

The Directory of
**Independent Jewish
Communities and Havurot**
In Maryland, Washington DC and Virginia
2011/2012 5775-5776
12th Edition



Hinei ma tov uma na-im
Shevet achim gam yachad

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
for brothers and sisters to dwell together
in unity.

Psalm 133:1

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Network of Independent Jewish Communities & Havurot

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Network of Independent Jewish Communities and Havurot
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Beallsville, Maryland 20839
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Editors/Design/Layout
Cyndi Leitner & David Shneyer

**If your group is not listed,
and is independent and egalitarian,
please let us know so you can be
included in the next Edition.**

To order a copy of this directory, send your name and address with a check for \$3, which includes postage and handling, payable to the Network, at the address above. Additional copies in the same order \$2.50 each.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

Part I: Listing of Independent Communities and Havurot

Part II: Descriptions-In Their Own Words

Am Kolel
Bet Mishpachah
Beth Chai
Bethesda Jewish Congregation
Fabrangen
Jewish Study Center
Jews United For Justice
Kehila Chadasha
Olney Kehila
Shirat Hanefesh
Shoreshim
Tikkn Leil Shabbat

Part III

Resources
Havurah Resources
Interesting Jewish Websites
Glossary of Hebrew/Yiddish Terms
Jewish Calendar 5769 (2009-2011)

INTRODUCTION

Since its inception in 1988, the Network of Independent Jewish Communities has committed itself to the following aims:

- 1) To provide a structure for sharing Judaic resources independent Jewish congregations, havurot and alternative educational and cultural institutions in the Maryland, DC, and Virginia region.
- 2) To publish and distribute a directory of independent communities.
- 3) To advocate for new and independent Jewish groups within the organized Jewish community.
- 4) To organize periodic conferences for its members and others on issues affecting life and community today.
- 5) To lend its name and support to causes working on behalf of social justice. (Examples: affordable housing forums, Black-Jewish relations, gun control, Middle East peace, ecological concerns, etc.)

We hope this Directory can guide you to a group that reflects your interests and philosophy of life and Jewish community. If you find that distance or other circumstances make it impossible for you to connect with any of these groups, call us. If you are inclined to create your own Havurah or community and need some assistance, call us. If you find a community you want us to know about, call us.

Life is with community.

Part I
Listing of Independent Communities and Havurot

AM KOLEL

19520 Darnestown Road
Beallsville, MD 20839-3308
Phone: 301-349-2799
Fax: 301-349-2744
E-mail: info@am-kolel.org
Web site: www.am-kolel.org
Director: Rabbi David Shneyer
Business Manager: Deborah Schulman Wohl
Retreat Manager: Gilah Rosner,
www.sanctuaryretreatcenter.com
*Sanctuary Retreat Center, Judaic Resource Center, founded
1990; Havurah; Shabbat morning services; classes; Jewish
Renewal Weekends; Country Cheder; Buber Youth Kibbutz*

BET MISHPACHAH

P.O. Box 1410
Washington, DC 20013
Web site: www.betmish.org
Twitter: @BetMish
Facebook: www.facebook.com/betmish
President: Liora Moriel—president@betmish.org (Acting)
Rabbi: Laurie Green - rabbi@betmish.org
Rabbi Emeritus Bob Saks - rabbibob@betmish.org
*GLBT synagogue, founded 1975 (all are welcome); weekly
Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; Saturday morning service
on second and fourth Saturday of the month; annual High
Holy Days services.*

BETH CHAI CONGREGATION

6301 River Road
Bethesda MD 20817
Phone: 301-229-7400
Email: info@bethchai.org
Website: www.bethchai.org
Contact: Michele McNally, Membership Chair
President: Rob Rosenberg

Rabbi: Dr. Arthur Blecher
Educational Director: Roni Rosenthal

Jewish Humanist: monthly Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat; Sunday School for children from pre-school through post-mitzvah; individualized Bar/Bat Mitzvah; weekly adult education on Sunday mornings.

BETHESDA JEWISH CONGREGATION

6601 Bradley Boulevard
Bethesda, MD 20817-3042
Phone: 301-469-8636
Fax: 301-469-9529
E-mail: execdirec@bethesdaJewish.org
Website: www.bethesdajewish.org
Contact Person: Roz Young
President: Bruce Busman
Director of Education: Mindy Silverstein
Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Elhanah 'Sunny' Schnitzer
Founded 1964; weekly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; school.

