

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

June 2023 / Sivan-Tamuz 5783



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
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SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

June 3–Naso–M. Kranowski (Zoom)

June 10–Behaalot'cha–E. Hallerman (in-person,
followed by potluck)

June 17–Shelach–Schecklers (Zoom)

June 24–Korach (Isaak's Bar Mitzvah at Hillel)

SERVICES, A POTLUCK LUNCH, AND A BAR MITZVAH

June 3 and 17 services are via Zoom. On June 10, we'll have services at the BJCC (and streamed) followed by a potluck lunch, also in the BJCC, for the first time in more than 3 years. June 24 will be Isaak Wisnioski's Bar Mitzvah service at the Hillel Center on Tom's Creek Road (not in the BJCC building).

BAR MITZVAH OF ISAAK, JUNE 24

Cindy Rosenbaum and Matt Wisnioski invite the congregation to join us as our son, Isaak, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Sat., June 24 at 10:00 AM at the Hillel at Virginia Tech. If you plan to attend the Kiddush to follow, please respond to a forthcoming email message.

SHOFAR DEADLINE, JUNE 25

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is June 25. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard[at]vt.edu).

HILLEL NEWS

See the Hillel calendar, and obtain more info at <http://hillelatvirginiatech.com>.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

Jewish culture takes joy in life-cycle events, including the coming-of-age. We recently enjoyed the Bat Mitzvah of Mira Tomer-Lawhead. Nicely done, Mira!



And the joy is not yet over. On June 24, we'll join the Rosenbaum-Wisnioski family in celebration of Isaak's Bar Mitzvah. Let's revel in this season of *nachas* in our children.

As you will recall, following vandalism of the BJCC sign, representatives of our town's faith communities came together on March 23 for a program in support of our congregation. Subsequently, Ruth Grene and I had conversations with some faith leaders on how we might enhance understanding among our respective communities going forward. Among the ideas were: (1) visits to services, (2) speakers explaining our respective faith traditions, and (3) discussion of readings of mutual interest.

The BJCC welcomes guests and is willing to provide speakers. In the last regard, I will explain a bit more: there was shared interest in exploring, for example, how the monotheisms grew from a common root and how the respective belief systems differentiated historically and

philosophically. We have started planning with a small group, exploring how discussions might be organized (in person, or by Zoom) and what we might do (read well-chosen articles or books of mutual interest). Once we have a well-developed concept, we will invite other faith leaders and the respective communities to join in.

Work to enhance security of our building is still on hold, but we can see some positive developments. Since we use a historic building, we needed to send an “Environmental and Historic Preservation”(EHP) form and photos to FEMA for review. Though FEMA has rescinded its hold on Virginia projects, we were told to not proceed with any aspect of this project until we receive a formal EHP Approval Letter. So, we wait...

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

(cturner@memorialgardensnrv.com) or Jim Lucas (jlucas@memorialgardensnrv.com) of the MGNRV at 552-7800 if you'd like to visit the Jewish section of the cemetery. Several plots have already been purchased; others are still available. BJCC members and their Jewish or non-Jewish immediate family members, and non-members who are Jewish, are eligible to purchase plots in this section.

The BJCC and MGNRV have agreed on a set of regulations aimed at maintaining the Jewish character of this section in perpetuity. If you are considering such a purchase, please speak with a member of the BJCC cemetery committee (Eric Hallerman, Muriel Kranowski, and Marta Brinberg) for an explanation of these regulations. If you are not a member of the BJCC, your purchase will need to be approved by the cemetery committee.

CEMETERY INFO

The BJCC has entered into an agreement with the Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley (MGNRV) to set aside a Jewish section of this commercial cemetery, which is located at the northern end of Main Street in Blacksburg where it runs into Route 460. Contact Cindy Turner



BJCC Officers and Board Members 2022–23

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12 Sivan	2 13 Sivan	3 14 Sivan Parashat Naso Zoom service
4 15 Sivan	5 16 Sivan	6 17 Sivan	7 18 Sivan	8 19 Sivan	9 20 Sivan	10 21 Sivan Parashat Behaalot'cha In-person and streamed service with potluck lunch following service
11 22 Sivan	12 23 Sivan	13 24 Sivan	14 25 Sivan	15 26 Sivan	16 27 Sivan	17 28 Sivan Parashat Shelach Zoom service
18 29 Sivan	19 30 Sivan Rosh Chodesh Tamuz	20 1 Tamuz Rosh Chodesh Tamuz	21 2 Tamuz	22 3 Tamuz	23 4 Tamuz	24 5 Tamuz Parashat Korach Isaak Wisnioski's Bar Mitzvah service at Hillel Center (not BJCC)
25 6 Tamuz Deadline for info for next issue of the <i>Shofar</i> .	26 7 Tamuz	27 8 Tamuz	28 9 Tamuz	29 10 Tamuz	30 11 Tamuz	