holidays.

May, 7 – Parents and baby club

Once a month we have babies and parents meeting, where parents and children can play together, discussed their problems, share experience. Now four families attended this club with their babies at the age from 1 till 3 years old.

May, 14 – Lag ba-Omer



The celebration of Lag ba-Omer was a community center because of very bad weather conditions. The program was started with Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov speeches about the holiday, traditions of this day and historical background. Also, for adults and children we had an interesting quest about Lag ba-Omer. As it turned out, our guests are very erudite and gap between the teams was minimal. Also, we sang songs. It was a very warm, pleasant and unforgettable atmosphere. For some people it was the first Lag ba-Omer where they found all three aspects of the holiday. We were very pleased not only bring joy, but necessary knowledge. On our event were near 60 participants. All ends with Israeli dances Everyone left our event in a great mood and with an interesting knowledge why we celebrate this day.

May, 16 – Gila Katz in Kiev community “MASORET”

It was meeting dedicated to the Teachers` seminar preparations.

May, 17 – Betsy Gidwitz in Kiev community “MASORET”

It was meeting with staff members and supper meeting with Stamovs` family.

Theatrical Midrash

Madrich Vlad Ponomarenko taught children how to take and shoot the interviews and started preparation for shooting video on Parashat Hashavua topic.

May, 28 – Kiev and Jerusalem Days Celebration. Be Shana ha-Baa be Yerushalaim



Before Sunday activities in Kiev Community all members celebrated Jerusalem and Kiev days and talked about the history of the cities. There were 45 people.

May, 24 – Rav Reuven and Lena Stamon in celebration of Israeli independence day and Jerusalem day organized by Israeli embassy in Ukraine

May, 29 – Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov with lectures about Shavuot traditions in Halom

May 30-31 – Shavuot, Tikun Leil Shavuot and Shahation near Dnipro River



This year we have done all-night Torah studying session. About 30 people stayed at Leil Tikkun. After prayer at 10:00 pm and dairy meal we started to study. Each participant prepared a short lesson and of course very interesting were the discussions. At 6 am on the banks of the Dnieper River was Shaharit. Twenty people have met daybreak.

Lena Stamov meetings

- Meeting with Arkadiy Monastirskiy – The Head of the Jewish Forum of Ukraine
- Meeting with Ilona Didenko – The Head of educational programs at the Hillel Kiev
- Meeting with Julia Goldenberg – Director of the charitable foundation “2U”
- Meeting with Natella Andryushchenko – Director of the Jewish school "Mitzva- 613" in Belaya Tzerkov
- Meeting with Nikida Didenko and Valeriy Pinchuk - resident of Moishe House Kiev
- Meeting with Tatiana Abovich – Director of the Hillel Kiev
- Skype with Tal Maoz – the director of NOAM Olami
- Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
- Meeting with Tatiana Voitalyuk - regional representative of Project Keshet
- Meeting with Olya Elshansky - Head of Youth programs in JAFI Ukraine
- Meeting with Anton Gotlib – Head of project “Minyamin”
- Family camp planning
- Every Wednesday – Skype with Shlomo Zakharov and participant of the ashgaha lessons
- May, 26 – Lecture in Jewish Lyceum ORT about Lag ba-Omer
- Meeting with Natalia Sklyarskaya – the director of The festival of Podol nations culture

Rav Reuven Stamov meetings

- Skype consultations with community members in other Masorti communities
- Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
- Meeting with Alexander Zaslavskiy

- Meeting with Katerina Rabina – coordinator of family programs in JAFI Ukraine
- Meeting with Victoria Godik – Head of UUIS
- Meeting with Elena Zaslavska – Head of projects in VAAD Ukraine
- The meetings and negotiations with Kiev businessman, who wants to get a conservative kashrut
- Preparations to the Bar Mitzva
- Meeting with Josef Akselrut - head of Hillel
- Meeting with Ron Garfield - Director of the "JAFI Ukraine" and Dmitri Joffe - JAFI envoy for the aliyah
- Meeting with the director of Nativ - Genadiy Polishuk

Cooperation with other organizations and foundations: The partnership continues with Hillel, JUICE, project KESHER and Jewish Agency for Israel, Juice, Moishe House. Youth from Hillel and JAFI visited Kabbalat Shabbat. The Chief Editor of the publishing house "Dukh I Litera (Spirit and Letter)" - Leonid Finberg and with master program Jewish Studies and certificate program in National University "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy". Cooperation with departure of tourism and The festival of Podol nations culture.

Many thanks for all who made this work possible.

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