

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

September 2023 / Elul 5783- Tishrei 5784



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]

Sept. 2–Ki Tavo–R&S Scheckler (Nellies Cave Shelter)

Sept. 9–Nitzavim–Vayeilech–E. Hallerman (Zoom)

Sept. 16–Rosh Hashanah daytime service

Sept. 23–Ha'azinu–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)

Sept. 30–Sukkot Day 1–Marta & Muriel (Zoom)

OUTDOOR AND ONLINE SHABBAT SERVICES

We'll have another Shabbat service at Nellies Cave Park on Sept. 2, followed by a potluck lunch starting at about 11:20 AM. On other Saturdays, our Shabbat services will be on Zoom, except that Sept. 16 is Rosh Hashanah (see HHD info on next page).

BJCC NAACP FREEDOM FUND BANQUET, SEPT. 23

BJCC members traditionally attend the annual NAACP Freedom Fund banquet, which is held this year on Sept. 23, to show our support for civil rights activities in the area and in the nation. We have reserved one table already by contributing \$1,000 to the organization. If you would like to attend the banquet, please contact Stephen Scheckler.

Donations for our participation should be sent to the BJCC Treasurer, PO Box 782, Blacksburg, VA 24063 and made payable to the BJCC with "NAACP" in the memo line. PayPal can also be used by following the instructions on the "Giving" page on the BJCC's website,

<https://www.bjccblacksburg.org/giving>.

SHOFAR DEADLINE, SEP. 22

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Sept. 22. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard[at]vt.edu).

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

Summer is waning, and our once-quiet little town is now humming with activity. The students are back, the public schools and the university are in session, and so it must be time to start thinking about the High Holy Days...

The High Holy Days schedule is shown elsewhere in the *Shofar*. Now is the time to block the days and times on your calendar. While you are at it, put in a reminder to call your mother and other loved ones. Start reflecting on how you resolve to be a better human and Jew in the coming year. And come out to services so that we, as a Jewish community, can enjoy spiritual uplift as we begin the new year together. Remember to pay dues or donate to the BJCC if you have not already done so. As a tzedakah project, we will once again support the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry, so write your check or bring in food to the BJCC before Yom Kippur to help our less-fortunate neighbors.

Our sister Jewish community in Blacksburg, Hillel at Virginia Tech, has a new director, Amanda Herring. Some of you may remember Amanda and husband Greg, who were students at Virginia Tech some years ago. Welcome back, Amanda and Greg, and now with two young children! Amanda and I recently discussed ways to bring the BJCC and Hillel together. Watch for an Erev Shabbat when we will attend services at Hillel, and a Shabbat morning service when Hillel students will join us, perhaps for a potluck and a meet-and-greet event. We will invite one another's community to cultural events, including a Purim carnival. Whatever interactions may arise, I look forward to heightened engagement with Hillel; please join in.

If not before, I'll see you at the Erev Rosh Hashanna service. *L'Shanna Tova Tichtevu!* May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

High Holiday Service schedule on next page.

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

Our HHD services this year will be held at the BJCC and live-streamed. Cantor Irv Gertner will again chant most of our services.

If non-BJCC members would like to donate to help support our putting on these services, you can mail a check (memo "HHD services") to BJCC Treasurer, PO Box 782, Blacksburg, VA 24063. Or you can donate on our website, <https://www.bjccblacksburg.org/paypal>, indicating in the "Add a Note" field that your donation is for High Holiday services. We very much appreciate your generosity!

ROSH HASHANAH

Fri., Sept. 15, 7:30 PM—Erev RH services

Dessert collation after the service. Please email Steve Jacobs at sjacobs07 [at] comcast.net or text (don't phone) him at (540) 838-1529 if you can help with the logistics and/or provide treats.

Sat. Sept. 16, 9:30 AM—Daytime RH service

Sun. Sept. 17, 9:30 AM—Shofar service (not at BJCC; see below **)

YOM KIPPUR

Sun. Sept. 24, 7:30 PM—Erev YK (Kol Nidrei) service

Mon. Sept. 25, 9:30 AM—Daytime YK service, including Yizkor

Mon. Sept. 25, 6:30 PM—Closing Neilah service

**Sept. 17 Shofar service: The shofar will not be blown at our Erev RH or RH daytime services as they fall on Shabbat. To provide an opportunity for you to hear it, we'll hold a brief service on Sunday. However, as it's hard to park near the BJCC on a Sunday morning, 9:30 AM, we'll hold that service in the Shadowlake Village community building. A more detailed email will go to members and friends a few days before RH.

HHD FOOD DRIVE

Read about the food drive on the next page.

DUES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL FEES

Please pay BJCC dues and religious school fees as soon as possible.

Member dues: \$700/year for families and \$350/year for single households.

Religious School fees: \$375/year for grades K-8 and \$225/year for pre-K.

Our BJCC treasurer urges members to mail their membership dues and Religious School fees 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 and/or fees 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.

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!

We are grateful for the following donations:

- Linda Deemer to Building Fund
- Anonymous and Ruth Grene to General Fund

HILLEL NEWS

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



BJCC Officers and Board Members 2023–24

President	Eric Hallerman	ehallerm [at]vt.edu
President–elect (V.P.)	Open	
Past President	Dan Hindman	dhindman [at] vt.edu
Treasurer	Marta Brinberg	martabrinberg [at] hotmail.com
Secretary	Maddy Schreiber	mekeesee [at] gmail.com
Education Chair	Gil Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
Community Service/Tzedakah	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
Co-chair	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
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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	Open	
Religious school directors	Anna Zeide	annazeide [at] gmail.com
	Gil & Nicole Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
<i>Shofar</i> Editor	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu

Dear BJCC members,

As you prepare for the High Holy Days, please consider including a donation of food or cash to the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry. 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 2023 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/Giving> and donate via PayPal. Write for “**Food Pantry**” in the “Add a Note” field

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

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

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 15 Elul	2 16 Elul Parashat Ki Tavo In-person service at Nellies Cave Park ; <i>not</i> streamed.
3 17 Elul	4 18 Elul	5 19 Elul	6 20 Elul	7 21 Elul	8 22 Elul	9 23 Elul Leil Selichot Parashat Nitzavim-Vayeilech Zoom service
10 24 Elul	11 25 Elul	12 26 Elul	13 27 Elul	14 28 Elul	15 29 Elul Erev Rosh Hashana 7:30 PM service 	16 1 Tishrei, 5784 Rosh Hashana 5784 In-person at BJCC starting at 9:30 AM
17 2 Tishrei Rosh Hashana II 9:30 AM shofar service	18 3 Tishrei	19 4 Tishrei	20 5 Tishrei	21 6 Tishrei	22 7 Tishrei Deadline for submission of news for Oct. <i>Shofar</i>	23 8 Tishrei Parashat Ha'Azinu Zoom service
24 9 Tishrei Erev Yom Kippur 7:30 PM service	25 10 Tishrei Yom Kippur 9:30 AM service 6:30 PM service	26 11 Tishrei	27 12 Tishrei	28 13 Tishrei	29 14 Tishrei Erev Sukkot	30 15 Tishrei Sukkot I Zoom service