



## In This Issue

From Rabbi Moch	1
President's Message	3
A Hearty Thank You	3
The Mendelssohns: Three Generations of Genius	4
Tzedakah	4
Chai	4
Rabbi's Schedule for May	5
The Yoms & Shavuot	5
Yahrzeits	6
VVI Jewish Burial Society	6
Honey Mustard Chicken	6
Members' Simchas	7
Care & Concern	7
Crazy for Coffee	7
Roving Shabbat Dinner	7
Calendar-at-Glance	8



## From Rabbi Moch

### The *Kedusha* (Holiness) We Find Only Within Community

I have been to certain places around the world – places having nothing to do with Jewish life – where I felt an almost palpable connection between heaven and earth. These places exuded a sense of holiness. I define *kedusha* as a sense of connection with the greater power that a certain place or time or event or thing gives to me. Many people to whom I have spoken, have said that they experience God best on a mountain top or sitting on a rocky point and watching the waves of the sea crash endlessly beneath them. Those uniquely spiritual places can certainly connect us with all that exists beyond ourselves. I remember an ancient capital of the Katchiquel Kingdom in Guatemala, and feeling that heaven and earth felt connected in that place. I returned to that same spot years later expecting to feel that same sense of holy connection, but instead, to my surprise, I felt nothing special or connecting. I remember the wonderful connectedness and *kedusha* I would feel each Shabbat when observing it with friends. That was a time in my life when I did not use electricity or travel in a car on Shabbat. Years later, when trying to recapture that Shabbat *kedusha*, I once again began walking to Synagogue – two and a half miles in each direction in the Florida heat or rain. I did that for a year by myself, and felt disappointed that the *kedusha* I had experienced in earlier years observing Shabbat with my friends, eluded me now, trying to recapture it on my own.

This week's parasha from the Torah, Aharei Mot/Kedoshim tells us of a different kind of *kedusha* (holiness). "Adonai said to Moses, 'Speak to all the community of Israel and say to them "You shall be holy for I Adonai, your God am holy."'

The great 11th Century scholar, Rashi, citing earlier commentaries (*Sifra: Torah Kohanim and Vayikra Rabba 24:5*) tells us that the phrase "all the community of" means that the statement was actually said in the presence of all Israel. God telling Moses to speak to all the community on God's behalf would then be purposeless, since all the community heard God directly. ---> p. 2



## Kolot Mayim Reform Temple Mission Statement

Kolot Mayim Reform Temple provides a spiritual home for liberal Jews to worship, study Torah, and observe Jewish sacred times together. Kolot Mayim seeks to build community through spiritual practice and social justice; we embrace Jews by birth and by choice and we welcome individuals, couples and families of diverse backgrounds and abilities. Our members are believers, seekers and doubters. We encourage living true to progressive Jewish values and to the full scope of one's own Jewish practice.

### RABBI

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## The Voice Newsletter

is published monthly with the exception of August. Send submissions and/or ads to <km@kolotmayimreformtemple.com>.

**Visit us on Facebook!**

Rabbi, continued from page 1. The 19th Century commentary, *Chatam Sofer*, tells us to read the verse differently. [In the presence of all Israel] Adonai said to Moses "Speaking to all the community of Israel is how you become holy as I, Adonai, your God, am holy."

This commentary suggests that the highest form of holiness, the kind that is like unto the holiness of Adonai, cannot be the holiness of the lone hermit on a mountain top. This kind of holiness sprouts only from the interactive human connections one makes with the higher power in the context of community.

Here we find the true purpose of religious communities and certainly of Jewish communities and institutions. They bring people together where they can help each other perceive the *kedusha* which surrounds them. We connect to the higher power through connecting with each other, in helping each other, in learning from each other, in growing with each other, in perfecting a broken world with each other, in healing wounded souls with each other, in seeking purpose and meaning with each other.

Those who find God in isolation do perceive the grandeur and majesty of creation. In community, though, we experience the grief of the Ever-Present God during such times as a tragic bombing or car used as a weapon to plow through a crowd at a public event. In community, we experience the gentle compassion of the Ever-Present God, healing those crushed by such loss, as the grief-stricken learn to reconstruct their lives. In community, we experience the ecstatic joy of the Ever-Present God in every small victory of witnessing personal limitations overcome by others and higher purpose found in the wisdom of others. Each generates a kind of *kedusha* which comes as it helps us connect with each other and with God in community. Perhaps this explains why our words for God – Adonai and Elohim – express divinity in the plural. God can be experienced most fully in community, for divinity is where *ALL* comes together.

