
THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

February 2018 / Sh'vat-Adar 5778



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
Corner of Church and Roanoke Streets, PO Box 782
Blacksburg, VA 24063 (540) 300-BJCC
Web site: www.bjccblacksburg.org



SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

SERVICES

Feb. 3—Yitro—Reform—E. Hallerman**

**Potluck lunch today

Feb. 10—Mishpatim—Conservative—S&M
Kranowski

Feb. 17—Terumah—Reform—R. Scheckler

Feb. 24—Tetzaveh—Reform—M&S Kranowski

POTLUCK LUNCH, FEB. 3

On Feb. 3, we'll hold our regular potluck lunch after services (about 11:30 AM). Please bring a dairy or veggie dish to share. This lunch is part of a cultural event with Joe Buchanan.

JOE BUCHANAN WEEKEND, FEB. 2-4

Feb. 2-4: Artist-in-residence Joe Buchanan will visit Blacksburg and Roanoke. See the attached notices, but here's a summary:

- Fri. night Shabbat service at Hillel center.
- Sat. lunch-and-learn adult discussion at the BJCC after services.
- Sat. night Havdalah and concert at the BJCC.
- Sunday: concert and "Souper" event in Roanoke (field trip to Roanoke for Sunday School students).

For more information on Joe's music, see <https://joebuchananmusic.com>.



SHOFAR DEADLINE, FEB. 20

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Feb. 20. Send information to Richard at richard@vt.edu.



ADULT EDUCATION, FEB. 8, SAM KESSLER

"The Efficacy of Prayer," Feb. 8, 7:00 PM at BJCC, presented by Sam Kessler, Judaic studies post doc and superb teacher at Virginia Tech.

In this evening of learning, we will look at some classical and modern sources related to the purpose, use, and power of prayer in Judaism. Where and when does Jewish prayer originate? Why has it become so standardized? Is it meant more for God or for people? Is it, in fact, meant for God at all? Come prepared to look deeply and critically at the Jewish textual tradition, but also with your own thoughts and experiences. As we will see, Jewish prayer is designed to elicit spontaneity and joy, even as it mandates a level of specificity entirely unusual among the world's major religious faiths.

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE:

The prestigious Sydney Taylor silver medal given by The Association of Jewish Libraries was awarded this month to "This Is Just A Test," a middle-grade novel, written by Madelyn Rosenberg and Wendy Shang. It is a coming-of-age story about a Jewish biracial boy who is preparing for his Bar Mitzvah while dealing with family, friends and social issues in the 1980's.

The award is given to "books for children and teens that authentically portray the Jewish experience". My daughter, Madelyn, was raised here in Blacksburg and attended the BJCC Sunday School and was one of its first Bat Mitvahs.

It is encouraging to note that the Jewish education and camaraderie offered in our small corner of the world, can give our children such a positive sense of Jewish identity.

One proud momma—Linda Deemer

February 2018 / Sh'vat-Adar 5778

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 16 Sh'vat 5778	2 17 Sh'vat 5778 Joe Buchanan events at Hillel center	3 18 Sh'vat 5778 Parashat Yitro Reform service, potluck lunch and events with Joe Buchanan 
4 19 Sh'vat 5778 Joe Buchanan event in Roanoke	5 20 Sh'vat 5778	6 21 Sh'vat 5778	7 22 Sh'vat 5778	8 23 Sh'vat 5778 Adult education with Sam Kessler	9 24 Sh'vat 5778	10 25 Sh'vat 5778 Parashat Mishpatim Conservative svc.
11 26 Sh'vat 5778	12 27 Sh'vat 5778	13 28 Sh'vat 5778	14 29 Sh'vat 5778	15 30 Sh'vat 5778 Rosh Chodesh Adar	16 1 Adar 5778 Rosh Chodesh Adar	17 2 Adar 5778 Parashat Terumah Reform service
18 3 Adar 5778	19 4 Adar 5778	20 5 Adar 5778 Deadline for submission of info for March <i>Shofar</i>	21 6 Adar 5778	22 7 Adar 5778	23 8 Adar 5778	24 9 Adar 5778 Parashat Tetzaveh Reform service
25 10 Adar 5778	26 11 Adar 5778	27 12 Adar 5778	28 13 Adar 5778 Erev Purim			

BJCC Officers and Board Members 2017-2018

(These email addresses are being protected against automatic spamming with a space before and after the @ sign. If you use one of these addresses, be sure to key it without the spaces.)