DC MINYAN

P.O. Box 53291
Washington, DC 20009.
E-mail: info@dcminyan.org
Website: www.dcminyan.org

EAST BANK HAVURAH

3314 Shelburne Road
Baltimore, MD 21208
Phone: 410-764-6476
E-mail: sjsiegel613@verizon.net
Website: Meetup.com/East-Bank-Havurah
Contacts: Stephen Siegel
Havurah; founded 1979; alternate week evening, morning Shabbat services; monthly study; Holidays

FABRANGEN CHEDER COMMUNITY

Website: chedercommunity.org
School Contact: Ben Rosenthal
Phone: 301-270-1092

FABRANGEN HAVURAH

7750 16th Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20012

Phone: 202-595-9138

Fax: 202-595-9138

E-mail: coordinator@fabrangen.org

Web site: www.Fabrangen.org

Contact: Claire Feinson, Coordinator

Havurah; founded 1970; weekly Shabbat morning service; monthly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; High Holiday services; Tzedakah Collectives.

FAUQUIER JEWISH CONGREGATION

70 Main St.

Warrenton, VA 20188

Phone: 540-341-1844

E-mail: fauquierjewishcongregation@earthlink.net

Website: fauquierjewishcongregation.org

Contact: Paula Rabkin

Growing as the Jewish population of Fauquier and surrounding counties grows; services about once a month with holiday observances; High Holiday services; Sunday School; welcoming, small, friendly congregation

JEWISH STUDY CENTER

5614 Connecticut Ave. NW #180

Washington DC 20015

Phone: 202-332-1221

Email: info@jewishstudycenter.org

Website: www.jewishstudycenter.org

Contact: Zev Lewis

Adult Jewish education; founded in 1978, three sessions of 20 classes per year—in the fall, winter and spring; catalog available on website

KEHILA CHADASHA

Phone: 301-681-4528

E-mail: larry@bfmarch.com

Address: 2305 Eccleston Street

Silver Spring, MD 20902-5015

Website: www.e-kehila.org

Contact: George Strumpf
Membership contact: Laureen Kapin; membership@e-kehila.org
Sunday School Contact: Sharon Neubaur: schoolinfo@e-kehila.org
Spiritual Leader: Rabbi David Shneyer
Havurah; founded 1978; monthly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; Sunday school; open High Holiday services led by Rabbi David Shneyer

MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

PO Box 10573
Rockville, MD 20849
Www.msffe.org
School; founded 1978

OLNEY KEHILA

P.O. Box 852
Olney, MD 20830-0852
Phone: (301) 200-1818
E-mail: olneykehila@gmail.com
Website: www.olneykehila.org
President: Nancy Adise
Spiritual Leader: Holly Shere
Founded Spring 2002

SHIRAT HANEFESH (Song of the Soul)

Community meets at:
North Chevy Chase Elementary School
3700 Jones Bridge Road, Chevy Chase, MD
Mailing address: PO Box 13834
Silver Spring, MD 20911-3834
240 997 3747 phone
301 587 0568 fax
Website: www.shirathanefesh.org
Email: info@shirathanefesh.org
Rabbi: Gerry Serotta
Cantor: Ramón Tasat
President: Karen Schlesinger

Pluralistic, open to all; Kabbalat Shabbat with music

(including Kolot Halev choir services), Shabbat evening and morning services and Torah study, High Holy Day services, festival observances; Shabbat school grades pre-K-7, teen education program, B'nei Mitzvah preparation; annual retreat, community potlucks, Chesed Committee, interfaith Muslim-Jewish dialogue, social action, book discussions, adult classes.

SHORESHIM

P.O. Box 2516
Reston, VA 20195
Phone: 703-445-0563
E-mail: info@restonshoreshim.org
Website: www.restonshoreshim.org
Havurah; monthly Kabbalat Shabbat; annual High Holiday services; school; adult seminars; tzedakah fund and projects

TEMPLE BETH EL OF WILLIAMSBURG (VIRGINIA)

600 Jamestown Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185
Phone: 757-220-1205
Email: office@temple-bethel.org
Website: www.temple-bethel.com
Contact: Rabbi David Katz
Contact: Erica Westmoreland, Office Administrator

TIKKUN LEIL SHABBAT

E-mail: tikkunleilshabbat@yahoo.com
Website: tikkunleilshabbat.blogspot.com

ZOO MINYAN

Woodley Park/ Cleveland Park
Washington, DC 20008
E-mail: info@zoominyan.org
Web Site: www.zoominyan.org
Contact: Shalom Flank

Part II
COMMUNITY DESCRIPTIONS IN THEIR OWN WORDS

AM KOLEL

19520 Darnestown Road

Beallsville, MD 20839-3308

Phone: 301-349-2799

Fax: 301-349-2744

E-mail: info@am-kolel.org

Web site: www.am-kolel.org

Director: Rabbi David Shneyer

Business Manager: Maura Gost

Retreat Manager: Gilah Rosner,

www.sanctuaryretreatcenter.com

Sanctuary Retreat Center, Judaic Resource Center, founded 1990; Havurah; Shabbat morning services; classes; Jewish Renewal Weekends; Country Cheder; Buber Youth Kibbutz

Am Kolel is an independent Jewish community dedicated to Jewish renewal by addressing spiritual needs in a welcoming, inclusive community and responding to issues facing society with a progressive Jewish presence.