We open ourselves to the Divine, to Higher Power, to God, when we come together as part of a sacred community — for us, as part of a Jewish community, here in Victoria, BC. Join us at Kolot Mayim. Explore your *kedusha* in coming together with others for a higher purpose and return home carrying the feeling that you have connected with and accessed something inexpressibly numinous and holy.

*Rabbi Shimon*

**EMAIL:** km@kolotmayimreformtemple.com **PHONE:** 250-704-2503

**WEBSITE:** http://www.kolotmayimreformtemple.com



## President's Message

Wow Spring is in full bloom and we're still running on the buzz from our soulful community Seder! Heartfelt gratitude goes out to ALL the amazing volunteers who worked so very hard to make it happen. The Board has been very busy exploring various options for our future, and has had a great time working together, too. Come talk to any of us to find out more. During the Rabbi's second visit this month, we will have a special service and Oneg honoring all the volunteers who have helped our community once again be "*The Little Temple That Could*." See the calendar for details. It is also not too early to mark your calendar for our **Annual General Meeting** on **Wednesday, June 14**.

*Katrina Hanevelt*

President

## A Hearty Thank you to all who helped with the Seder

**Leah Kinarthy** – Coordinator, set up, clean up, coordinating kitchen and serving and purchase of groceries and publicity.

**Rabbi Shimon** – making the Seder plates, and the Sefardi Harosets.

**Katrina Hanevelt** – prepared gluten-free Kugel, prepped veggies, set up and cleaned up

**Corky and Jerry Greenfield** – flower arrangements and kitchen help

**Tyler and Willem Hanevelt** – place settings and set up

**Jay Hanevelt** – set up.

**Gabriella Golinger** – chopping and cutting

**Serena Stone** – matzo balls and chicken recipe and cooking chicken

**Ireta Fisher** – chopping and preparing food

**Uncle Mort** – set up, chopping and kitchen help

**Susan Abrill** – seating arrangement, name tags, set up, and greeting guests

**Julie Elizabeth** – making Ashkenazi Haroset, chopping, serving, clean up, and grocery shopping

**Reva Hutkin** – clean-up

**Caroline Hergt** – matza balls

**Martin Hergt** – sound system

**Xane St. Phillip** – clean up

**Aaron Banfield** – rental of place settings.

**Francis Abrill** – clean up

**Deena and Rowan** – clean up

**Dan Russek** – serving, clean up

**Richard Weiss** – purchase of wine

**Deb Weiss** – coordinating rides to the Seder

**Adena Brettler Reimer** – set up on Sunday (with baby in tow)

**Elior Kinarthy** – made hummus

Wow! What a fabulous effort!

Thanks to all the servers who stepped up during the Seder to serve our famous vegan soup, clear tables, and bring in the food!

Thank you also to our two workers, **Andrew** and **Jyoti**, who stayed after hours – *and late* – to make sure the Community Centre was clean for the Humanists to have a Seder after us.

***Feeding our Tzedakah Box = Feeding Victoria's Hungry!***  
***Please help if you can!***

**The Mendelssohns: Three Generations of Genius**

by Herbert Kupferberg, Charles Scribner &amp; Sons, NY, 1972

I was fortunate to have had a brief meeting take place in the JCCV Library. Filed on a shelf directly across from me was this book. I was intrigued. When I noted that the last person to have read it was a late beloved member of our congregation, Gerry Marks, I couldn't resist! If you are interested in music and/or the history of modern Judaism, this is the book for you.

Although the majority of the book focusses on Felix Mendelssohn and his siblings, the first two parts of the book offer shorter biographies of Felix's grandfather, Moses, and his father, Abraham. Moses, although an observant orthodox Jew, was instrumental in the beginnings of modernizing our faith. He argued that what makes Judaism unique is its divine revelation of a code of law. He wrote many philosophical treatises and is considered the father of the Jewish Enlightenment.

Abraham Mendelssohn, Felix's father, is noted to have said, "Once I was the son of a famous father; now I am the father of a famous son."

Abraham took an uncompromising attitude towards his Jewish origins. He felt that the day of Judaism was over and that it was necessary to take practical steps to assimilate with German society.

