



# News & Fun Activities

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## Tri-Valley Cultural Jews Your East Bay Secular Humanistic Jewish Community

**TriValleyCulturalJews.org**  
[info@tri-valleyculturaljews.org](mailto:info@tri-valleyculturaljews.org)  
(925) 399-8029

**Affiliated with the Cultural and Secular Jewish Organization**

**Our mission statement:** A Secular Humanistic community serving those who identify with the Jewish People through family, culture and history, rather than through religion.



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## October 28th 2023

### TV CJ Community News

Like and share our FaceBook page:  
<http://facebook.com/trivalleyculturaljews>

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Tai Grabowski for passing her belt test and becoming an orange belt in karate!

TVCJ is an accepting, welcoming, diverse community of Cultural Jews and their families, affiliated with CSJO. Call or email us at (925) 399-8029 or [culturaljews@gmail.com](mailto:culturaljews@gmail.com) for an Evite or for more information about our community. You can find us at [trivalleyculturaljews.org](http://trivalleyculturaljews.org). Free to members, suggested \$15 donation per non-member adult if you are able. Masking is optional when social distancing is possible.

You can make donations to TVCJ through PayPal or Venmo. Our handle is Tri-Valley Cultural Jews.

## Upcoming Events

### TVCJ Teen Group -- 10/29/23

Our teen group will be meeting on October 29th to make enrichment toys for the animals at Sulpher Creek. The group is open to those age 12 to high school graduation. Contact us for the location.

### Philosophers' Cafe -- 11/02/23

Join us for Philosophers' Cafe, our monthly friendly discussion group. We meet on zoom on the first Thursday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to about 8:00p.m. or 8:15p.m.. We never know what the topic will be until we get there - so there's no homework. Join us Thursday, November 2nd and find out the topic then. **Zoom ID 568 599 7884**. Look for the Evite.



Chanukah on December 10th, 2023!

### It's Not A Book Club! -- 01/07/24

Our next members-only not-a-book-group will meet January 7th at 3:00 p.m. to discuss *To Say Nothing of the Dog* by Connie Willis. Look for the evite!

## TVCJ Statement on Israel and Palestine

With the death toll rising, both Israelis and Gazans are living in terror for their lives, the lives of their children and the lives of the hostages taken by Hamas.

Only justice for all who live in the region can ensure a lasting peace. Israel's existence as well as rights for Palestinians must be assured.

As humanists we believe in the power of people to make choices about their lives based on their values. The freedom and dignity of the Jewish people must go hand-in-hand with the freedom and dignity of all peoples.

**Here is a resource with information on the history and what's going on now:**

What Does It Mean to Stand With Israel? <https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2023/10/israel-hamas-war-palestine-stand-with-israel-netanyahu.html>

**Here's how you can help:**

New Israel Fund <https://www.nif.org/> - help for vulnerable communities in Israel, including Bedouin villages.

Dror <https://www.drorisrael.org/> – daycare and counselors for kids who have been evacuated from the border and those whose parents are missing or have been called up to serve in the military.

Magen David Adom <https://afmda.org/> – Israel's Red Cross sends their 1400 ambulances even into areas under fire.

Soroka Medical Center <https://www.soroka.org/donate/> – the only major hospital in the Negev region.

Doctors Without Borders <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>

International Red Cross <https://www.icrc.org/>

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East <https://www.unrwa.org/>

UNICEF <https://www.unicef.org/>

## Upcoming Events Calendar

**2023**

10/1 Sukkah Raising  
 10/5 Philosophers' Cafe  
 10/15 JCS  
 10/29 JCS  
 11/12 JCS  
 11/26 JCS  
 12/10 Chanukah Party - mid  
 afternoon

**Winter Break****2024**

1/7 JCS and It's Not A Book  
 Club!  
 1/21 Tu B'Shvat  
 2/4 JCS  
 2/18 JCS  
 3/3 JCS  
 3/17 JCS  
 3/24 Purim  
 4/7 JCS  
 4/21 Passover Family Day  
 4/27 Community Passover  
 Seder  
 5/05 Last Class JCS  
 5/26 Lag B'Omer  
 6/9 Shavuot + Annual Meeting

## Jewish Culture School 10/15/23

Jewish Culture School, JCS, was filled with singing, dancing and cooking. We made Tishpishti--a Sephardic apple cake that's super fun to say!



