



THE VOICE OF THE WATERS

November 2016
Tishrei-Heshvan 5777

קולות מים KOLOT MAYIM REFORM TEMPLE

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From Rabbi Moch — who is now back with us!

I look forward to my return from Suriname to Victoria. I just returned before writing this note from an overnight trip into the rainforest in the interior of the country. It was magnificent and wonderful to be away from internet and cell phone service and be surrounded by the magnificence of God's creation. It was a wonderful experience of refuge.

Rae Hendriksz, of the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Healing Center commented on the Noah story and the significance of Noah's Ark which we read this week in the Torah.

She equates the Ark as a place of refuge from a world about to be overcome by deluge, a protected place where hope stays alive, in the form of Noah's family and the many animals God told him to bring into the Ark with him.

There are times in our lives when we need to retreat to such safe havens from the traumatic episodes of life we survive.

The floodwaters recede, and Noah looks out on an unfamiliar world. For many of us who find safe places of refuge from the storms that beset us, we too look out on a world that may seem unfamiliar or perhaps too familiar and in either instance a world difficult to face. We stay locked up in our safe haven long after the storms of life pass.

God had to urge Noah, "Come out of the ark, together with your wife, your sons, and your sons' wives. Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you...and let them swarm on the earth and be fertile and increase on earth." (6:16-17)

In the Wizard of Oz, the good witch, Glinda, says to the hiding Munchkins, «Come out, come out, wherever you are and meet the young woman who fell from a star.» I always wondered if Glinda were not really talking to the young woman, Dorothy, herself and not the Munchkins at all. In this frightening place - having entered a totally unfamiliar world with many dangers at every turn - here Dorothy would meet her potential.

The message of the Torah and Glinda could not be more clear. ---> 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!

Gratitude

The Board would like to thank the following individuals in particular for their selfless contributions to the success of our High Holidays services:

Deb Weiss for providing top notch child-minding;

Leah Kinarthy for doing all the publicity, coordinating musicians, baking, and hosting Rabbi Lerner for a meal;

Lynn Greenough for organizing the readers, musicians, shofar blowers, aliyot, and lay-led teachings; hosting Rabbi Lerner for dinner (with Aaron Devor of course!); baking round challot of superior quality; organizing and reorganizing the organizers and being an overall mensch;

Eva Bild, Deena Kinarthy with violin accompanist, Pamela Highbaugh & her accompanist, all for the wonderful music which enhanced our services this year;

Martin Hergt for setting up the PA System;

Aaron Devor for blowing the shofar;

Susan Abrill for managing the tickets and front desk presence, blowing the shofar, baking, and organizing security;


Sharon and Jack Shalinsky for hosting Rabbi Lerner for dinner; Sharon for pushing the President outside another comfort zone;


Janna Ginsberg for Challot and, with Morris Bleviss, for hosting Rabbi Lerner; and for the overall care and feeding of our invaluable and beloved treasurer;

Serena Stone for baking;

Caroline Hergt for baking;

Julie Elizabeth for coordinating bakers and all sorts of stuff; and

Last, but far, far, far from least, Rabbi Leigh Lerner for his incomparable, warm, and insightful leadership of our High Holyday services. 

Rabbi Moch, continued from page 1. There comes a time for all among us, who hide from the world in places that seem safe, to emerge and engage the world. The world may loom frighteningly before us, but precisely at that edge of fear and risk, we will discover our place within the world and our creative purpose in it. 

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

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President's Message

Hi friends. Our Jewish year as a congregation has gotten off to a phenomenal start. Our High Holiday services were very warm, full of spirit, and well attended. They were bookended by more socially oriented events which were also extremely successful, the Bagel Balagan and a Sukkot party. If you didn't make it to any of these, you have truly been missing out. The whole board and other volunteers have really been working tirelessly to impart our congregation with renewed energy and ruach. Our efforts have been evident in not only the numbers present, but also the level of spirit, and numerous newcomers interested in becoming more deeply involved.

This month is huge for us. Rabbi Moch returns for our regular services, and will even be in town for an extra week to teach our Taste of Judaism course, a URJ program and outreach tool. We also launch two other new programs this month – a children's art class on Jewish themes taught by Susan Abrill, and monthly drop-in Israeli dancing gatherings at the JCC. All this and Torah study open to all on Saturdays too!

As usual, if you have any other ideas or concerns, or just want to talk, I am a mere phone call away. I always love to hear from all of you!

Katrina 

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 week, it would go a long way to helping those in need. Thank you for your support.



Returning the Torah to the Ark after joyously dancing with her at our Simchah Torah celebration.

Photo by Julie Elizabeth



JUDAISM...
More than just a bagel

A TASTE OF JUDAISM® ...Are You Curious?

Three FREE weekly classes in Victoria, B.C., Canada
about Jewish spirituality, values and community.
Thursdays, November 10, 17, and 24, 2016

All are welcome, Jewish or not!

