

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

February 2023 / Sh'vat-Adar 5783



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
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Web site: www.bjccblacksburg.org



SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

Feb. 4–Beshallah–Marta & Muriel (Zoom)
Feb. 11–Yitro–R. Scheckler (Zoom)
Feb. 18–Mishpatim–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)
Feb. 25–Terumah–E. Hallerman (hybrid)

FEBRUARY SERVICES: ONE IN-PERSON

We'll have 3 Zoom services this month and one that combines in-person and Zoom (on Feb. 25).

SHOFAR DEADLINE, FEB. 21

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Feb. 21. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard@vt.edu).

TU BISHVAT PARTY, FEB. 4

The BJCC will be hosting a Tu Bishvat seder on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 5:00 PM at the Blacksburg Community Center (in the large Recreation Room). Sign up at <https://forms.gle/oAsJiE3mngaSMnRq8> if you plan to attend. We will also have a short Havdalah service. The BJCC will provide everything, including lots of tree fruit and nuts. If you would like to contribute, please bring a dessert to share. This is a fun event for the entire family. Hope to see you there!



TU BISHVAT

HILLEL NEWS

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends: Over the past month, I've been working to obtain administrative approvals of work proposed to enhance the security of the BJCC building. This effort has involved applications to the Town of Blacksburg's Historic or Design Review Board (HDRB) and the Engineering Dept. On Jan. 23, Building Chair Al Kornhauser and I presented our plans to the HDRB, which approved it. When the federal grant supporting the project is authorized by FEMA, we'll start the improvement projects themselves. These will include installing impact-resistant films on all plain glass windows, tempered glass coverings on all stained-glass windows, and additional exterior lighting and security cameras with recording equipment around the perimeter of the building. Under the terms on the agreement, we will pay for the work up front and seek reimbursement from the Department of Homeland Security Non-Profit Security Grants Program later. This prepayment requirement may give rise to cash-flow issues for our small community, which provides an impetus for me to remind members that...

We are in the middle of our fiscal year, and some members have yet to pay their annual membership dues. Dues are \$350 for an individual and \$700 for a family per year. Anyone for whom this fee is a hardship may approach the Treasurer. If you have not yet paid your dues for 2022-23, please do so. Details regarding membership and dues can be found at <https://www.bjccblacksburg.org/about>.


Now with us for three years, the Covid pandemic has receded but has not gone away. The BJCC Board recently revisited our Covid policy. After weighing the benefits and drawbacks of various policies, we determined that masking will remain required for services. Masking for Sunday School is at the discretion of the school directors,

teachers, and families, who will decide policy every semester. Vaccination and the most current boosters are recommended for attending services and Sunday School. We will revisit these policies periodically.

Tu Bishvat marks the beginning of spring in Israel, and its observance involves eating many

products from trees. Wendy Silverman has organized a Tu Bishvat seder to be held from 5:00-7:00 PM, Sat., Feb. 4 at the Blacksburg Recreation Center. This seder is especially good for families with children. Details are elsewhere in the newsletter. Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10 Sh'vat	2 11 Sh'vat	3 12 Sh'vat	4 13 Sh'vat Parashat Beshallach Zoom svc.
5 14 Sh'vat Tu Bishvat seder at Bburg Rec. Center	6 15 Sh'vat Tu BiShvat 	7 16 Sh'vat	8 17 Sh'vat	9 18 Sh'vat	10 19 Sh'vat	11 20 Sh'vat Parashat Yitro Zoom svc.
12 21 Sh'vat	13 22 Sh'vat	14 23 Sh'vat	15 24 Sh'vat	16 25 Sh'vat	17 26 Sh'vat	18 27 Sh'vat Parashat Mishpatim Zoom svc.
19 28 Sh'vat	20 29 Sh'vat	21 30 Sh'vat Rosh Chodesh Adar Deadline for March <i>Shofar</i>	22 1 Adar Rosh Chodesh Adar	23 2 Adar	24 3 Adar	25 4 Adar Parashat Terumah Hybrid (Zoom & in person)
26 5 Adar	27 6 Adar	28 7 Adar				

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
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Community Service/Tzedakah	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
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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
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