

**Sonoma Valley Interfaith**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024 / 12 pm–1 pm**

<https://www.sonomavalleyinterfaithma.org>  
[sonomavalleyinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:sonomavalleyinterfaith@gmail.com)

**Present:** Steve Finley, Curran Reichert, Jane Hernandez, Manette Fairmont, Jason Mayer, and Dave Gould.

**12:00 pm**

- **Welcome/Opening Blessing** - Steve opens with a blessing.

**12:10 pm**

- **Checking in with everyone - things to note:**
  - Rabbi Steve shared that Shir Shalom is preparing for the High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are coming up. They are also preparing for a couple of commemoration and remembrance events for October 7, 2023 One Year.
  - Manette Fairmont reports that the Church of Christ has been having talks on progress from their sister Church in the Congo.
  - Dave Gould reports that St Francis continues the 200 year celebration and the start of the school year has the campus busy.
  - Jason Mayer of Sonoma Collective reports that they are continuing at the Hanna Center until March.
  - Jane Hernandez reports for Trinity Episcopal that Lisa Cole will be leaving this month and an interim priest will be joining October 1st until a replacement is assigned.
  - Curran of First Conversational Church reports that the Old Adobe Preschool on site is closing October 4th. Public transitional kindergarten has decreased enrollment. Losing childcare facilities is a big blow for families needing care.
  - Curran and Dave are working together with Adam Peacocke and Sonoma County Emergency services to help the valley prepare for a disaster. We encourage you all to join our Sonoma Valley Interfaith community on What's App, this is a satellite based communication app that will be used in the event that cell tower services are down in a disaster. You can join by downloading the "What's App" app on your phone then go to the community link [here](#).

**12:35 pm**

- **Guest: Caitlin Cornwall of the Sonoma Valley Collaborative**  
Caitlin has worked for the Ecology Center for 24 years and in her research on people and environmental issues and the impacts she saw the need to have a place in the valley

where the different interest groups could come together in some sort of forum. [Sonoma Valley Collaborative](#) was born and approximately 30 groups from business, education, government, faith based and more are able to discuss what is needed in the valley. Please take a moment to check out their website. They began with some listening sessions on what is important to the success of the valley and the number one topic brought up over and over again by various groups was the affordability of living in Sonoma valley which affects all groups in some way. They discuss the 3 Ps to the housing situation:

1. Production: we need more housing, an estimated 5000 housing units. According to the Census, Sonoma has the worst overcrowding situation in all of the county. In other words we have many people/families in one housing unit.
2. Preservation: we need to preserve the low cost housing we have. Many are small and in very poor condition. We also have subsidized housing that has expirations coming up on their subsidy.
3. Protection: we need with legal protections and support for people in affordable housing. Protections against illegal evictions, rent increases and discriminations.

The idea of faith owned land being used for building housing is on the rise nationwide. Faith communities are shrinking in number and less space is needed or they might have unused property and wish to offer help. With the passing of [SB 4 in California](#) there is hope for more affordable housing. Please have the discussions about whether or not you have property to offer and/or can offer some help in the area of space for housing. Reach out to Caitlin for more information at [caitlin@sonomavalleycollaborative.org](mailto:caitlin@sonomavalleycollaborative.org) If you are able to support propositions this election year please consider voting [Yes on Prop 5](#).

- **Other info.:**

1. We need guests on the KSVY Thursday Radio Hour, *this is separate from our Tuesday 9am Morning Show Interfaith 20 minute spot*. You don't need to commit to the whole hour, just 15-20 minutes at some point in the hour. 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 specific topic please reach out to Steve at [rabbisteve.shirshalom@gmail.com](mailto:rabbisteve.shirshalom@gmail.com)
2. KSVY SVI 9am-9:15am spot. See rotation assignment below. Please send a representative of your church if you are not able to join. You can also bring a guest with you. If you are not currently in the rotation please see if you can find a representative of your church to come instead.

- **Closing:** Curran closes with words from [The Daily Good - News that Inspires](#)

- **Next meeting:** October 23rd, Guest is [David Guhin](#), Sonoma's City Manager  
\*\*\*We will spend some time discussing our Community Thanksgiving service as well.
- **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](tel:707-933-9133). The information is on their website [www.ksvy.org](http://www.ksvy.org)

|            |                  |                                  |
|------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| October 1  | Manette Fairmont | manetteart@aol.com               |
| October 8  | Steve Finley     | rabbisteve.shirshalom@gmail.com  |
| October 15 | Jason Mayer      | jason.mayer@sonomacollective.com |
| October 22 | Dave Gould       | dgould837@gmail.com              |
| October 29 | Lisa Cole        | ljbcole@gmail.com                |