Some of the programs Am Kolel sponsors are weekly Shabbat morning celebrations, classes in Jewish thought and practice, Shabbatons at Sanctuary Retreat Center (www.sanctuaryretreatcenter.com), support for Jews United for Justice (JUFJ), support projects promoting peace in the Middle East and elsewhere. We also offer spiritual guides for all lifecycle events; Maagal Ruchanit, a monthly Renewal circle for spiritual growth, the Buber Kibbutz for Youth, the Jewish Folk Arts Festival, a weekly e-letter, web site and learning resources.

Am Kolel administers the Network of Independent Jewish Communities and Havurot of DC, VA & MD. We are members of Aleph: Alliance for Jewish Renewal; the National Havurah Committee; Interfaith Works; and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington.

Am Kolel was founded in 1990 by David Shneyer, a Jewish

educator and rabbi. Please call the office (301) 349-2799 for further information, schedules of events, and opportunities to become involved. www.am-kolel.org, www.bubersummer.org

BET MISHPACHAH

P.O. Box 1410

Washington, DC 20013

Web site: www.betmish.org

Twitter: @BetMish

Facebook: www.facebook.com/betmish

President: Liora Moriel—president@betmish.org (Acting)

Rabbi: Laurie Green - rabbi@betmish.org

Rabbi Emeritus Bob Saks - rabbibob@betmish.org

GLBT synagogue, founded 1975 (all are welcome); weekly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; Saturday morning service on second and fourth Saturday of the month; annual High Holy Days services.

Bet Mishpachah, "house of the family", is Washington DC's synagogue for GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender) Jews and their families, friends and allies, founded in 1975. The members seek to create a community and family in which they can affirm their religious and personal identities.

The central religious and social activity are the Friday night service held each week of the year, followed by an Oneg Shabbat social hour, and the Shabbat morning services held on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month followed by a Kiddush lunch. Some of the services, such as the recurring "Rock N Scroll" service, are particularly rich in music. In addition, the community celebrates Jewish holidays with services, rituals, traditional meals, and festivities. Social and educational events such as classes, guest speakers, dances, excursions, brunches, and movie and theater nights take place regularly.

Rabbi Laurie Green has served as Bet Mishpachah's part-time rabbi since 2013. Rabbi Green leads services two Friday nights and one Saturday morning a month, while the congregation's lay leaders conduct the other services.

Cantor Michael Mandel is the director of *Tach'shitim*, the congregation's choir.

Bet Mishpachah's lay service leaders have published *Shabbat Va-Yinafash*, a Shabbat and Festival prayer book with gender-neutral liturgy now used in several congregations across the United States, and *Machzor Chadeish Yameinu* for the High Holy Days.

Bet Mishpachah's members are a highly diverse group, including men and women, city-dwellers and suburbanites, singles, couples and families, and range in age from babies to senior citizens. Services are musical and highly participatory. Men and women participate as equals in all synagogue activities. Shabbat services are held at the DC Jewish Community Center, 16 & Q St, NW.

A nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, Bet Mishpachah annually elects its Board of Directors and conducts board meetings open to all members. The community is sustained primarily through annual membership dues. Members are kept informed through a bimonthly print newsletter, a website, weekly email updates, a Facebook page, and a Twitter feed. Bet Mishpachah is a member of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations, the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington, and the Celebration of the Spirit Coalition.

BETH CHAI CONGREGATION

6301 River Road

Bethesda MD 20817

Phone: 301-229-7400

Email: info@bethchai.org

Website: www.bethchai.org

Contact: Michele McNally, Membership Chair

President: Rob Rosenberg

Rabbi: Dr. Arthur Blecher

Educational Director: Roni Rosenthal

Jewish Humanist: monthly Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat; Sunday School for children from pre-school through post-mitzvah; individualized Bar/Bat Mitzvah; weekly adult education on Sunday mornings.

Beth Chai, founded in 1978, is a dynamic, inclusive community with a Jewish humanist perspective. We are part of the rich tradition of Judaism, drawing our strength from the vast repository of Jewish sources and emphasizing Jewish culture, ideals, and ethics. While we do not exist for the purpose of worshipping God, our unique congregation enjoys the full participation of believers and non-believer alike.

Led by Rabbi Arthur Blecher, author of *The New American Judaism*, Beth Chai offers a wide range of programs to serve the needs and interests of our entire community—including Sunday school for adults as well as children, public celebration of Jewish holidays and life-cycle events, monthly Shabbat gatherings, social action opportunities, and community-building events. We also prepare for Bar and Bat Mitzvah, and offer students an individualized, meaningful program to mark this milestone.

