

Sonoma Valley Interfaith
Wednesday, January 24, 2024 / 12 pm–1 pm

<https://www.sonomavalleyinterfaithma.org>
sonomavalleyinterfaithma@gmail.com

Present: Steve Finley, Jason Mayer, Curran Reichert, Nicole Trotter, Scott Sherman, Manette Fairmont, Donna Thomas, Jim Fredericks, and Dave Gould.

12:00 pm

- **Welcome/Opening Blessing** - Steve opens with a recognition of the Jewish holiday [Tu Bishvat](#)

12:10 pm

- **Checking in with everyone - things to note:**
 - Jason of Sonoma Collective shares that they continue to have weekly services in the theater at Sonoma Valley High School and are looking forward to an exciting year.
 - Scott Sherman will be attending meetings for Lisa Cole/Trinity Episcopal. They are doing a kitchen remodel for Meals on Wheels and continuing to grow.
 - Nicole Trotter of St. Andrew Presbyterian is back from medical leave. The congregation has gone through some shifts but has gained new members and is doing well.
 - Jim Fredericks Parishioner at St. Leo's says they have a large population of Spanish speakers and continue to support the congregation/community with meal deliveries and are currently supporting a refugee family from Venezuela.
 - Donna Thomas shares the Church of Scientology is offering self improvement courses and currently training new staff. All are welcome to attend.
 - Rabbi Steve shared that Shir Shalom is doing well and supporting each other and continuing to discuss antisemitism. The Hebrew School has opened its doors to non-Jewish students who might be interested in learning more in an effort to educate and eliminate antisemitism in the future. See the article [here](#) and ABC 7 news [here](#).
 - Dave Gould of St Francis who leads walks for [Camino de Sonoma](#) is working with Adam Peacock for a training in February for Sonoma County Emergency Services and how Sonoma County churches can come together in unity in emergency situations. You can watch a video [here](#) on his efforts. We look forward to an update.
 - Manette of Christian Science Sonoma says they are growing and doing well having merged two congregations into one last year. They support all denominations.

- **Old Adobe School** which is housed on the FCC/CSS shared campus was at risk of closing this month due to financial issues. They have acquired new board members and funding and will stay open for now to provide much needed preschool care for the many children who would have had nowhere else to go in the valley.

- **Care Partners - Whitney Evans'** wife, Jeanette, has passed away this month. We will send a condolences card on our group's behalf. Whitney has been a leader in awareness and support of those caring for loved ones with memory issues. He would like to have an event or presentation, maybe in September, to create awareness and dialogue for our community on how to help support families experiencing the care of a loved one. Visit the site [here](#) for more. Nicole would like to have some help with the following.
 1. Can we create an event hosted or supported by a nation umbrella group like the Alzheimer's Association or something like that to share our resources available in Sonoma Valley and beyond? Maybe in Burlingame Hall? We can have local speakers from the hospital or care facilities in town who are familiar and specialize in geriatric and memory care and offer a listing of resources.
 2. Leading up to this event can we agree on a weekend that all of us will create a sermon on the spiritual side of this issue to offer to our congregations so they can become more supportive and aware of the upcoming event.
 3. Can we discuss at one of our meetings which scriptures and/or other readings can be included and who will do what? Also any resources you can find or know of please share with Nicole or Tricia so we can create a list.

- **Our group info.** - the leadership role for our group was once again opened up to anyone interested in taking over from Steve, nobody came forward and it was approved that Steve will continue as President and Curran as VP. SVIMA received a \$5000 donation two years ago to use for our group which we still have not done. Steve has reimbursed himself, upon approval from the group last year, for the annual fees for the website over the past 4 years (\$975) and we have used a bit for our annual luncheons. We currently have about \$4200 in our account. All agreed to reinstate the annual dues of \$25 which will be used for events or future luncheons.

- **Other info:**
 1. The group thinks an annual theme this year could be "Combatting Hate" and we could do a community forum like Words That Hurt, Words That Heal
 2. Donna offered up the suggestion to reach out to colleges to discuss and educate on the different religions/beliefs. Manette suggested it be topic on the KSVY Radio Hour.

3. We need guests on our KSVY Thursday Radio Hour, *this is separate from our Tuesday 9am Morning Show Interfaith 20 minute spot.*

Sonoma Valley Interfaith Radio Hour Hosted by: Rabbi Steve Finley Thursdays 3pm – 4pm. Sonoma Valley Interfaith Radio Hour's Intention: Educate on the various paths of faith and religion. If you wish to discuss your faith or a topic please reach out to Steve at rabbisteve.shirshalom@gmail.com

- **Closing:** Jason closes with a Scottish blessing.
- **Next meeting:** Wednesday, February 28th, 12pm in person and via Zoom.
- **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

January 30	Lisa Cole	ljbcollection@gmail.com
February 6	Matt Pearson	matthewalexanderpearson@gmail.com
February 13	Pam Nadeau	singingdogs@vom.com
February 20	Manette Fairmont	manetteart@aol.com
February 27	Peadar Dalton	peadaradaltan@comcast.net
March 5	Steve Finley	rabbisteve.shirshalom@gmail.com
March 12	Jason Mayer	jason.mayer@sonomacollective.com
March 19	Dave Gould	dgould837@gmail.com
March 26	Lisa Cole	ljbcollection@gmail.com