I'll leave you with one of the fascinating facts I learned from reading this book: Felix Mendelssohn was responsible for the use of a baton by the conductor of an orchestra!

This, and many other wonderful books, await you at the JCCV Library. [Julie Elizabeth](#)

## Chai חַי

### Chai Fund

In memory of **Rita Barwin** - Peter Barwin

In memory of **Bill Baker** - Arlette Baker

In memory of **Renée and Fernand Lévy**  
- Arlette Baker

In memory of **Julius Bleviss** - Morris Bleviss

Donations may now be made  
on our website, [<kolotmayimreformtemple.com>](http://kolotmayimreformtemple.com)  
via PayPal and credit card.

## Tzedakah: Kolot Mayim

Please remember to bring something for the Tzedakah Box (Watch for case sales for great deals.)

We urge everyone to bring a little something to Shul on Fridays for our Tzedakah Box. We support two Food Banks: Jewish Family Services and the James Bay Community Project Food Bank. If everyone brought one can each service, it would go a long way to helping those in need. Thank you for your support.



## Shabbat Services

**Kabbalat Shabbat led by  
Rabbi Shimon Moch**

**7:30 p.m.**

**May 12th**

**Music TBA**

**& May 26th**

**with music by**

**Marcelina Stanton**

*Please remember to bring food contributions for the **Onegs**, so that we can all stay a little longer and schmooze. And don't forget something for our **Tzedakah box**. Thank you.*

## Torah Study

**at 10:30 a.m.**

**Parashiot to be Studied:**

**May 6th\*: Achrei Mot-Kedoshim;**

**13th\*\*: Emor; 20th\*: Behar-**

**Bechukotai; 27th\*\*: Bamidbar.**

*(JE\*= led by Julie Elizabeth -*

*due to a knee injury, please confirm in  
Weekly Updates if we will have it)*

*(SM\*\*=led by Rabbi Moch)*

## Shaharit Services

**led by Rabbi Moch**

**11:30 a.m.**

**April 15th and 29th**

**All events are at the JCCV,  
3636 Shelbourne Street.**

**May 1st**

**Yom Ha Zikaron**



**May 2nd**

**Yom Ha Atzma'ut**



**May 24th**

**Yom Jerushalaim**



## Shavuot

**begins on**

**May 30th at sunset.**

**We will have a late observance of it**

**with Rabbi Moch**

**on June 9th, beginning at 7:30 pm.**

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### Those we remember ... May 2017 Iyyar-Sivan 5777

#### Names will be read on May 12th-13th

Zelda Weiss  
Alex Aiken  
David Ritt  
Joseph Yacowar  
Julius (Ziggy) Bleiviss  
Alice McCulloch

#### Names will be read on May 26th-27th

Ann Rhodes  
Mignon Cohen  
Jack Monson  
Arthur Greenfield  
David Halpert  
David Kinarthy

#### Names will be read on June 9th-10th

Evelyn Berk  
William Cravatts  
Goldie Ryant  
Randor Kinarthy

*May their memory  
be for a blessing.*

## Honey Mustard Chicken

*By popular request, Serena Stone has kindly agreed to share her recipe. This is the chicken from the Seder.*

Pre-heat oven to 375 °F. Serves 4-6

### INGREDIENTS

1 med. red onion-chopped  
¼ c. butter (**or** subst. scant ¼ c. olive or grapeseed oil)  
½ c. honey (scant)  
2 tsp. mild curry powder (not hot curry\*)  
½ c. Dijon mustard  
salt & pepper to taste  
6 boneless skinless chicken thighs  
\*McCormick's makes mild curry powder

### DIRECTIONS

In small pan, sauté butter (or oil) & onion on medium low, until tender. Remove from heat. Mix all other ingredients except chicken in bowl. Add in onion mixture & stir well.

Lightly oil baking pan. Place chicken in pan. Pour sauce over. Bake 35-40 minutes, uncovered or until cooked thoroughly.

## The Victoria and Vancouver Island Jewish Burial Society

The Jewish Burial Society of Victoria and Vancouver Island is a service organization founded to assist all Jews with end of life requirements. We administer four totally separate and distinct sections in the Hatley Memorial Gardens and provide space for all persuasions of Jewish life from orthodox to secular, complete with cremation if specified.

