

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

November 2023 / Cheshvan-Kislev 5784



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
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SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

- Nov. 4–Vayera–E. Hallerman (Zoom)
- Nov. 11–Chayei Sarah–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)
- Nov. 18–Toledot– R&S Scheckler (BJCC & streamed via Zoom)
- Nov. 25–Vayetzei–Marta & Muriel (Zoom)

NOVEMBER SERVICES MOVE INDOORS

Three of this month's services will be via Zoom, and one will be in person with live-streaming.

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!

We are grateful for the following donations:

- Kenneth and Judith Yalowitz, in appreciation of the wonderful High Holiday services.

We also received generous contributions during the High Holy Days for the Food Pantry. Total cash contributions came to almost \$2,100 from the following people:

- Suzan Antin, David and Marta Brinberg, Eric and Ester Hallerman, Dan Hindman and Wendy Silverman, Irene Jacobs, Brad and Rita Klein, Al Kornhauser and Rhea Epstein, Nat and Muriel Kranowski, Michael Leib, Shannon Murray, Ellen and Leo Piilonen, Stephen and Rebecca Scheckler, Ed Tuchler and Heather Govenor, Doris and Richard Zallen, and Anna Zeide
- Thank you also to the anonymous people who contributed 13 bags of food, dry goods, and cash.

SHOFAR DEADLINE, NOV. 24

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the Shofar is Nov. 24. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard@vt.edu).

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

We all woke up on Shabbat, October 7 to awful news and images from Israel. Such horrors!

Among the stories emerging were three that were told at the vigil at Hillel on October 11: a forwarded story of a friend's frantic escape from the rave in the desert near Gaza, a Tech freshman telling of an Israeli friend who was killed in the fighting, and a Tech student athlete telling of horrors within her own circle of family and friends. Yes, we are a small people—a large family, really—and so these stories affect us deeply.



What can we do to support one another? Thanks, Richard Zallen, for sending a thoughtful message that I will quote:

- Stand up: Participate in rallies of support for Israel and help counter the wave of pro-Hamas propaganda and sentiment on the street.
- Post on social media messages about bringing back the hostages and countering fake news.
- Donate to well-selected charities, perhaps one to support the urgent needs of Israeli soldiers (<https://my.israelgives.org/en/fundme/IsraelEmergencyFund>), the JGive campaign (<https://www.jgive.com/new/en/gbp/donation-targets/110048/about>), AFNATAL (<https://afnatal.networkforgood.com/projects/106213-main-giving-page>), Shinua Hevrati (<https://www.jgive.com/new/en/usd/donation-targets/17812>), Magen David Adom (<https://secure.afmda.org/site/Donation2;jsessionid>

[=00000000.app20014a?df_id=2000&2000.donation=form1&mfc_pref=T&s_src=OperationSwordofIron&FURL=UR&s_subsrc=bloomberg&NONCE_TOKEN=0C67B459A1969340BBC2A16B88DF22DA](https://secure.givelively.org/donate/israaid-us-global-humanitarian-assistance-inc/israaid-emergency-response-fund?utm_source=israeln)), IsraAID

(https://secure.givelively.org/donate/israaid-us-global-humanitarian-assistance-inc/israaid-emergency-response-fund?utm_source=israeln), and the Sderot Foundation (<https://sderotfoundation.org/>).

- Pray. It is fitting at such a moment to quote Rabbi Nachman's Prayer for Peace: "May it be Your will, Holy One, our God, our ancestors' God, that you erase war and bloodshed from the world, and in its place establish a great and glorious peace so that nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor learn war any more. Rather, may all the inhabitants of the earth recognize the great truth that we have not come

into this world for strife and division nor for hatred and rage, nor provocation and bloodshed. We have come here only to encounter You, eternally blessed One. And so, we ask your compassion upon us; raise up, by us, what is written: I shall place peace upon the earth and you shall lie down safe and undisturbed. I shall banish evil beasts from the earth and the sword shall not pass through your land. Let justice come in waves like water and righteousness flow like a river, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Holy One as the waters cover the sea."

May it be God's will.

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President


HILLEL NEWS

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

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November 2023 / Cheshvan-Kislev 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 17 Cheshvan	2 18 Cheshvan	3 19 Cheshvan	4 20 Cheshvan Parashat Vayera Zoom service
5 21 Cheshvan	6 22 Cheshvan	7 23 Cheshvan	8 24 Cheshvan	9 25 Cheshvan	10 26 Cheshvan	11 27 Cheshvan Parashat Chayei Sarah Zoom service
12 28 Cheshvan	13 29 Cheshvan	14 1 Kislev Rosh Chodesh Kislev	15 2 Kislev	16 3 Kislev	17 4 Kislev	18 5 Kislev Parashat Toledot In person and streamed service
19 6 Kislev	20 7 Kislev	21 8 Kislev	22 9 Kislev	23 10 Kislev 	24 11 Kislev Deadline for December <i>Shofar</i> submissions	25 12 Kislev Parashat Vayetzei Zoom service
26 13 Kislev	27 14 Kislev	28 15 Kislev	29 16 Kislev	30 17 Kislev		