250.704.2503 • km@kolotmayimreformtemple.com



To register go to: www.reformjudaism.org/taste/victoria

Chai חַי

CHAI FUND

In honour of **Aaron Devor's Special Birthday** -
Julie Elizabeth & Reva Hutkin

In honour of **Susan Abrill's Special Birthday** -
Julie Elizabeth & Reva Hutkin

In appreciation of **Leah & Elinor Kinarthy's**
opening their home to us for so many events, and
all they do for the Congregation - *Julie Elizabeth
& Reva Hutkin*

In appreciation of **Lynn Greenhough** for all she
contributes to our Congregation. - *Julie Elizabeth
& Reva Hutkin*

*Donations may now be made on our
website via PayPal and credit card.*



Don't
forget to
use
your
Thrifty's
Smile
Card.

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Led by Rabbi Shimon Moch
7:30 p.m.
November 11th
with music
& 25th
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.

November 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
Parashyot to be Studied:
November 5th: No'ah; 12th: Lekh Lekha;
19th: Vayera; 26th: Hayyei Sarah

Shaharit Services led by Rabbi Moch

11:30 a.m. November 12th & 26th

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

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

Roving Family Shabbat Dinner

7:00 pm

Friday November 18th

at the home of
Julie & Reva
102 Meadow Park Lane
(Burnside West/Watkiss).

RSVP to 250-388-4161
or <madrona623@gmail.com>



Simchah Torah Photos

by Julie Elizabeth



Those we remember ...

**November 2016
Tishrei-Kislev 5777**

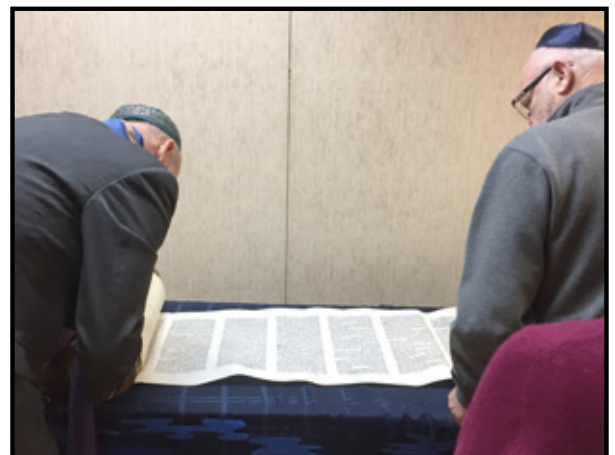
NAMES WILL BE READ ON NOVEMBER 11TH

Sharon Yacowar-Frohlinger
Gerry Marks
Sarah Bleviss
Katie Kadanoff
Murray Fraser
Jules Szabo

NAMES WILL BE READ ON NOVEMBER 25TH

Edith Brodtkin
Mortimer Freedman
Benjamin Sharpe
Adolph Weiss
George Dinning
David Marks
Godfrey Sandell
Sara Kogan

*May their memory
be for a blessing.*





The Story of Jonah

by Leah Kinarchy

Saturday mornings at 10:30 am at the JCCV, I study the Torah with Julie Elizabeth and many others who all share one thing in common – we love the wisdom of the Torah. It is an eclectic group consisting of our Lay Leader, an Israeli Psychologist, an artist and language specialist, a religious scholar with a photographic memory, a lawyer, a Scottish Pastor, and me. The composition and size of the group varies but I always learn something new and more

importantly, I learn to think in new ways.

The story of Jonah begins with his running away from his responsibilities and he flees by boat across the Mediterranean Sea to Tarshish (on the Spanish coast). Then he begs some sailors to throw him overboard to calm a terrible storm at sea. He is rescued from drowning by surviving in the mouth of a giant fish for 3 days, and is spit out onto land. Jonah's assignment from God is to warn the people of Nineveh that if they do not repent and change their evil ways that they will all be destroyed.

I often look up the original Hebrew and compare it to the English translations used in the Torah and the Haftorah to get as close as possible to the intended meaning. The word Jonah in Hebrew means dove. Doves are used in the Torah as messengers from God. As a messenger of God, Jonah fails miserably. Which made me think of the story of Noah in the book of Genesis, as that is the first time a dove is used as a courier.

Noah sent birds three times to bring back evidence that the flood was over, and on the third day a dove appeared with an olive branch in its mouth – today the symbol of peace.

God did not give the people on earth a chance to repent, but wanted to destroy all the people of the earth and start over again. Thus, the ark was built and all the living creatures that were not on the ark were destroyed. It seems that God was unmerciful, harsh and unrelenting in the task of cleansing the earth of evil. Overcoming evil does not seem to be something that God wanted to deal with at the time of Noah. The wicked people were annihilated with no chance to repent and many innocents were also wiped out.

When I compared the English used to describe the people in Genesis and in the story of Jonah, I came across an important distinction – the people were described at the time of Noah and Nineveh as evil but there is no such word in Hebrew. The word used in Hebrew is *rah* or bad. In English and in Christian interpretations, the word evil can mean someone or something that is profoundly immoral or wrong and connected with the devil or other powerful, destructive forces. The word bad, however, I associate with behavior modification that can change actions from bad to good with conscious effort.