Throughout these activities, we strive to foster and maintain a positive Jewish identity for ourselves and our children, providing all members with the opportunity to learn about and celebrate Jewish history, culture, values, and traditions in a humanistic manner. We stress equally the Jewish and humanist values of taking responsibility for one's own actions, respecting all human beings, showing compassion for others, maintaining one's integrity, and working for Tikkun Olam (Repair of the World). Further, we treat everyone in our congregation equally, including all members of interfaith families.

We invite all who are interested to visit our independent community and help us explore, study, and celebrate our Jewish heritage. For further information, check out our website at www.bethchai.org.

BETHESDA JEWISH CONGREGATION

6601 Bradley Boulevard

Bethesda, MD 20817-3042

Phone: 301-469-8636

Fax: 301-469-9529

E-mail: execdirect@bethesdaJewish.org

Website: www.bethesdajewish.org

Executive Director: Roz Young

President: Bruce Busman

Director of Education: Chava Gal-Or

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Elhanah 'Sunny' Schnitzer

Founded 1964; weekly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; school.

The Bethesda Jewish Congregation, founded in 1964, is a full-service congregation with a trans-denominational approach to Judaism. Under the new leadership of Rabbi Sunny Schnitzer, a graduate of the Academy for Jewish Religion, BJC is moving toward the cutting edge of contemporary Jewish practice and thought, while maintaining a strong connection to tradition.

BJC is truly representative of Klal Yisrael (all Israel,) serving Jews from traditional and liberal religious backgrounds, as well as secular Jews, intermarried couples, and their families. We feel that our synagogue should take form naturally in response to the needs of its members as they interact with life and with Judaism. BJC does not attempt to impose a prevailing consensus of views on religious, national, or ethnic questions upon its members. The congregation recognizes the wide differences of members' backgrounds, with complete respect for these differences as a right. The congregation's philosophy and practice stress equal participation for women in all aspects of congregational life. We accept as Jews children of either a Jewish mother or a Jewish father. We encourage full participation of non-Jewish family members, without distinction, in all events.

Our Congregation celebrates Shabbat and holidays, with

each event having its own special flavor. Shabbat services are held every Friday night and Saturday morning. A vast array of worship opportunities and expressions are afforded to our members. BJC takes a trans-denominational approach to worship and thought. We use the prayer book of the Reform movement for its evenhanded balance between Hebrew and English in the liturgy. Our worship style, however, incorporates Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative, and Jewish Renewal liturgical elements. The worship experience that grows out these diverse forms is a dynamic expression of modern Judaism.

BJC's religious School, for grades K-10 meets on Saturday mornings from 10AM to 12:15PM. Hebrew instruction is available for grades 4-7 on Saturday mornings from 9:00-10:00 AM and Wednesdays from 4:00-5:45 PM. The general curriculum includes Torah, Israel, history, life-cycle events, holidays, ethics, comparative religion, music, dance, and arts and crafts.

Our adult programming includes a variety of adult education courses, including a basic Judaism course, an individualized Hebrew Program, a how-to series on many aspects of Jewish living, a Jewish wisdom literature course, an interfaith discussion group, and an open book discussion group. Past courses have included a text studies course, Biblical archaeology, the Jewish psyche, the Bible, the structure and meaning of the Jewish service, and Magic and Religion. All adult programs are tuition-free for congregation members and are available to non-members on a fee basis.

EAST BANK HAVURAH

3314 Shelburne Road

Baltimore, MD 21208

Phone: 410-764-6476

E-mail: sjsiegel613@verizon.net

Website: [Meetup.com/East-Bank-Havurah](https://www.meetup.com/East-Bank-Havurah)

Contacts: Stephen Siegel

Havurah; founded 1979; alternate week evening, morning Shabbat services; monthly study; Holidays

East Bank Havurah is an egalitarian fellowship of people of diverse backgrounds and ages seeking to practice Judaism in a joyful participatory manner. Spiritual growth, as individuals and as a community, is the cornerstone of our group. We take turns leading services and encourage members to expand their participation at their own pace. We were formed more than 30 years ago with the inspiration and guidance of Rabbi Zalman Schachter Shalomi, z"l. We meet every Shabbat (generally the 1st and 3rd Saturday morning and the 2nd and 4th Friday evening of the month), once a month to study texts (in English), and for most holidays. Once or twice a quarter we will have a chanting/meditation Shabbat service. We always include lots of singing in our services and, depending on who is leading the service, there will be varying amounts of innovative/spiritual/Renewal content. All of our services, and most other events, are followed by potluck vegetarian/dairy meals. We go away to a retreat center and explore innovative ways to personalize the process of teshuvah (return to our unique, holy soul-place).

FABRANGEN HAVURAH

7750 16th Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20012

Phone: 202-595-9138

Fax: 202-595-9138

E-mail: fabrangen@yahoo.com

Web site: www.Fabrangen.org

Contact: Clare Feinson, Coordinator

Havurah; founded 1970; weekly Shabbat morning service; monthly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; High Holiday services; Tzedakah Collectives.

