

# THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

April 2023 / Nisan-Iyyar 5783



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center  
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Blacksburg, VA 24063 (540) 300-BJCC  
Web site: [www.bjccblacksburg.org](http://www.bjccblacksburg.org)



## SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

- Apr. 1–Tsav–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)
- Apr. 8–Chol Hamoed Pesach–Schecklers (Zoom)
- Apr. 15–Shemini–E. Hallerman (in person/hybrid)
- Apr. 22–Tazria–Metzora–Marta & Muriel (Zoom)
- Apr. 29–Acharei Mot–E. Hallerman (in person/hybrid)

## ZOOM AND HYBRID SERVICES IN APRIL

Three of our April services will be Zoom-only. For the other two, we will be in the BJCC but will also stream the service for those at home. We continue our efforts to improve the at-home audio quality, but for the best version of our in-person services, please join us at the BJCC if you are able to do so.

## SHOFAR DEADLINE, APR. 23

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Apr. 23. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard[at]vt.edu).

## THANK YOU!

- We are grateful to Dr. William (Bill) and Vickie Epstein of Henrico, VA, for their generous support of BJCC activities.
- Also, many thanks to Ms. Gloria Noll of Radford, VA, for her kind donation to the BJCC in response to the recent vandalism of our building.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

My fellow congregants:

Our past few weeks have been taken up with the response to the outrageous defacing of our BJCC street sign with antisemitic, racist markings. While this event was distressing, we have received tremendous support from the community, including many supportive posts on our Facebook page, emails, and spoken expressions. A graffiti-resistant replacement sign was donated by Kevin Altizer, owner of Signarama in Christiansburg, simply because he felt it was the right thing to do. Thanks, Kevin!



The story of the vandalism and the community response was covered by all three local TV stations and the *Roanoke Times*. The Anti-Defamation League offered support. The Blacksburg Police and FBI are on the case. We received a letter of support from more than a dozen faith leaders in Blacksburg, plus other expressions from leaders of other faith communities and many individuals too numerous to mention.

We held an interfaith service at the BJCC on Thursday, Mar. 23. We heard words of support from other faith communities, enjoyed a live

performance of thematically appropriate music (thanks, Ben Wyatt), and in short, felt grateful for the embrace of our community. This service was an expression of the Blacksburg that we know as our home. What I take from these experiences is that while haters are gonna hate, love wins, especially in a supportive community.



Thanks to Muriel Kranowski, Rebecca Scheckler, Dan Hindman, and especially Ruth Grene for organizing this event, and to Jeff Crowder and the First Church of God for hosting the overflow crowd and allowing us use of parking. I recorded the event and will post it for those that could not access it by Zoom, as intended.

Let's turn from all these events to something more spiritually uplifting. Pesach is just ahead of us, starting on Wednesday evening, Apr. 5. Let's teach our children of our deliverance to freedom and sing the Hallel out loud! We live free in a supportive community.

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

### HILLEL NEWS

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

## BJCC Officers and Board Members 2022–23

(Officers are definite; some committee chairs need to be verified)

President	Eric Hallerman	ehallerm [at]vt.edu
President–elect (V.P.)	Open	
Past President	Dan Hindman	dhindman [at] vt.edu
Treasurer	Stephen Scheckler	stephen [at] vt.edu
Secretary	Maddy Schreiber	mekeesee [at] gmail.com
Education Chair	Wendy Silverman	wssilverman [at] gmail.com
Community Service/Tzedakah	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
Co-chairs	Linda Deemer	lrdeemer [at] comcast.net
Religion Chair	Muriel Kranowski	murielk [at] vt.edu
Social Chair	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
Building Chair	Al Kornhauser	alkorn [at] vt.edu
Culture Chair	Rebecca Scheckler	3050hawks [at] gmail.com
Board members—at–large	Bradley and Rita Klein	bklein [at] vt.edu
	Cindy Rosenbaum	cbrosenb [at] hotmail.com
BJCC listserv keeper	Rebecca Scheckler	3050hawks [at] gmail.com
Membership Chair	Linda Deemer	lrdeemer [at] comcast.net
Religious school director	Wendy Silverman	wssilverman [at] gmail.com
<i>Shofar</i> Editor	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu

## April 2023 / Nisan-Iyyar 5783

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>  10 Nisan <a href="#">Parashat Tsav</a> Zoom service
<b>2</b>  11 Nisan	<b>3</b>  12 Nisan	<b>4</b>  13 Nisan	<b>5</b>  14 Nisan <a href="#">Erev Pesach</a> 	<b>6</b>  15 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach I</a> 	<b>7</b>  16 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach II</a> 1st day of the Omer	<b>8</b>  17 Nisan <a href="#">Parashat Chol Hamoed Pesach III</a> Zoom service
<b>9</b>  18 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach IV</a>	<b>10</b>  19 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach V</a>	<b>11</b>  20 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach VI</a>	<b>12</b>  21 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach VII</a>	<b>13</b>  22 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach VIII</a>	<b>14</b>  23 Nisan	<b>15</b>  24 Nisan <a href="#">Parashat Shemini</a> In-person/hybrid service
<b>16</b>  25 Nisan	<b>17</b>  26 Nisan	<b>18</b>  27 Nisan <a href="#">Yom HaShoah</a>	<b>19</b>  28 Nisan	<b>20</b>  29 Nisan	<b>21</b>  30 Nisan <a href="#">Rosh Chodesh Iyyar</a>	<b>22</b>  1 Iyyar <a href="#">Parashat Tazria-Metzora</a> Zoom service
<b>23</b>  2 Iyyar Deadline for submission of news for May <i>Shofar</i>	<b>24</b>  3 Iyyar	<b>25</b>  4 Iyyar <a href="#">Yom HaZikaron</a>	<b>26</b>  5 Iyyar <a href="#">Yom HaAtzma'ut</a>	<b>27</b>  6 Iyyar	<b>28</b>  7 Iyyar	<b>29</b>  8 Iyyar <a href="#">Parashat Acharei Mot</a> In-person/hybrid service
<b>30</b>  9 Iyyar						