
THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

January 2024/ Tevet-Sh'vat 5784



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
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SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

Jan. 6–Shemot–R. Scheckler (BJCC/live-streamed)

Jan. 13–Vaera–E. Hallerman (Zoom)

Jan. 20–Bo–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)

Jan. 27–Beshallah–E. Hallerman (BJCC/live-streamed)

MIXED SERVICES IN JANUARY

We'll have in-person services at the BJCC that will be live-streamed at the beginning and end of the month, with Zoom-only services in the middle. Everyone is warmly encouraged to attend one or both in-person services.

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!

We are grateful for the following donations:

To honor the memory of Nat Kranowski:

- Irv Gertner
- David and Marta Brinberg
- Steve Jacobs
- Anonymous donor

For Micah's Backpack

- Rhea Epstein and Al Kornhauser
- William Floyd and Leslie Kay
- Anna Zeide and Justin Horn

For the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry

- Ruth Grene
- Marcia Shumsky (in memory of Nat Kranowski)
- Anonymous donor

Other kind contributions from:

- Kenneth and Judith Yalowitz for the general fund
- Gary Long for the Religious School
- Irv Gertner in memory of Fannie Gertner
- Paul Sorrentino

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

This has been an eventful time for our faith community...

- Following a proposal prepared by PJ Library coordinator Suzan Antin, we have received a small grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation for purchase of shelving to display PJ Library books. We are looking to place shelves in the vestibule and downstairs along the north wall.
- Enhancement of the security of our building is now underway thanks, in large part, to Al Kornhauser and his efforts in securing a grant and permits. Installation of additional security lights went forward on Dec. 12, and we'll put in security cameras soon. We found a viable, lower-cost solution for installation of covers on our stained-glass windows and are now interacting with the Town of Blacksburg and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management for permission to go ahead with the altered plans.
- While we may feel that winter is just now really moving in on us, we must also anticipate the coming of spring... The congregation is planning a Tu B'Shevat seder with Hillel to be held at 5:00 PM on Sun., Jan. 28 at the Hillel center. Thanks, Wendy Silverman, for coordinating, and Amanda Herring for including us in the event.
- A World Day of Prayer is being organized by Church Women United, a racially, culturally, and theologically inclusive women's movement with local organizations around the world. The BJCC Board has agreed that our congregation will participate, and Rebecca Scheckler will serve as our liaison.
- We mourn the recent passing of Nat Kranowski and Etty Vandsburger, beloved members of our congregation. Their memories are a blessing to us. Let's console the families and make sure to seize and live every day.

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President



SHOFAR DEADLINE, JAN. 23

Muriel will serve as the guest editor for the next two issues of the *Shofar*. The deadline for submitting news for the Feb. issue is Jan. 23. Send information to Muriel at [murielk \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:murielk@vt.edu).

HILLEL NEWS

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

BJCC Officers and Board Members 2023–24

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<i>Shofar</i> Editor	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu



January 2024 / Tevet-Sh'vat 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 20 Tevet	2 21 Tevet	3 22 Tevet	4 23 Tevet	5 24 Tevet	6 25 Tevet Parashat Shemot In person at BJCC and streamed
7 26 Tevet	8 27 Tevet	9 28 Tevet	10 29 Tevet	11 1 Sh'vat Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat	12 2 Sh'vat	13 3 Sh'vat Parashat Vaera Zoom service
14 4 Sh'vat	15 5 Sh'vat	16 6 Sh'vat	17 7 Sh'vat	18 8 Sh'vat	19 9 Sh'vat	20 10 Sh'vat Parashat Bo Zoom service
21 11 Sh'vat	22 12 Sh'vat	23 13 Sh'vat Deadline for Feb. issue of <i>Shofar</i>	24 14 Sh'vat	25 15 Sh'vat Tu BiShvat	26 16 Sh'vat	27 17 Sh'vat Parashat Beshalach In person at BJCC and streamed
28 18 Sh'vat	29 19 Sh'vat	30 20 Sh'vat	31 21 Sh'vat			