Fabrangen is an egalitarian, participatory, and creative havurah founded in 1970. We are a diverse group of singles and families, both with and without children, and our 150 members enjoy a mix of tradition and innovation. Our name, adapted from a Yiddish word meaning "a joyous gathering," reflects our warm welcome to everyone who wishes to participate in our services and activities, without regard to age, race, religious upbringing, sexual orientation, family situation, or physical and mental ability.

Fabrangen integrates prayer, study, social action, tzedakah, and other aspects of Jewish life. We hold weekly Shabbat morning services based on a conservative-egalitarian structure, but which may include Hasidic songs, modern readings, and creative interpretations. Each week there is also a lively, thought-provoking participatory discussion of the weekly Torah portion led by a member of the community. Educational programs for children are held twice a month on Shabbat, and childcare and educational programs run concurrently with High Holiday services.

Because Fabrangen does not employ a rabbi or have a traditional synagogue structure, all members share equally in leading services and organizing community activities. A volunteer Steering Committee manages Fabrangen activities, with important decisions made by the group as a whole at community meetings. A part-time Coordinator handles day-to-day administration.

Holiday celebrations are an important part of Fabrangen. Our ticket-free High Holiday services are engaging and inspiring; our doors are open to everyone, and we serve the spiritual needs of over 1,000 people every year. Our other holiday celebrations, including Chanukah, Purim, and Simchat Torah, are famous for combining traditional observance with all-out fun. Many who join us at the High Holidays stay in touch during the year by visiting our website, www.fabrangen.org, and signing up to receive our free biweekly email announcements. This online resource calls attention to events and activities of interest to members and friends of Fabrangen.

An important aspect of the community is its commitment to social action. A group of members maintains a tzedakah collective, to provide guidance in charitable giving, and we provide long-term support to a family through our Project HOPE. Fabrangen also maintains strong ties with the Jewish Study Center, a continuing education service that helps adults explore and deepen their Jewish knowledge and commitment.

JEWISH STUDY CENTER

5505 Connecticut Ave. NW #180

Washington DC 20015

Phone: 202-332-1221

Email: info@jewishstudycenter.org

Website: www.jewishstudycenter.org

Contact: Zev Lewis

Adult Jewish education; founded in 1978, three sessions of 20 classes per year—in the fall, winter and spring; catalog available on website

The Jewish Study Center's mission is captured with four key words: Come learn with us. As we celebrate 36 years as an independent purveyor of creative adult Jewish education for people of all faiths, we invite you to join us for an eclectic mix of evening and weekend classes and special events. The Jewish Study Center offers a broad range of topics in an upbeat, friendly atmosphere where anyone, regardless of Jewish education level or current Jewish involvement, can feel comfortable learning.

We've won recognition for our warm, innovative approach to teaching and our impressive faculty, who are all volunteers.

Visit our website today and see what we have to offer!
The time to register is now.

KEHILA CHADASHA

Address: 2305 Eccleston Street

Silver Spring, MD 20902-5015

Website: www.e-kehila.org

Contact: Larry Frank

Phone: 301-681-4528

E-mail: larry@bfmarch.com

Membership contact: Laureen Kapin; membership@e-kehila.org

Sunday School Contact: Sharon Neubaur: schoolinfo@e-kehila.org
Spiritual Leader: Rabbi David Shneyer
Havurah; founded 1978; monthly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; Sunday school; open High Holiday services led by Rabbi David Shneyer

Kehila Chadasha (“a new community”) encourages celebration, learning and intellectual exploration, social action, egalitarianism, and openness in the context of a small Jewish community.

While the community, founded in 1978, cherishes its Jewish heritage, history and traditions, its approach to all these is non-dogmatic. Community members feel comfortable with diverse beliefs and welcome the opportunity to freely explore, critique, and absorb new knowledge. On Sunday mornings between the months of September and June, while children attend a creative Sunday school, adults discuss topics ranging from ancient Israelite history to biomedical ethics. Professors from local Judaic Studies Departments and other disciplines are invited to lecture and lead discussions. Two Friday night Shabbat oneg programs are held each month, one for adults only and the other for members of all ages. Kehila’s annual retreat, held in a camp setting, is an opportunity for community building. Shabbat is celebrated, a Scholar-in-Residence teaches, and recreational activities add to the fun. Music, singing and dancing are integral parts of Kehila celebrations.

Kehila offers an educational program for children ages 5 through 16, emphasizing Jewish values, holidays and Hebrew reading skills. Curriculum enrichment is provided through special theme programs, music, arts and crafts, field trips and social action projects. The community’s teens participate in seminars to further their Jewish learning and assist in teaching younger grades. They also enjoy social activities including film parties, environmental clean-ups, and an annual trip to Jewish New York.

