

Ukraine REPORT - January

January 6, 13, 20, 27 – 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. There were at least 40-45 peoples of all ages.

January, 27 – Tenth and madrichim from JAFI Ukraine on Shabbat in Kiev Community

This Shabbat with great pleasure tenth and madrichim from JAFI Ukraine attended Shabbat in Kiev Masorti Community. It was really pleasant for all to hear that for them Kiev Community is the best place to stay for Kabbalat Shabbat.

January 21, 28 – 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 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 does a personal meeting for Conversion preparation. Rav Reuven also works on the Siddur.

January 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 - 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 International Holocaust Remembrance Day. There are two groups in age between 8 -10 years and 12-15 years. Together were nearly 25 people.

January 12-15 - Rav Reuven Stamov in Chernowitz Conservative Community “Aviv”



Rav Reuven Stamov visited the conservative community in Chermowitz were held Kabbalat Shabbat, Parashat Hashavua, Halacha lessons and Havdalah. Also, he had private meetings with people who want to convert and meetings with the leader of the community. Many community members had different questions to the Rabbi.

January, 27 – International Holocaust Remembrance Day



Rav Reuven Stamov on the Memorial ceremony "Six million hearts" dedicated to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The ceremony was attended by government officials of Ukraine, representatives of public authorities, heads of diplomatic missions, the deputies of Ukraine, religious and public figures, and journalists.

January, 29 – NOAM Event



NOAM madrichim held a very interesting event for NOAM Kiev group. The event was with culinary midrash by Lena Stramov, the watching of "Life is Beautiful" movie and different interesting peulot. There were about 15 participants.

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. 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. This class attended by 10-15 people of different ages.

January 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29 - Tzevet meetings

The Kiev Masorti Community team gathered four times this month to do preparation to the Hanukkah, prepare activities and programs for the whole month. We have feedback for every meeting.

January, 9 – Bar Mitzva in Kiev Masorti Community



After a long preparation and lessons with Rav Reuven Stamov the day of Bar Mitzva ceremony has come for one community member - Dmitriy (Shlomo) and his parents. The day was started with congratulations, songs from the NOAM Kiev group and community members. After Shacharit, where Dmitriy first time in his life wore Tfillin, the Torah portion was read by parents and Dmitriy. It is important to note that he read on his own, of course with long preparations before. After he did beautiful Drasha and the celebration has continued with dancing, competitions, musical performances, and congratulations. There were about 35 people.

January 9, 16, 23 – Shacharit



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

January, 19 - Moishe House Kiev



Representatives from the Moishe House Kiev gave wonderful toys for NOAM Ukraine children.

January 15, 29 – Master classes



Participants have the opportunity to make their own hand crafts. This month all created beautiful photo frame as a gift for the community guest - Righteous Among the Nations - Ninel Zakharovna and baskets made of paper in paper art technique dedicated to the Parashat Hashavua topic. There were at least 15-20 peoples of all ages, especially parents with their children. Lena Stamov told about the Parashat Hashavua and International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

January, 22 – 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. This time meeting was before the Parashat Hashavua lesson. Parents (mostly mothers) come earlier to communicate.

Theatrical Midrash

January 15, 22 – Vlad Ponomarenko taught children how to take and shoot the interview



January, 29 – Children from NOAM Kiev group took an interview with with Righteous among the nations.

January, 22 – Lecture by Rav Reuven Stamov



In addition to the traditional program community members had great pleasure to listen really interesting lesson about midrashim on the Book of Exodus and the screening of the film “The Prince of Egypt”. There were about 20 people.

January 9, 12, 15, 16, 19, 22, 23, 29, 30 – 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 12 people.

January, 15 – Mesibat Ivrit



This Sunday all community members had a great opportunity to take part in the mesibat Ivrit program with incredibly interesting and entertaining games, competitions, songs and culinary Midrash in Hebrew. There were 30 people.

January 15, 22 – Israeli dances



These classes are successfully run and providing a sense of community for all dancers in a creative, fun and welcoming atmosphere. Classes focus on Israeli dance technique with original choreography. On Sunday evening everyone had an opportunity to dance. The dance classes attended 25-30 people.

January, 22 – Artistic Studio



Talented painters study tradition in such an interesting way and it is one of the best methods to grasp information for them. In fact, they are not only engaged in their favorite thing, draw and learn new painting techniques, they also learn about traditions. This time artists drew

poster dedicated to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. More than 15 people attended artistic studio.

January, 29 –MAROM Kiev meeting



This MAROM Club meeting was devoted for "What? Where? When?" intellectual game preparing. The strategy was prepared and conducted training. That evening, there were about 15 people.

January 15, 29 – Culinary Midrash



Lena Stamov held a Culinary Midrash on Friday or Sunday. Everyone had the opportunity to cook Israeli kosher food. This time everybody had a great opportunity to learn how to cook Nilus fish in sweet sauce, it was dedicated to Parashat Shavua Shmot. The next time were two culinary midrashim. One for all community members - cooked cranberry fruit-drink and separate Midrash for NOAM group. It was dedicated to International Holocaust Remembrance Day and Parashat Shavua Vaera. There were about 25 participants.

#WeRemember – Social action



The World Jewish Congress (WJC) to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day launched a campaign called "We Remember". Each member of the Jewish community, regardless of its location, offered to take a photo with a small poster "We Remember", and then upload it to social networks with the hashtag #WeRemember. The purpose of the action - to draw public attention to the increasing number of anti-Semitic incidents in the world, to convey information to anyone who does not know anything about the Holocaust and those who deny it. No doubt that Kiev Masorti also took part in this action.

January, 29 – The Righteous Among the Nations in Kiev Masorti Community. The meeting was dedicated to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day



It was an incredible touching meeting with Kiev citizen who risked her life with mother to save Jews during the Holocaust. This heroic woman told everyone the story

oh her life, how she trying to safe Jewish families from death and what to be Righteous Among the Nations for her. Now in Kiev we have only 11 people that are still alive and all of them deserve care, respect and honor. There were more than 35 people.

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 Elza Lerner - resident of Moishe House Kiev
- Meeting with Tatiana Abovich – Director of the Hillel Kiev
- Meeting with Ron Garfield and Dmitriy Joffe
- Meeting with Julia Smilyanska
- Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
- January, 11 – Lena Stamov had a Skype conversation with Reut Yahav – NOAM Olami Director.
- Meeting with Tatiana Voitalyuk - regional representative of Project Keshet

Rav Reuven Stamov meetings

- Every Wednesday – Skype with Shlomo Zakharov and participant of the ashgaha lessons.
- Skype consultations with community members
- Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
- Meeting with Alexander Zaslavskiy
- The meetings and negotiations with Kiev businessman, who wants to get a conservative kashrut
- The lessons with the boy who want to have a Bar-Mitza and his parents
- After AJT Conference (Active Jewish Teens) in Kharkov which was attended by Rav Reuven and Lena Stamov the Jewish youth from the Kiev Masorti Community also started to be part of AJT.

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"

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