## Sukkot

Thanks to everyone who came and made our Sukkah Raising such a wonderful day! We're so grateful to the Irelands for hosting and for Sarah Rees for her beautiful citron crafts.



## INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT

### INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

**Sunday, November 19th, 3:30pm to 4:30 pm, simple reception 4:30pm to 5:00pm**

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton 94588

**Offering recipient:** Goodness Village <https://gvlivermore.org/>

**Volunteers needed:** cookies, help setting up reception, greeters at service, photographer, cleanup. Service will also be live-streamed.

**Save-the-Date: Unitarian Universalist Church Livermore invitation to participate in their "Festival of Lights," December 16th evening.** Interfaith Interconnect will have a table to promote our group. "We will be having a public Christmas Light Display called 'A Festival of Lights' and want to showcase our partners. We will be collecting donations as admission, hoping to also have a beverage truck, and welcome musical offerings too.

**Next Religion Chats: January 10th, February 14th, March 13th.**

Topic: ***Nearly all religions have a version of "thou shalt not kill." How does your religion/ congregation deal with the reality of war?***

**Confirmed speakers:**

January 10th: Fr. Andy Lobban/St Bartholomew Episcopal and Rev. Sangye Hawke/Unitarian

Universalist

February 14th: Rabbi Milder/Beth Emek and Omar Naisan/MCC.