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	Bill Epstein	
<i>Shofar</i> Editor	Richard Hirsh	richard @ vt.edu

Join us for a weekend with

Jewish Americana Musician

JOE BUCHANAN

Friday, February 2

5:00 pm - Musical *Oneg* Community
Get-Together

6:00 pm - Americana *Shabbat* Service
at Malcom Rosenberg Hillel Center
710 Toms Creek Rd. Blacksburg, VA 24060

Saturday, February 3

10:00 am - *Shabbat* Service

11:30 am - Veggie/Dairy Community Potluck

12:30 pm - "Choosing to be Chosen:
What Seekers are Seeking" Discussion

6:45 pm - *Havdalah* & Concert

at Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
201 E. Roanoke St. Blacksburg, VA 24060



A blend of southern soul and country charm, Joe's music is grounded in the belief that there is always more room at the table. Since joining the tribe five years ago, he has led *Shabbat* services, concerts, and workshops on choosing to be chosen in communities across the United States. He's the host of Jewish Rock Radio's Emerging Artist Showcase and has been featured at numerous festivals and conferences. His first album, *Unbroken*, is available everywhere.



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center

Another Proud Presentation of the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life

For more information: www.isjl.org

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
ANNOUNCES ITS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

SUPER SOUPER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

10:30 AM

TEMPLE EMANUEL in Roanoke

COST: \$8 - ADULTS

STUDENTS AND CHILDREN FREE

Featuring

The music of
JOE BUCHANAN
Americana with a Jewish Soul



Joe Buchanan will present a musical program of original Jewish songs. Combining elements of country, roots-rock, and folk, Joe's music is a feel-good, toe-tapping, Americana sound with a Jewish soul.



SOUPER SOUP OFF
Taste and judge a
variety of soups
made by our members
and a fabulous

SILENT FOOD AUCTION



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 11, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Alachua Nazarenko, Programming Coordinator
601-362-6357 / anazarenko@isjl.org

Jewish Americana Musician to Visit Blacksburg

A blend of southern soul and country charm, Joe's music is grounded in the belief that there is always more room at the table. Since joining the tribe five years ago, he has led *Shabbat* (Sabbath) services, concerts, and workshops on choosing to be chosen in communities across the United States. He's the host of Jewish Rock Radio's Emerging Artist Showcase and has been featured at numerous festivals and conferences. His music is used in services around the country and his first album, *Unbroken*, is available everywhere. You can find out more about Joe at his website, www.joebuchananmusic.com, and on Facebook as Joe Buchanan Music.

This February, Joe will be traveling to Blacksburg, VA. On Friday, February 2 at 5:00 pm there will be a Musical *Oneg* Community Get-Together. At 6:00 pm he will lead an Americana *Shabbat* (Sabbath) service. Woven together with stories and intention, this service is a celebration. These events will be at the Malcolm Rosenberg Hillel Center.

On Saturday, February 3 at 12:30 pm he will lead a workshop entitled, "Choosing to be Chosen: What Seekers are Seeking." This session explores his family's path to Judaism, and a few of the songs that were inspired by the journey. It will be held immediately after a veggie/dairy potluck following 10:00 am services. At 6:45 pm he will lead a *Havdalah* (end-of-Sabbath) service followed by a concert of Jewish Americana music featuring original songs, stories, laughs, and toe-tapping tunes. These events will be held at the Blacksburg Jewish Community Center.

All events are free and no RSVP is required.

Malcom Rosenberg Hillel Center: 710 Toms Creek Rd. Blacksburg, VA 24060
Blacksburg Jewish Community Center: 201 E. Roanoke St. Blacksburg, VA 24060

Joe Buchanan's Blacksburg visit is sponsored by the Blacksburg Jewish Community Center and the Hillel at Virginia Tech. It is coordinated through the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL). The ISJL is dedicated to providing educational and rabbinical services, preserving the rich history of the Southern Jewish experience, sharing Jewish cultural and artistic programs, collaborating with other nonprofits, and facilitating community engagement opportunities throughout a thirteen state region.

To learn more about the ISJL, visit www.isjl.org or call 601-362-6357.

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