Kehila Chadasha is an intentionally small community of some 90 families. Although the community is member-directed, it engages Rabbi David Shneyer to serve as its spiritual leader. Kehila hosts High Holiday services for a wider non-affiliated public. Regular community activities are

held at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

OLNEY KEHILA JEWISH CONGREGATION

P.O. Box 852

Olney, MD 20830-0852

Phone: (301) 200-1818

E-mail: olneykehila@gmail.com

Website: www.olneykehila.org

President: Nancy Adise

Vice President: Michelle Layton

Education Director: Alex List

Spiritual Leader: Holly Shere

Founded Spring 2002

Olney Kehila is a vibrant, independent, inclusive Jewish congregation in Olney, Maryland, whose mission is to provide a religious school and a strong and supportive community that celebrates Jewish traditions, customs and culture. Congregants from all backgrounds are welcomed with warmth and respect.

Olney Kehila recognizes that Judaism is a blend of religious and social practices that have evolved across time and geography. With our members representing varied traditions and beliefs, we strive to observe and present Judaism in a way that is joyful and meaningful for all. We gather as a community to celebrate Shabbat, Jewish holidays, and life cycle events, with active participation and leadership by community members of all ages. We seek to understand and maintain the richness of Jewish tradition in a way that is meaningful and relevant for our lives today.

Olney Kehila was founded in Spring of 2002, and offers High Holiday services, monthly Friday night Shabbat services, weekly Religious School on Sunday Mornings for grades K-7, and life-cycle ritual and pastoral care.

SHORESHIM

P.O. Box 2516

Reston, VA 20195

Phone: 703-923-3424 and (571) 445-0563
E-mail: info@restonshoreshim.org
Website: www.restonshoreshim.org
Co-Presidents: Elliot Eder and Davood Sedaghatfar
Havurah; monthly Kabbalat Shabbat; annual High Holiday services; school; adult seminars; tzedakah fund and projects

Shoreshim is a small, inclusive Havurah based in Reston, Virginia. Founded in 1976, it provides an educational program for children and a focus for celebrations and study. We warmly welcome members from various Jewish backgrounds as well as interfaith families.

Families participate in a full range of educational, religious, cultural, and social activities, including monthly Shabbat celebrations. Members of the community take responsibility for planning the holiday and community Seders, and the annual retreat. Each family designs their own life-cycle events, such as baby namings and bar/bat mitzvot. Opportunities for active engagements in Tzedakah activities are provided for members. The religious school meets one afternoon per week with professional instructors. The curriculum emphasizes Jewish history, ethics, culture, Hebrew and creative arts. Adult discussion groups thrive, with topics ranging from the traditional Torah sources to modern Jewish literature. A small Youth Group engages in monthly Tzedakah projects.

Shoreshim provides High Holy Day Services free of charge and open to the community.

SHIRAT HANEFESH (Song of the Soul)

Community meets at:
North Chevy Chase Elementary School
3700 Jones Bridge Road, Chevy Chase, MD
Mailing address: PO Box 13834
Silver Spring, MD 20911-3834
240 997 3747 phone
301 587 0568 fax
Website: www.shirathanefesh.org
Email: info@shirathanefesh.org

Rabbi: Gerry Serotta
Cantor: Ramón Tasat
President: Karen Schlesinger

Pluralistic, open to all; Kabbalat Shabbat with music (including Kolot Halev choir services), Shabbat evening and morning services and Torah study, High Holy Day services, festival observances; Shabbat school grades pre-K-7, teen education program, B'nei Mitzvah preparation; annual retreat, community potlucks, Chesed Committee, interfaith Muslim-Jewish dialogue, social action, book discussions, adult classes.

Shirat HaNefesh an independent Jewish community that expresses its spirituality, faith and heritage through prayer, joyous songs, study, and Tikkun Olam (social action to repair the world). We welcome everyone, including interfaith families, regardless of what path has led them to Judaism: Jews by birth, Jews by choice, and non-Jews who wish to walk a Jewish path by participating in our community.

Under the guidance of Rabbi Gerry Serotta (Chair of Rabbis for Human Rights) and Hazzan (cantor) Ramón Tasat, Shirat HaNefesh provides interactive opportunities for Jewish learning and growth, starting with our cutting-edge experiential Shabbat program for grades K-7, through our innovative Hebrew and B'nei Mitzvah training, teen programs, and adult study. Members and clergy have led everything from a multi-part course in the history of Israel to a shofar-blowing workshop.

Our monthly Friday evening music service with choir-in-residence Kolot Halev (Voices of the Heart) attracts many in the community -- but music infuses all our worship, from our High Holiday services to our "backwards Seder" at Passover.

