
THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

December 2022 / Kislev-Tevet 5783



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]

- Dec. 3–Vayeitzei–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)
- Dec. 10–Vayishlach–R. Scheckler (Zoom)
- Dec. 17–Vayeishev–Marta & Muriel (Zoom)
- Dec. 24–Miketz–E. Hallerman (BJCC and live-streamed)
- Dec. 31–Vayigash–E. Hallerman (Zoom)

ANOTHER MIXED-SERVICE MONTH

We'll have an in-person Shabbat service on Dec. 24, which will also be live-streamed via Zoom. That will be our first such effort, and we'll probably get better at it as we go along. The other December services will be Zoom-only.

CHANUKAH PARTY, DEC. 11

The BJCC Chanukah party, to be held at the BJCC, will be shared with the Sunday School on Sunday, Dec. 11 (yes, a bit earlier than the holiday itself). Here's the schedule of events:

9:30-10:15 AM—Craft and activity stations (edible menorah-making, make your own dreidel, coloring sheets, Chanukah bingo, etc.)

10:15-10:30 AM—Song session

10:30-11:30 AM—Potluck meal with menorah lighting and maybe a reading of a Chanukah story.

We seek a volunteer to help organize the potluck; please contact Ruth Grene and Eric Hallerman if you can help.

Hope to see everyone there!

SHOFAR DEADLINE, DEC. 22

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Dec. 22. 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:

Much is going on at the BJCC.

Kristalnacht, the Night of Broken Glass, recalling the Nazi vandalization of hundreds of synagogues in Germany in 1938, was marked on Nov. 10. The “Light up the Church” initiative (<https://lightupthechurch.org/>) encouraged houses of worship to turn on their lights in symbolic support of Jewish communities. In addition to us, at least three churches in Blacksburg—the First Church of God, Methodist Church, and Episcopal Church—did so. We are grateful for their expression of support!

We are looking to return to more normal modes of operation coming out, God willing, of the Covid pandemic. Notably, in December we aim to try live-streaming our Shabbat service. If successful, we'll allow those seeking in-person worship to do so and those valuing a more Covid-safe option a live-stream. Bear with us as we work through the logistics of offering a viable live-streaming service. To those attending in-person, we have already added air filtration in the sanctuary and will continue to require mask-wearing.

Over the past year or so, we have installed security doors and an emergency exit to improve the security of our building. More recently, Building Chair Al Kornhauser has secured a grant from the federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP). The grant award will be used to install impact-resistant films on all plain glass windows, tempered glass coverings on all stained-glass windows, and security cameras with recording equipment and additional exterior lighting around the perimeter of the building. In parallel with these physical enhancements, we will need to develop and implement standard operating procedures so we know how to respond effectively to any crisis that might arise.

Like I said, much going on at the BJCC. Hope to see you at the Chanukah party on the 11th.

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

December 2022 / Kislev-Tevet 5783

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7 Kislev	2 8 Kislev	3 9 Kislev Parashat Vayeitzei Zoom service
4 10 Kislev	5 11 Kislev	6 12 Kislev	7 13 Kislev	8 14 Kislev	9 15 Kislev	10 16 Kislev Parashat Vayishlach Zoom service
11 17 Kislev Chanukah party at BJCC	12 18 Kislev	13 19 Kislev	14 20 Kislev	15 21 Kislev	16 22 Kislev	17 23 Kislev Parashat Vayeishev Zoom service
18 24 Kislev Chanukah: 1 Candle 	19 25 Kislev Chanukah: 2 Candles 	20 26 Kislev Chanukah: 3 Candles 	21 27 Kislev Chanukah: 4 Candles 	22 28 Kislev Chanukah: 5 Candles January Shofar deadline 	23 29 Kislev Chanukah: 6 Candles 	24 30 Kislev Chanukah: 7 Candles Rosh Chodesh Tevet Parashat Miketz In-person service at BJCC 
25 1 Tevet Chanukah: 8 Candles Rosh Chodesh Tevet 	26 2 Tevet Chanukah: 8th Day 	27 3 Tevet	28 4 Tevet	29 5 Tevet	30 6 Tevet	31 7 Tevet Parashat Vayigash Zoom service

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

