

Sonoma Valley Interfaith
Wednesday, March 26, 2025 / 12 pm–1 pm
<https://www.sonomavalleyinterfaithma.org>

Present: Steve Finley, Jane Hernandez, Jason Mayer, Dave Gould, Nicole Trotter, Jane Hernandez and Peadar Dalton.

12:00 pm

Welcome/Opening Blessing - Jason Mayer, Psalm 67

12:10 pm Check in

- Nicole reports that St Andrew is having Taize service every Tuesday night at 6:30pm now until Easter. They have many events going on. See their website [here](#).
- Jane reports that Trinity still has an interim pastor and is still searching for someone to meet the congregation's needs.
- Dave reports that St. Francis is open every day as of February. Although they had an item stolen out of the church on Saturday they will continue to remain open all day for the community. More info. on services and events [here](#).
- Jason reports that Sonoma Collective is holding an 8 week class (currently in the third week) on Emotionally and Healthy Discipleship. If you are interested in this or other classes and events visit their website [here](#)
- Peadar of the Federation of Christian ministries attends St. Leo's with Pastor JoJo.
- Steve reports that Shir Shalom is preparing for Passover and the community Seder. More information [here](#)

Leadership report:

- SVIMA has \$1647 in our account. We donated a total of \$1250 to ten nonprofits during the holidays.
- We are hosting an Emergency Preparedness event on Saturday, May 17th from 1-4pm. More information to come next week. Please save the date and send a representative or two if you can not make it.

12:30 pm

Guest: Leonardo Lobato, executive director at La Luz

La Luz is now in it's 40th years in Sonoma. Their mission is "to support Latino individuals and families in Sonoma Valley to attain their dreams and aspirations by providing access to knowledge, skill-building, and resources." They are being challenged

now in supporting the community and immigrants with the increase of negative political rhetoric that is spreading in our community and beyond. Many of our Sonoma community members are suffering and are afraid. Afraid to send their kids to school, to seek and receive medical care and even to go shopping. Sonoma is unique in that we are a unified and supportive community and we show compassion and love for all of our neighbors who work and live here. Although ICE has not been present in our community yet we are expecting it and are preparing as the country's leadership targets communities with immigrant populations. Please continue to show compassion for your neighbors regardless of your political views. These are people with families and children who need our support.

La Luz is open to everyone. They have doubled their efforts in all areas of services provided.

1. Direct Services - Basic needs. We connect families and individuals to the most appropriate resources to address basic needs, such as housing, access to food and health care, emergency finances, and legal services.
2. Economic Advancement - We provide four levels of English language classes throughout the school year for adults with proven textbooks and curriculum (current enrollment of 150). We offer small business support by means of guidance, training, workshops and loans/grants.
3. Family Services - Early Childhood Education Hub provides parent-child education programs for children aged 0 to 3 years. This year-long program equips children with socio-emotional and cognitive skills and empowers parents to be their children's first and most important teachers. Parents gain the skills to engage and teach their children, along with leadership skills to advocate for their children's education once they enter school.
4. Immigration Support - Support towards the path to naturalization and citizenship. One half of our undocumented citizens are actually eligible for naturalization. We help show them how to get there and let them know their rights. We offer a Family Preparedness Plan to help prepare for deportation of a family member.

How can we help?

Continue to encourage support of and love for our neighbors who may be suffering and afraid right now, not from a political stand but from a compassionate one. Guide them to La Luz for support. Continue to support local non-profits that are a great resource for La Luz and all members of the valley.

Other info.:

The Thursday afternoon Interfaith radio hour is from 3-4pm and will begin discussion of Passover and Easter. Please let Rabbi Steve know if you would like to visit the show for any amount of time.

Closing: Nicole closes with a blessing.

Next meeting: April 23rd Guest is Sonoma Mayor Patricia Ferrar-Rivas.

*Future meetings: **May** - Mentoring Alliance's Suzie Gallo and Sherry Preiss.*

***June/July/August** - Summer Break*

KSVY - Please mark your date on your calendar. If you are not available on your assigned date please find someone on the list to trade with. The studio is located at 680 W. Napa Street Sonoma. The call in number is 707-933-9133. The information is on their website www.ksvy.org

April 1	No Show	KSVY Anniversary Special all day
April 8	Dave Gould	dgould837@gmail.com
April 15	Pam Nadeau	singingdogs@vom.com
April 22	Manette Fairmont	manetteart@aol.com
April 29	Steve Finley	rabbisteve.shirshalom@gmail.com
May 6	Peadar Dalton	peadaradaltan@comcast.net
May 13	Jason Mayer	jason.mayer@sonomacollective.com
May 20	Dave Gould	dgould837@gmail.com