Shirat HaNefesh is governed by its members and gives all members an equal voice, believing that a strong community can listen to and consider diverse opinions in an atmosphere of respect and good faith. We welcome input from new members.

We hold Friday night and Saturday morning services, our Shabbat K-7 program, Wednesday and Skype Hebrew instruction, and High Holy Day services at North Chevy Chase Elementary School, 3700 Jones Bridge Road, Chevy Chase. Please see our website for our calendar of activities. We welcome anyone searching for a genuine community where they can explore what it means to be Jewish in an atmosphere that combines respect for tradition with openness to inquiry and reinterpretation.

TIKKUN LEIL SHABBAT

E-mail: tikkunleilshabbat@yahoo.com

Website: tikkunleilshabbat.blogspot.com

A songful, soulful, Sabbath services featuring a teaching about a social justice issue, followed by a potluck vegetarian dinner. People come to Tikkun Leil Shabbat to find a welcoming, restful, songful community where together we glimpse redemption at dusk on Friday evenings, eat things with tofu and noodles in them, learn from each others' thoughts and experiences, and educate ourselves about the good work people are already doing to make our city a gentler and fairer place for everyone who lives here.

Tikkun Leil Shabbat is a welcoming, restful, songful community where we glimpse redemption at dusk on a Friday evening, eat things with tofu and noodles in them, learn from each others' thoughts and experiences, and educate ourselves about the good work people are already doing to make our city a gentler and fairer place for everyone who lives here.

All of the services are fully egalitarian, full Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv with much singing. Micro variations to the words of the prayers are up to the person leading services. Sometimes we sit in a circle and the service is accompanied by acoustic guitar and percussion. Sometimes we sit facing East and the service is unaccompanied. The style of service is announced in advance.

Tikkun Leil Shabbat participants bring a wide range of

prayerbooks, including Conservative, Orthodox, Reconstructionist, Reform, and nondenominational siddurim, and some participants prefer to pray without a printed text. We provide copies of <http://www.chav.net/siddur/about.htm>" Siddur Chaveirim Kol Yisraeil ("the purple siddur"), which contain the text of the evening service in Hebrew, in English, and transliterated phonetically in English letters.

Part III: Resources

Am Kolel Judaic Resource and Renewal Center

19520 Darnestown Rd
Beallsville, Maryland 20839
Phone: 301-349-2799
FAX: 301-349-2744
Web: www.am-kolel.org
E-mail: info@am-kolel.org

Jewish Bookstore of Greater Washington

11252 Georgia Ave.
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone: 301-942-2237
E-mail: info@jewbooks.com

Elli-Chai's One stop Judaica in Wheaton

2305 University Blvd. W.
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone: 301-933-1800; 301-933-1800
Fax: 301-933-7466

Israeli Accents

4838 Boiling Brook Parkway
Rockville, Maryland 20852
Phone: 301-231-7999 or 800-420-9610
Web: www.israeliaccents.com

ALEPH-Alliance for Jewish Renewal

Administrative Offices:
7000 Lincoln Drive #B2
Philadelphia, PA 19119-3046
Phone: 1-215-247-9700; FAX, 1-215-247-9703
Web: www.aleph.org

JConnect

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington Jewish
Resources
Website: www.jconnect.org
jconnect@shalomdc.org
301-348-7356 (Maryland)
702- 286-1022 (Virginia)

Jewish Social Services Agency

Main Office
6123 Montrose Road
Rockville, MD 20852
Maryland, 301-881-4200; Northern Virginia, 703-204-9100
Website: www.jsaa.org

National Havurah Committee

7135 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19119-1842
215-248-1335//FAX 215-248-9760
E-mail: institute@havurah.org
Web: www.havurah.org

**Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater
Washington**

Bob Hausman
4000 Cathedral Ave. NW #322B
Washington, DC 20016
Web: www.jewish-funerals.org
rmhausman@gmail.com

Washington Jewish Healing Network

Website: www.wjhn.org
Tel: 202-966-7851
Email: washheal@comcast.net
Dr. Carol P. Hausman, Director
Rabbi Gilah Langner, Director

The Washington Jewish Healing Network offers spiritual support to people who are physically ill or in emotional pain. Free monthly spiritual support groups are available for loss and bereavement, and for people living with illness (both patients and caregivers). Healing mikveh workshops are held at the Adas Israel mikveh prior to Passover and Rosh Hashanah. Visit our website for more information, and please contact us if we can help.