In Jonah's time God is no longer harsh and unmerciful. The people of Nineveh were not destroyed, the sailors that tossed Jonah overboard were not punished and Jonah was saved from drowning. The people of Nineveh demonstrated by the changes in their behaviors that they had repented their sins and were worthy of saving. With lots of effort, change and repentance are possible with God's help and support, an appropriate lesson for Yom Kippur.



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 Kadiasha 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, regrettably, 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).



More Simchah Torah Photos

by Julie Elizabeth



**RAIN & COLD WINTER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY
HELP US KEEP OUR FAMILY MEMBERS WARM & DRY
BY PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
SOCKS
BLANKETS
SLEEPING BAGS
SCARFS
JACKETS
BOOTS
LONG UNDERWEAR
LEGGINGS FOR WOMEN
JEANS FOR MEN & WOMEN
TARPS and BUNGEE CORD TIES
\$5 MCDONALD CARDS**



Pizza in the Sukkah

This year, Kolot Mayim celebrated Sukkot in our garden and it was the perfect storm of opportunities that brought this about. The biggest storm in fifty years didn't happen; the sun came out and the rain stopped. We quickly cleaned up the garden, fired up the heaters, candles were lit and the fun started! What a blessing to be in Victoria, on a warm and pleasant evening, eating pizza outdoors - made by hand and

baked in an outdoor oven!

We planted a Japanese garden last summer and built a lovely cedar gazebo that was originally intended for Japanese tea ceremonies and meditations. We put tree branches on the roof and voilà, the perfect sukkah! A big crowd of us squeezed into the sukkah and waved the lulav and held the etrog with Julie Elizabeth leading us



in prayer. I learned that the lulav contains palm leaves, myrtle and willow branches that are wrapped into a bundle, made in Israel and sent to Victoria. I believe that all three branches are woven together to symbolize all the different branches of Judaism that by themselves are not as strong as when they are working together. That was certainly reflected in the eclectic crowd that attended our celebration. Both unity and love of Jewish tradition was very evident with the children delighting in learning about their heritage. Israeli and Jewish music enhanced the holiday gathering with lots of singing and dancing to celebrate this magical evening together.

It was a joy to see children running everywhere with excitement and then waiting patiently with their raffle tickets to see who would get to take the etrog and lulav home. After three draws (in the Torah, 3 is often a number used for determining an important event) Ora Stephanic from Hillel drew the winning ticket. It was perfect as the Hillel student association was celebrating Sukkot later in the week and needed to find an etrog and lulav! God provides!

This year had a special ambience and spiritual ruach that epitomizes what Kolot Mayim Reform Temple means to me: after many years without a Jewish home, I have found my extended family right here in Victoria! All of the people who attended plus the wonderful music of Kouskous with Gary Cohen and Amber Woods made it a very special evening. We celebrated with many faiths and Jewish denominations- a truly spiritual atmosphere dedicated to the celebration of ancient Jewish traditions.



I wish to express my appreciation for volunteers Susan Abrill and Serena Stone for coming early to help set up and for the many hands (Reva Hutkin, Julie Elizabeth) that contributed their time! Thanks to Ester Laredo for her delicious apple treat and to those who brought salads and fruits. And everyone who helped to make massive amounts of home-made pizza!

Chag Sameach!

Leah Kinarthy 🌊



Photos by Julie Elizabeth & Reva Hutkin



3rd Annual Craft Fair

Sunday November 27th, 2016
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

-----Free Admission-----

Jewish Community Centre of Victoria
3636 Shelbourne Street

Unique items from local talented artisans.

Chanukah gifts and baked goods sale.

Refreshments from the JCCV Deli.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE OF VICTORIA PROUDLY PRESENTS:

VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL!

**FROM SCROLL TO SCREEN:
THE NU WAVE OF JEWISH CINEMA!**

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VICTORIAJEWISHFILMFESTIVAL@GMAIL.COM
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**And More
Simchah Torah Pics**
by Julie Elizabeth



Photo by Aaron Banfield



ROSH CHODESH

HESHVAN

**Wednesday
November 2nd**



JUDAISM...
More than just a bagel

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...Are You Curious?

Three FREE weekly classes in Victoria, B.C., Canada
about Jewish spirituality, values and community.
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To register go to: www.reformjudaism.org/taste/victoria

*All our
Kabbalat
Shabbat
Services
feature music.*



**NOVEMBER
2016/5777**

CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE

KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICES

LED BY RABBI SHIMON MOCH

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 11TH

7:30 pm
with music

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 25TH

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, Nov. 11th & 25th.
Led by Julie Elizabeth, Nov. 4th & 18th.

PARASHYOT:

November 5th: No'ah; 12th: Lekh Lekha; 19th:
Vayera; 26th: Hayyei Sarah

ROVING SHABBAT POT LUCK DINNER

7:00 p.m. Friday November 18th

at the home of Julie & Reva
102 Meadow Park Lane
(Burnside West/Watkiss area)

RSVP to

250-388-4161 or <madrona623@gmail.com>