
THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

October 2024 / Elul 5784 – Tishrei 5785



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]

Oct. 5–Haazinu–E. Hallerman (Zoom)

Oct. 12, 9:30AM–Yom Kippur service (see HHD Schedule)

Oct. 19–Sukkot–R&S Scheckler (in-person & live-streamed)

Oct. 26–Breishit–M. Brinberg (Zoom)

MIX OF SERVICES THIS MONTH

There are only three standard Shabbat services this month since Yom Kippur falls on a Saturday. Two will be Zoom services, and one will be in-person and live-streamed.

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

All HHD services will be held at the BJCC and will be live-streamed. Non-members may email a request for the Zoom link or a request to attend in person to info.blacksburgbjcc@gmail.com. See the related article regarding non-members' attendance at in-person BJCC services.

Erev Rosh Hashanah–Wed., Oct. 2, 7:30 PM

**followed by a dessert collation.

RH daytime–Thurs., Oct. 3, 9:30 AM

Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidrei)–Fri., Oct. 11, 7:00 PM

YK daytime–Sat., Oct. 12, 9:30 AM

YK closing (Neilah)–Sat., Oct. 12, 6:30 PM

**followed by a simple break-the-fast meal supplied by the BJCC.

SHOFAR DEADLINE, OCT. 24

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends,

Another year has passed, and the students have returned. Our lives are a bit more complicated now as we navigate the streets of our towns. Yet, their return does signal to us that a new academic year has begun.

We know this season brings us a new year: 5785. The High Holy Days are just days away, and preparations and arrangements for our services are being made.

One arrangement has been to increase the security measures in our building. You may have noticed the cameras on the outside of the building. They are connected to a web-based security system. Doors and locks have changed, and windows have been made more secure.

This year, we must control admission to our service to ensure our safety. For the High Holy Day services, several BJCC members will be at the front door before each service starts. The doors will be locked 15 minutes after a service begins.

Please know that visitors are welcome, but we will require a photo ID. Backpacks and other large items will not be allowed in the building, and small bags may be subject to search. The times and dates of the services are on the BJCC website and are listed nearby in this issue of the *Shofar*.

Working together, I believe our High Holy Days services will stir our hearts, allow us to reflect upon this past year, and bring us moments of comfort and peace.

I look forward to seeing you at the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. Let us greet each other with L'Shana Tova Tikatevu! May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a happy and prosperous new year.

Shalom, Gary Long, BJCC President.

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Anyone may attend virtual services by requesting the Zoom link. In-person attendance by non-BJCC members must be approved in advance. Send both kinds of requests to info.blacksburgbjcc@gmail.com.

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS

To the general fund:

- Irene Jacobs in memory of Terry Brinberg and Ira Jacobs
- Muriel Kranowski

To Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry:

- Marcia Shumsky

For NAACP Freedom Banquet:

- Al Kornhauser and Rhea Epstein

PJ BOOK NEWS

Happy New Year from PJ Library! Check out our PJ Book Nooks when you are at the BJCC during the High Holidays. They are located upstairs in the sanctuary vestibule and downstairs in the multipurpose room. The bins are color-coded: white for adults, teal for ages 9+, royal blue for ages 6 months to 8 years and hot pink for returns and book check out cards.

Featured this month for adults is *If All the Seas Were Ink*, Ilana Kurshan's memoir of her study of the Talmud. It is located in the white bin upstairs. In the white bin downstairs, look for *My Jewish Year: 14 Holidays, One Wondering Jew* by Abigail Pogrebin, in which she describes her year-long search for a more authentic taste of Judaism.

Ages 9+ should check out *The Inquisitor's Tale* in the teal bin upstairs. It is set in medieval France and describes how three magical children meet each other and become outlaws. It was named a Newberry Honor book in 2017. It is a *New York Times* bestseller, won the Sydney Taylor Award from the Association of Jewish Libraries, and was a finalist for the Jewish Book Council's Award for Children's Literature.

For ages 10+ in the downstairs book nook, we have *The Spanish Plot*, set in Spain in 1492. This is a choose-your-own-adventure book with many different paths as you try to help your young friend Yitzchak, whose grandfather is trying to save the Jews of Spain. This is in the teal PJOW bin downstairs.

For ages 6 months to 8 years, we have a wide variety of books about the High Holidays in the royal blue bins, both upstairs and downstairs. *Today Is the Birthday of the World* (ages 2-3), *Red, Blue and Yellow Yarn* (ages 4-5), and *Even Higher!* (ages 7-8) are in both locations. For Sukkot, you can find *Vanishing Gourds* and *A Watermelon in the Sukkah* in both book nooks, as well as many other excellent reads.

The PJ Library website, www.pjlibrary.org, offers many resources that can be utilized by all, including a downloadable copy of *A Time to Grow: A PJ Library Family Guide for Starting the Jewish Year*, located here: <https://pjlibrary.org/highholidays>. (We also have multiple copies of this book in the white bins in the book nooks.) Look under the Explore tab on the PJ Library homepage for recipes, activities, book recommendations, and even podcasts.

