



The Newsletter of Kol HaEmek (Voice of the Valley)

Physical address 8591 West Road -Mailing address P.O.Box 416, Redwood Valley, 95470

Phone: 707-468-4536

Coming Events

Friday, November 18, at 7:00pm
Shabbat service with Amanda.

Saturday November 19, at 10:00am
Torah Study with Amanda.

November 20, at 2:00pm meet at
Plowshares to prepare a meal for the
hungry. Call Dan Hibshman to
volunteer 707-462-7471

November 24, May you all have a
wonderful Thanksgiving Day!

December 9, at 7:00pm Shabbat
Service with Paige.

Saturday December 10am Torah
Study with Paige,

Sunday, December 18, at 6:00pm first
night Hanukkah, Community candle
lighting and latke supper.

Congregation Kol HaEmek
Welcomes One and All
To Our Annual Hanukkah Party
and Shabbat Potluck

Friday, December 19 5:30 P.M.
at the Shul
Food, Fun and Music for folks of
all ages

Bring 2 candles along with your
Hanukkah. Break out your best
latke recipes or bring whatever
food you'd like to share for the
holiday.

Don't forget to bring your musical
instruments!

Portion of the Week and Holidays

Parshat are from Bereshit
November 5- Lech-Lecha
November 12 - Vayeira
November 19 - Chayei Sarah
November 24- Thanksgiving
November 26-Toldot
December 3 - Vayitzei
December 10 -Vayishlach
December 17 - Vayeishev
December 24 - Mikeitz
December 18 - Chanukah 1st candle
December 25 - Chanukah eighth candle
December 31-Vayigash

Opportunities for Tzedakah

Kol HaEmek (the Voice of the Valley) is funded by your member dues as well as your generous contributions to a of funds including

- 1) Building Fund
- 2) Religious School Fund
- 3) Scholarship Fund
- 4) General Fund
- 5) Honoring and Remembrance Board
- 6) Tzedekah Fund
- 7) Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- 8) The Marion and Sanford Frank Fund for feeding the hungry in Ukiah and Willits
- 9) Mazon -a Jewish Answer to Hunger

Call: David Koppel, 485-8910

We Remember

Maya Schwartz	October
130 Members Stern Family	October 1
Bonnie Ann Spring	October 7
Sylvia Glazer	October 8
Rose Wolff	October 13
Ronald Sisselman	October-8 Tishrei 9
Stan Shower	October 14 Cheshvan 2
Joseph Bar	October 17
Morris Shuper	October 17
Victor Wolff	October 17
Don Roberts	October 20
Ena Koppel	October 21
Todd Harrison	October 21
Abraham Koppel	October 21
Jean Shirley Kisslinger	October 22
Nancy Parker Orton	October 25
Minne Sorkowitz	Tishri 8
Pauline Strauss	October 27 Cheshvan 1
May Meredith	October 28
Abraham Cohen	October 29 Cheshvan 12
Frieda Eisman	October 31
Maurice Marans	November
Lillian Rothchild	November 2 Cheshban 2
Estelle Koppel	November 5
Norman Feldman	November 1
Doris Rogers	November 16
Solomon Glazer	November 9
Dane Wilkins	November 19
Cynthia Suffel	November 23
Laurie Spence	November 26
Robert Leo Kisslinger	November 27
Herbert Alan Fuente	November 28
Jane Gurko	November 30
Dorothy Corwin	Tishrei 7
Minne Sorkowitz	Tishri 8
Sanford "Fritz" Frank	Cheshvan 25
Myra Cohen	Kislev 6
Louis Jonas	Kislev 10