Glossary of Hebrew and Yiddish Terms

Bar/Bat Mitzvah	Rite of Passage affirming commitment to community
Cheder	Study room (Yiddish, from the Hebrew for room)
Davven	Pray (Yiddish)
Erev Shabbat	Friday evening
Havurah	Fellowship group
Hevra	Friends
High Holiday	Rosh Hashana (Jewish New Year) Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)
Mitzvah	Commandment, good deed, right action
Niggun	Wordless melody
Kabbalat Shabbat	A short service welcoming the Sabbath
Oneg Shabbat	A relaxed, delightful gathering, usually with a meal on Shabbat
Shabbat	The Sabbath – Friday sundown to Saturday sundown
Tiffun olam	Repairing the world; an ancient Judaic value concept
Tzedakah	Righteous giving, usually of a material or financial nature; charitable acts
Yahrtzeit	The anniversary of the death of a dear one
Yizkor	The memorial service of the deceased

Some Jewish Web Sites

www.am-kolel.org

www.aleph.org (*Home site of Alliance for Jewish Renewal*)

www.VirtualJerusalem.com (*the place where Jews Click*)

www.Shamash.org (*The Jewish Network*)

www.Havurah.org (*National Havurah Committee*)

www.JOI.org (*The Jewish Outreach Institute*)

www.Ketubah.com (*a collection of Ketubot for your use*)

www.hebc.com

*Interactive Hebrew calendar; find any date, any year,
holidays and much more*

www.Torah.org

*Project Genesis
Torah on-line
Information super-highway*

www.Jewishmusic.com

*Tara Publications: catalog of Jewish music and mu-
sic and music publications*

www.socialaction.com

*Jewish volunteer service & social action, an on-line
Jewish magazine dedicated to pursuing justice,
building community and repairing the world*

www.shalomdc.org

Jewish Federation of Greater Washington

Calendar of Jewish Holidays
5775-5776

Holidays begin at sundown of the previous evening

Sept. 28- Oct. 4	Mon/Sun	Sukkot (Fall Harvest)	15-21 Tishri
Oct. 4	Sun	Hoshanah Rabbah	21 Tishri
Oct. 5	Mon	Semini Atzeret (Yizkor)	22 Tishri
Oct. 6	Tue	Simchat Torah	23 Tishri
Dec. 7	Mon	Chanukah	25 Kislev
2016			
Jan. 25	Mon	Tu B'Shevat (New Year of the Trees)	15 Shevat
Mar 24	Thu	Purim	14 Adar
Apr 23-30		Passover (Exodus from Egypt)	15-22 Nisan
Fri. Evening		1st Seder, Apr. 22	
Sat, Sun		First 2 days of Pesach, Apr. 24, 25	
Fri, Sat		Last 2 days of Pesach, Apr. 29, 30	
May 5	Thu	Yom HaShoa Holocaust remembrance	27 Nisan
May 12	Thu	Yom HaAtzma'ut Israel Independence Day	4 Iyar
May 26	Thu	Lag B'Omer	18 Iyar
Jun 5	Sun	Yom Yerushalayim	28 Iyar
Jun 12	Sun	Shavuot	6 Sivan
Aug 14	Sun	Tish'a B'Av Book of Lamantations	10 Av
Sep 24	Sat	Selichot	21 Elul
5777			
Oct 4	Tue	Rosh Hashana	1-2 Tishri

Calendar of Jewish Holidays
5775-5776

Holidays begin at sundown of the previous evening

2014 (5775)

Sept. 26/26	Th/Fr	Rosh Hoshana (New Year 5775)	1-2 Tishri
Oct. 4	Sat	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	10 Tishri
Fri	Evening		Kol Nidre
Sat	Daytime		Yizkor
Oct. 9-15	Th-Wed	Sukkot (Fall Harvest)	15-21 Tishri
Oct. 15	Wed	Hoshanah Rabbah	21 Tishri
Oct. 16	Th	Semini Atzeret (Yizkor)	22 Tishri
Oct. 17	Fri	Simchat Torah	23 Tishri
Dec. 17	Wed	Chanukah	25 Kislev

2015

Feb. 4	Wed	Tu B'Shevat (New Year for Trees)	15 Shevat
March 5	Thu	Purim	14 Adar
Apr. 4-11		Passover	15-22 Nisan
Fri Evening		1st Seder, April 3	
Sat/Sun		First 2 Days of Pesach, April 4, 5	
Fr/Sat		Last 2 Days of Pesach, April 10, 11	
April 16	Sun	Yom HaShoa Holocaust Remembrance	27 Nisan
Apr. 24	Fri	Yom HaAtzma'ut Israel Independence Day	5 Iyar
May 7	Th	Lag B'Omer	18 Iyar
May 17	Sun	Yom Yerushalayim	28 Iyar
May 24-25	Sun/Mon	Shavuot	6-7 Sivan
July 26	Tue	Tisha B'Av—Book of Lamentations	10 Av
Sept. 7	Mon	Selichot	23 Elul

5776

Sept. 14, 15	Mon/Tue	Rosh Hoshana (New Year 5776)	1-2 Tishri
Sept. 23	Wed	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	10 Tishri
Tue	Evening		Kol Nidre
Wed	Daytime		Yizkor