March 13th: speakers pending

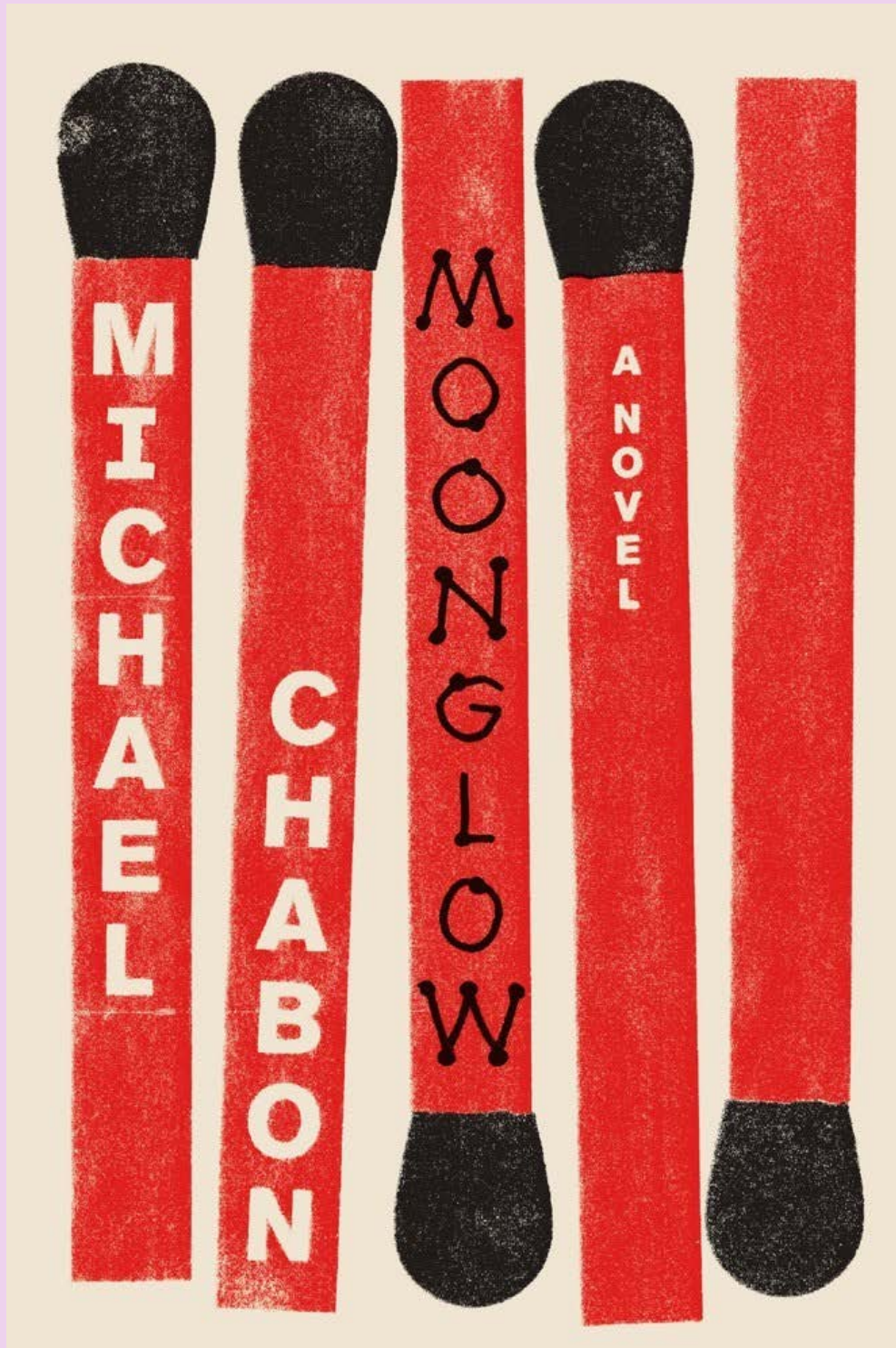
**Interfaith Interconnect Facebook**

**Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect/timeline>

## **Open Position: Eden Interfaith Representative**

Meet 1x a month, the first or second Tuesday of the month at 7:00p.m, with other leaders at their location in Hayward and give Secular Jews a voice. Tasks involve representing TVCJ in Interfaith actions, reporting back to the board on Interfaith activities, and volunteering (or finding other volunteers) for actions you find important.

### **BOOK REVIEW MOONGLOW BY MICHAEL CHABON**



This is the story of Michael Chabon's grandfather. He was a rocket designer, model maker and enthusiast. He married a holocaust survivor who had very deep emotional scars from her experiences in the concentration camps.

The grandfather had an obsession of finding and talking to Verner Von Braun to tell him what he thought of his rockets, which were used as weapons of war. Grandfather's rockets were to be used for settlement of the moon primarily for Jewish people. They finally meet and develop an interesting relationship.

The book also tells the compelling stories of Chabon's parents, siblings and other relatives.

While these stories are interesting and dramatic, they may not be totally biographical. The main issue I have with this book is that it is written in a somewhat scattered style and is sometimes hard to follow. Having said this, I would highly recommend the book. It gives a great picture of the post -World War II America and of the race to develop rockets. [\*\*If you are interested in purchasing this book, then you can find it on Amazon by clicking here.\*\*](#)

**Reviewed by Jerry Zwick**

# INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOR HUMAN INTEGRITY BENEFIT CONCERT



**PHENOMENAL MUSIC FROM DIVERSE BAY AREA MUSICIANS  
SUPPORTING DECARCERATION & IMMIGRANT RIGHTS!**

November 13th at 7:00 pm  
Freight & Salvage Performance Venue  
2020 Addison St. Berkeley



**Buy Tickets Here**  
[bit.ly/IM4HIconcert](https://bit.ly/IM4HIconcert)

*#LoveOverFear*



**[Click Here to Buy Tickets](#)**

You're invited for an inspiring evening of music and celebration of the power of Love Over Fear! Prepare to be moved by an extraordinary lineup of talented Bay Area immigrant and BIPOC artists, each inspiring us to stand together against criminalization and xenophobia and stand up for healing,



inclusion, and our shared humanity.

**Our artistic lineup includes:** (Click to learn more about each artist that has a web page.)

[BenjaSoul](#)

[Francisco Herrera](#)

[Tory Teasley](#)

[Diana Gameros](#)

Nancy Louise

[Aisea Taimani](#)

Deema Shihabi

## TVCJ PayPal Giving Fund Page

*We now have a PayPal page where you can quickly and easily donate to Tri-Valley Cultural Jews. Simply scan the QR code or*

*visit: <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2326042>*



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### In October We Remember

Mary Gates  
 Taki Greenberg  
 Ron Kociolek  
 Seymour Seid  
 Adina Senensieb



### October Birthdays

We have no October birthdays.

### Who We Are

**Rabbi:** Judith Seid **925-485-1049**

**Madrikha:** Jamie Ireland

**Board Members:**

David Gates  
 Jazz Salwen-Grabowski  
 Jamie Ireland  
 Kai Mogilefsky  
 Rachel Rose  
 Judith Seid

**Newsletter:** Joy Randel

**Webmaster:** Noah King

**JCS Teachers:** Jazz Salwen-Grabowski, Judith Seid

**Holiday Coordinator:** Jazz Salwen-Grabowski

**Movie Coordinator:** Bret Mogilefsky

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