Donations for August and September 2022

Thank You

Bruce Andich and Cassandra Andich

Louise Aranow

Ace Barash and Satuko Barash

Lucy Bayer

Lynne Coen and Charles Hott

Lillian Coen and Thomas Evens

Judith M Corwin

Isa Davila

Harvey Frankle and Jackie Pelter Frankle

Steve Frenkel and Nan Bearden Frenkel

Judith Fuente and David Nelson

Cassie Gibson and Chris Gibson

Janet Gurvich

Dan Hibshman and Leslie Kirkpatrick

Jay Joseph and Jennifer Joseph

David Koppel and Linda Koppel

Nancy Bertsch

Carol Park and Steve Park

Vicki Patterson

Elisabeth Raybee

Norn Rosen and Karen Piretti Rosen

Dale Harrison

Janae Kraus Stephens and Gary Stephens

Nancy Merling

Penny Walker

Salley Emerson

Bhavvy Ducharme and Michael Ducharme

Stuart Marcus and Tara Lesley Marcus

Josephine Silva

Stephen Pasternak and Elizabeth Pasternak

Andrea Silverstein and Dennis Patton

Jo-Ann Rosen

Erika Strong

Carol D.Rosenberg

Leon Springer and Nancy Marotta Springer

Margo Frank and Marc Levine

Reid Edelman and Deborah Stanger Edelman

Darline Bergere and Josh Bergere

Jean Morawski

Robin Sunbeam

Susan Juster and Rachel Juster

Andy Coren and Yvonne Coren

Richard S. Phillips and Rosenie Phillips

Vergilia Daken

Linda Risha Thompson and Earl Antonino

Thompson

Sherrie Ebyam

Helen Sizemore

Steve Pasternak and Elisabeth Pasternak

How About a Beer? by Vicki Patterson

Ancient Israelites favored wine over beer but after the Jews were exiled to Babylon in 586 BCE, they adopted Babylonian customs that included a taste for beer. Several sources for beer are mentioned in the Talmud: barley, dates and figs as well as hops. Hops were favored, not only for their taste but also for their medicinal properties as a preservative and antiseptic. Beer became an acceptable substitute for wine in Havdalah ceremonies.

Jews were banned from making beer in Germany in the 18th century but were able to grow hops and soon dominated that essential market for beer production up until the 1930's. Jewish involvement with alcoholic beverages spread to other countries. A 1764 census in Poland showed that 80% of Jews in villages worked with alcohol in some way- either distilling it to make vodka or making wine or working as innkeepers.

Eventually Jews were allowed to brew beer in Germany and in 1868, they introduced modern methods of brewing. Baron Jacob von Hirsch became the first modern beer brewer to make beer to scale with his Planegg Castle Brewery.

Jewish brewer, J.C. Jacobson from Denmark, went to Germany to learn how to brew beer to scale and returned to Denmark to found Carlsberg Beer which is still Denmark's best known brand. Jewish artisans also designed the first steins now used all over as vessels for drinking beer.

When German Jews immigrated to New York, they brought their beer. Sam Liebermann started Rheingold Beer in Brooklyn in 1850. I remember the photos in all the New York buses and subways in the 1950's of contenders for Miss Rheingold. We would try to guess who would win. (They all looked more or less alike!)

So next time you celebrate the end of the Sabbath- have a beer!

Sukkot By Vicki Patterson

On October 9, we gathered on the porch of the Shul to celebrate Sukkot. Under a sukkah made of woven branches, thanks to Robin Sunbeam and her crews, and as the moon was rising in the east, Rayna Grace led us in song and symbol to commemorate the harvest season. After acknowledging the ancestral land of the indigenous people, we lit candles and prepared to wave the lulav and etrog as a blessing to the world.

Celebrants made their own plant combinations.

The traditional plants are lulav, the branches of a date palm, myrtle, and willow. In one hand is held the etrog, a citron fruit. We made our own plant groupings although the traditional lulav combo was available. The four items represent the four letter name of God and the Hebrew letter ,*vav*, signifies the divine energy that enters the world and ourselves. The lulav represents the backbone for uprightness; myrtle represents the eyes for enlightenment; willow represents the lips for prayer and the etrog represents the heart for understanding and wisdom.

We waved the lulav and etrog to the four directions and then up to the heavens and down to the earth. Some included a pomegranate as an etrog substitute.

We joined together with song and rhythm instruments in a short parade and returned to the porch for a water ceremony followed by the traditional dance Mayyim. We invited departed ancestors to join our party. And then, for the first time since Covid, we feasted on a vegetarian potluck.

Robin had help from her son Moses and Five other families:

The Construction Crew: Robin was assisted by her son Moses and Mathew Kravitz and his sons Edison and Oliver. Decorations were made by three families, Sara and Pele Esserman-Melville, Richard Philips and his children Naomi, Asher and Aaron and Michael Nemeth and his son Noah. Many thanks to all of you.

Below left Asher, center Oliver and Robin below right, Pele and Naomi working on decorations.



Book Review by Vicki,Patterson **Judas** by Amos Oz

“The fact is that all the power in the world cannot transform someone who hates you into someone who likes you. It can turn a foe into a slave, but not into a friend. All the power in the world cannot transform a fanatic into an enlightened man. All the power in the word cannot transform someone thirsting for vengeance into a lover”.

