

The Directory of
**Independent Jewish
Communities and Havurot**
In Maryland, Washington DC and Virginia
2018/2020 5779/5780



הִנֵּה מַה טוֹב וְיָמָה נְעִימִים שְׂכֵבֵת אַחִים גַּם יַחַד

*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

INTRODUCTION

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

- 1) To provide a structure to share Judaic resources for 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 Jewish 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.

AM KOLEL

19520 Darnestown Road
Beallsville, MD 20839-3308
Phone: 301-349-2799
Fax: 301-349-2744

Email: admin@am-kolel.org

Website: www.am-kolel.org

Spiritual Leader/Director: Rabbi David Shneyer

A welcoming and diverse Jewish Renewal community serving Greater Washington. Shabbat services are held in Bethesda and once a month at the Sanctuary Retreat Center, Beallsville, MD. Life Cycle Events.

AM KOLEL SANCTUARY RETREAT CENTER

Management team, initial contact: Cyndi Leitner

Phone: 301-349-2799

Email: offmgr@am-kolel.org

Website: www.sanctuaryretreatcenter.com

Sanctuary Retreat Center open to all. Weddings, Retreats, Family Reunions, Spiritual Groups, Youth Groups, B'nai Mitzvah.

BET MISHPACHAH

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1410

Washington, DC 20013

Community meets at:

Washington DC Jewish Community Center

1529 16th Street N.W., Washington DC, 20036

Email: office@betmish.org

Website: www.betmish.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Laurie Green

President: David Schwarz

GLBT synagogue (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: 240-321-9737

Fax: 775-255-8210

Email: info@bethchai.org

Website: www.bethchai.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Deborah Bodin Cohen

President: Rob Rosenberg

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

Email: admin@bethesdaJewish.org

Website: www.bethesdajewish.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Elhanah 'Sunny' Schnitzer

President: Shoshanah Drake

Weekly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; school.

DC MINYAN

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 53291

Washington, DC 20009.

Email: info@dcminyan.org

Website: www.dcminyan.org

Community Relations: Zachary Stern

Education: Laura Yares

DC Minyan is a traditional egalitarian Jewish community. Weekly Shabbat services; life cycle events.

EAST BANK HAVURAH

2401 Diana Rd

Baltimore, MD 21209

Phone: 410-764-6476

Email: SJSiegel613@gmail.com

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

Contacts: Stephen Siegel

Havurah; alternate week evening, morning Shabbat services; monthly study; holidays.

FABRANGEN CHEDER COMMUNITY

Website: chedercommunity.org

Membership Coordinator: Moira McDonald

Email: chedercommunity@gmail.com

New contact: Neil Cohen? and Cyndi Brach?

Phone: 301-270-1092

Sunday Education.

FABRANGEN HAVURAH

7750 16th Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20012

Phone: 202-595-9138

Fax: 202-595-9138

Email: coordinator@fabrangen.org

Website: www.Fabrangen.org

Contact: Ariel Rubin, Coordinator

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

FAUQUIER JEWISH CONGREGATION

Mailing address:

PO Box 3162

Warrenton, VA 20188

Community meets at:

70 Main St.

Warrenton, VA 20188

Phone: 540-341-1844

Email: fauquierjc@gmail.com

Website: fauquierjewishcongregation.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi William "Bill" Rudolph

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.

FORT BELVOIR JEWISH CONGREGATION

C/O Office of the Staff Chaplain

5950 12th St

Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5539

Phone: 703-806-3393

Fax: 703-805-3342

Email: rabbirandybrown@gmail.com

Website: www.belvoir.army.mil/mainchapel/JewishCongregation/

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Randy Brown

We offer regular Friday evening services at 7:30pm. Our Saturday service is once a month and we have regular holiday dinner and celebrations.

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; offers eight-session beginner and intermediate courses; catalog available on website.

KEHILA CHADASHA

President: Laureen Kapin

Phone: 301-681-4528

Membership Chairs: Frances Davidson and Elissa Laitin

Email: membership@e-kehila.org

Website: www.e-kehila.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi David Shneyer

Havurah; monthly Friday evening kabbalat Shabbat; Sunday school; social action, open High Holiday services led by Rabbi David Shneyer.

MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

Mailing address:

PO Box 10573

Rockville, MD 20849

Community meets at:

Robert Frost Middle School

9201 Scott Drive, Rockville, Maryland

Phone: 240-720-9711

Email: msfje@yahoo.com

Contact: Felice Kobilinsky

Website: www.msfje.org

The Maryland School for Jewish Education serves the Washington DC metro area and provides students with an education about their Jewish heritage, customs and traditions.

MINYAN ONEG SHABBAT

4108 Military Rd. NW

Washington DC 20015

Phone: 202-362-3270

Email: minyanonegshabbat@gmail.com

Website: www.minyanonegshabbat.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Mark Novak

Minyan Oneg Shabbat promotes Judaism as spiritual practice. Fostering spiritual inquiry and discernment.

OLNEY KEHILA

P.O. Box 852

Olney, MD 20830-0852

Phone: (301) 200-1818

Email: olneykehila@gmail.com

Spiritual Leader: Rabbah Arlene Berger

Website: www.olneykehila.org

SHIRAT HANEFESH (Song of the Soul)

Mailing address:

PO Box 8681 Silver Spring, MD 20907-8681

Community meets at:

North Chevy Chase Christian Church

8814 Kensington Pkwy, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Phone: 240-292-9450

Email: info@shirathanefesh.org

Website: www.shirathanefesh.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Gilah Langner

Musical Shabbat and Holiday Services, social action, adult classes.

SIXTH & I HISTORIC SYNAGOGUE

600 I St NW

Washington DC 20001

Phone: 202-408-3100

Senior Rabbi: Shira Stutman

Director of Accounting and Administration: Irella Lawless

Email: ilawless@sixthandi.org

Website: www.sixthandi.org

Sixth and I celebrates intersections – the unexpected places where Jewish and secular culture meet.

SHORESHIM

P.O. Box 2516

Reston, VA 20195

Phone: 571-445-0563

Co- Presidents: Amy Joyce, Deb Kamins

Email: info@restonshoreshim.org

Website: www.restonshoreshim.org

Havurah; monthly Kabbalat Shabbat; annual High Holiday services; school; adult seminars; tzedakah fund and projects.

TIKKUN LEIL SHABBAT

Email: tikkunleilshabbat@yahoo.com

Website: tikkunleilshabbat.blogspot.com

Songful, soulful, Sabbath services featuring a teaching about a social justice issue and followed by a potluck vegetarian dinner.

NEW SYNAGOGUE PROJECT (interim name)

Email: info@newsynagogueproject.org

Website: newsynagogueproject.org

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Joseph Berman

Contact: Rebecca Ennen

A new Jewish community launching in Washington DC that is spiritually vibrant, radically inclusive, and reflects our vision for a world of justice, equity, and liberation.