The Society works with the Victoria Chevrah Kadisha in preparation of the body for burial, and works with the family in all ways to ensure the concern and embrace of the entire community for the bereaved.

While we are a non profit Society, regretfully, end of life does not respect one's pocketbook, and costs are dear. There is a small membership charge that must be paid to become a member of our Society, and arrangements for this, and for burial requirements may be made at any time. We recommend dealing with one's self and saving the pain and expense of the survivors at a very stressful time.

For additional information on a highly confidential basis, call Joel Fagan (250 477-2006), or Jack Shalinsky (250 477-1012).



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

*Happy  
Birthday*

*Susan Halpert  
on May 5th.*

*Deena Kinarthy  
on May 11th,*

*Janna Ginsberg  
on May 18th*

We'd love to honour your special simchahs. Please let Julie know the dates! <madrona623@gmail.com>

## Roving Family Shabbat Dinner

**7:00 pm  
Friday May 19th**

at the home of

**Susan Abrill**

3930 Dawe Road (off Arbutus)

RSVP to Susan at 250-532-2982  
or <sabrill@uvic.ca>



## Required

A reliable person to set-up/clean-up for services and Oneg for us, every second and fourth Friday evening, from 7-10pm at the Jewish Community Centre Victoria, 3636 Shelbourne Street.

Honarium of \$36 per evening.

Position available immediately.

Call 250-704-2503  
or email <km@kolotmayimreformtemple.com>.

## Crazy for Coffee

It is a fact fit for any game of trivia that the first coffee house, known as The Angel, in England was opened in Oxford by a man known as Jacob the Jew around 1650.\*

Coffee has its origin in Africa and the Arabian peninsula, but it is not surprising that Jews, known for their international trade connections, became involved in the commerce of coffee. It is believed that Jews not only imported the coffee bean to Europe, but also the idea of a coffeehouse (Livorno, Italy 1632). Coffeehouses were very popular in the Arabic world. These establishments, which were most often for men only, both in the Middle East and Europe, were popular for more than just their caffeinated beverage as they were also places to gather for "intellectual" conversation and political debate.

<jewishtreats@njop.org>

## Care and Concern

The Care and Concern Committee of Kolot Mayim wants to reach out and offer whatever we can to our community members. I will be out of the country for **May and June** and am very fortunate to have **Caroline Hergt** take over for me. You can reach her at **250-477-0292** if you know someone who is going through a "bad patch" or a full blown crisis. You can also let **Rabbi Moch** know as well by emailing him at **shimonmoch@gmail.com** or contacting him by phone at **206-422-8690** (US number).

*Deb Weiss,*  
Chairperson



**YOM HA ZIKARON**  
ISRAEL MEMORIAL DAY  
**Monday May 1st**

**YOM HA'ATZMA'UT**  
ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY  
**Tuesday May 2nd**

**YOM YARUSHALAIM**  
JERUSALEM DAY  
**Wed. May 24th**

**LAG B'OMER**  
33RD DAY OF  
COUNTING THE OMER  
**Sunday May 14th**

**SHAVUOT**  
begins  
**Wednesday  
May 31st**

**ROSH CHODESH**  
**Sivan**  
**Thurs./Fri.**  
**May 25-26**

*All our  
Kabbalat  
Shabbat  
Services  
feature music.*



**MAY**  
**2017/5777**

## **CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE** **KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICES**

**LED BY RABBI SHIMON MOCH**

**FRIDAY MAY 12TH**  
7:30 pm  
Music to be announced.

**FRIDAY MAY 26TH**  
7:30 p.m.  
with music by  
**Marcelina Stanton**

**TORAH STUDY**  
Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m.  
at the JCCV

Led by Rabbi Moch, May 13th & 27th  
Led by Julie Elizabeth, May 6th & 20th\*

\* Due to a knee injury, please confirm in the Weekly Update if these sessions will be taking place.

**PARASHYOT**  
May 6th: Achre Mot-Kedoshim;  
13th: Emor; 20th: Behar-Bechukotai;  
27th: Bammidbar.

## **ROVING SHABBAT POT LUCK DINNER**

**Friday May 19th, 7:00 p.m.**  
at the home of Susan Abrill  
3930 Dawe Road (at Arbutus).  
RSVP to Susan at <sabrill@uvic.ca> or 250-532-2982.