SAVE THE DATE: COMPRESS AND SHOCK FOR A NEW AED, NOV. 3

The BJCC has the opportunity to receive an automated external defibrillator (AED). In order to receive this, we must have 35 folks signed up for in-person training.

Since we are such a small congregation, we are also offering our friends this free training. It will occur on Sun., Nov. 3, from 1:00-2:00 PM. Snacks provided.

Please sign up ASAP at this link,

<https://www.compressandshock.org/event-details/blacksburg-jewish-community-center>, or use the QR code on the attached flyer. This training could save the life of someone you care about.

DUES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL FEES

Please pay BJCC dues as soon as possible. Member dues: \$800/year for families and \$400/year for single households. Our BJCC treasurer urges members to pay via PayPal or to mail their membership dues to the following address: Blacksburg Jewish Community Center (BJCC) PO Box 782 Blacksburg, VA 24063-0782. As always, individuals and families can discuss a reduction of dues in privacy with the treasurer, Marta Brinberg. The BJCC mission is to serve the needs of New River Valley Jews. No one will be turned away for lack of financial resources.

PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- Netta Gurari
- Amanda Herring
- Molly Larson

HILLEL NEWS

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

BJCC Officers and Board Members 2024–25

President	Gary Long	glong [at] vt.edu
President–elect (V.P.)	Open	
Past President	Eric Hallerman	ehallerm [at]vt.edu
Treasurer	Marta Brinberg	martabrinberg [at] hotmail.com
Secretary	Maddy Keesee	mekeesee [at] gmail.com
Education Chair	Gil Hersch	gil251 [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	Open	
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
	Rebecca Scheckler	3050hawks [at] gmail.com
BJCC listserv keeper	Open	
Membership Chair	Anna Zeide	annazeide [at] gmail.com
Religious school directors	Gil & Nicole Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu
<i>Shofar</i> Editor		

October 2024 / Elul 5784-Tishrei 5785

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 28 Elul	2 29 Elul Erev Rosh Hashanah Erev RH service, 7:30 PM	3 1 Tishrei, 5785 Rosh Hashanah 5785 Daytime RH service, 9:30 AM	4 2 Tishrei Rosh Hashanah II	5 3 Tishrei Parashat Haazinu Zoom service
6 4 Tishrei	7 5 Tishrei	8 6 Tishrei	9 7 Tishrei	10 8 Tishrei	11 9 Tishrei Erev Yom Kippur Erev YK service, 7:00 PM	12 10 Tishrei Yom Kippur Daytime YK service, 9:30 AM YK closing service, 6:30 PM
13 11 Tishrei	14 12 Tishrei	15 13 Tishrei	16 14 Tishrei Erev Sukkot	17 15 Tishrei Sukkot I	18 16 Tishrei Sukkot II	19 17 Tishrei Sukkot III (CH"M) In-person and live-streamed
20 18 Tishrei Sukkot IV (CH"M)	21 19 Tishrei Sukkot V (CH"M)	22 20 Tishrei Sukkot VI (CH"M)	23 21 Tishrei Sukkot VII (Hoshana Raba)	24 22 Tishrei Shmini Atzeret Deadline for news items for Nov. <i>Shofar</i>	25 23 Tishrei Simchat Torah	26 24 Tishrei Parashat Breishit Zoom service
27 25 Tishrei	28 26 Tishrei	29 27 Tishrei	30 28 Tishrei	31 29 Tishrei		

Dear BJJC members,

As you prepare for the High Holy Days, please consider including a donation of food or cash to the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry in your preparation. The food pantry provides food to hundreds of needy families in our community. Please see below for details.

Sincerely,

Marta Brinberg

High Holy Days Food Drive 2024
in support of the
Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry

Contributions sought by the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry include:

Canned goods: fruits, vegetables (e.g., green beans, corn, carrots, beets), beans, pasta (e.g., Spaghetti-O's, ravioli), spaghetti sauce, soup, tuna

Packaged goods: Dry beans (e.g., pinto, lima), rice, spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, boxed sugar, powdered milk, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, cereal

Cash donations are also appreciated:

Write check to ***Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry***

or

Go to <http://www.bjccblacksburg.org> and use a donate button to link to PayPal. Please email Marta Brinberg with donation information.

Please leave your food or check donations in the BJCC social room by Yom Kippur

Questions? Contact Marta Brinberg at martabrinberg@hotmail.com.



BYSTANDER CPR/AED CLASS



- FREE one-hour class in bystander CPR & AED use
- Open to all ages 13+
- This class DOES NOT provide certification

November 3,
2024

201 Roanoke St E,
Blacksburg, VA 24060

1:00 PM



HCA 
Healthcare®