These words, written by Amos Oz, the famous Israeli author, seem very appropriate for our time. They come from his last novel, Judas, published in 2014 and long-listed for the Man Booker Prize, just four years before his death at age 79 in 2018. Oz was a prolific writer with 40 books as well as numerous articles and opinion pieces including 14 novels, 5 story collections, 2 children’s books and 12 books of essays. He was considered for the Nobel Prize in Literature but was a controversial figure in Israel due to his advocacy for a two state solution to the Palestinian crisis. He was a dedicated Zionist with an identity forged from his years growing up and living on a kibbutz. He was opposed to Israeli settlement but he supported Israel’s right to defend itself. His two state stance brought him into conflict with many of Israel’s leaders.

The novel, Judas, revolves around a young man’s coming of age in the period from 1959-1960 when Israel was forming its own identity. The university student, Shmuel Ash, is looking for direction after his relationship falters and his research project is stymied. He answers an ad that offers food, lodging and a small stipend to live in a house with an elderly intellectual who wants someone to talk to and read to him for a few hours a day. The house is old and dark and includes the owner’s widowed daughter-in-law, Atalia, who is a mysterious and sad companion to him. Her husband was killed in the fighting for Israel. Atalia and Shmuel embark on a strange and ultimately unfulfilling affair.

The book is an intellectual examination of many points of view that relate to Israel’s founding and notions of betrayal and faithfulness. Shmuel’s research is into Jewish views of Judas. He delves into the interpretation of Judas as a spy sent by the Jewish priests from the Temple to infiltrate Jesus’ inner circle. But Judas becomes entranced by the Jesus gospel and becomes his most devoted follower and ardent believer of Jesus’ divinity.

Book review continued:

Because his belief is so strong, he encourages the crucifixion firmly expecting Jesus to rise from the cross and convince all that he is the Messiah. When that doesn't happen, Judas is devastated and as "the first and last Christian" hangs himself. As Shmuel says, Jesus and all his apostles were Jews but in the Christian imagination, the only one remembered as a Jew was Judas Iscariot which became the excuse for the larger world's hatred of Jews.

This theme is mirrored in the story of the father of Atalia, Sheatiel Abravanel. In Israel's early days, he was a strong advocate for a stateless community in which Arabs and Jews could live peacefully together. As a result, in the atmosphere of patriotism that engulfed Israel at that time, he was branded a traitor and lived the rest of his life in that house as a recluse. Oz suggests that perhaps his ideas were the best and could have led to a different future for conflict in Israel.

Oz' depictions of Jerusalem capture its silent and ancient streets and his descriptions of Shmuel are both endearing and frustrating. Shmuel is hard to love despite his kindness and search for identity. This is a novel worth reading because Oz is such a skillful writer!

Simchas Torah at KHE

Kol Ha Emek closed out the High Holiday season 2022 /5783 by celebrating Simchas Torah Sunday, October 16th. We again told the story of how our Survivor Torah came from Pesek Czechoslovakia to Mendocino County.

A small, but dance loving group danced the 7 Hakafot while community members sang traditional songs. Sara read the closing lines of D'vraim. Tony and Sara rolled our torah to the beginning for Sherrie to read the first lines of Bereshit while we blessed Pele and Bianca standing under the prayer Shawl. Their blessings were for them and all the children in our community and all children everywhere.



Kol Ha Emek MCJC-Inland
P.O. Box 416,
Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Our purpose is to create an environment in which Jewish culture, religion and spiritual life can flourish, to perpetuate and renew our Jewish connections with ourselves and our homes, within our community and the world.

- To provide space for religious study and prayer.
- To share life cycle events through meaningful Jewish traditions
- and sponsor Jewish education for all ages
- To be inclusive of all partnerships and family configurations
- To include interfaith families and Jews-by-choice
- To network with other Jewish communities
- To educate and share our culture with other Mendocino County residents
- To be a foundation for *Tikkun olam* (healing the world) as a community through socially just actions and and by Mitzvot)
- To offer to our membership in exchange for financial and other contributions and allow all to participate
- regardless of the ability to pay

Kol HaEmek Information &

Kol HaEmek

(707) 468-4536

Board Members

Sherrie Ebyam -President	530-414-1104 < ebyam@sbcglobal.net >
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Victoria Patterson	467-1932 < patterson.victoria2@gmail.com >

Brit Mila: Doctors willing to do circumcisions in their office or your home; Robert Gitlin D.O. (465-7406), Chevra Kadisha (Jewish Burial)) Helen Sizemore (367-0250)

Community support: Willits, Divora Stern (459-9052), Ukiah, Margo Frank (463-1834)

Interfaith Council: Cassie Gibson (468-5351)

Rabbinical Services/Special Ceremonies are available; send your e-mail request to Sherrie Ebyam