



Wherever you are in  
your journey, you are  
welcome here.

## WEEKLY UPDATE

### **THE OMI LOBBY RENOVATION IS UNDERWAY!**

From January 2-8, **ALL** access to the building will be through the side door, there will be **NO ENTRY** through the **MAIN FRONT DOOR**. CJC **WILL** be holding services as usual. [Click here](#) for all the details!

### **ANNUAL DEDICATION CAMPAIGN**

Thank you to everyone that has contributed to the 2015 campaign.  
[Click here](#) for a list of 2015 contributors

### **CJC'S CHILI COOK OFF 2016**

**Yes, Virginia. There is homelessness in Howard County**

**Sunday, January 10, 2016 -- 10:45am - 1:15pm -- Oakland Mills HS**

What can you do? Come support CJC's in-house Chili Cook Off this Sunday. Taste the chili, tip your favorites and all winnings go to Bridges to Housing Stability. Hope to see you there! If you are interested in participating or want more information contact [Sandy Saperstein](#).

### **JANUARY TOT SHABBAT**

**Friday, January 8, 2016 -- 6:15pm**

**Saturday, January 16, 2016 -- 10:00am**

This is a special Shabbat service for preschoolers and their families. There are books read, stories told, prayers and plenty of singing - all intended to engage the preschooler and their older brothers and sisters, as well. Invite your friends!

### **TU B'SHEVAT POT LUCK SEDER**

**Sunday, January 24, 2016 -- 5:30pm**

On Tu B'Shevat we celebrate a New Year for the Trees, rejoicing in the fruit of the tree and the fruit of the vine, celebrating the splendid, abundant gifts of the natural world which give our senses delight and our bodies life. Please join us for a POT LUCK DINNER and this wonderful intergenerational, multi-sensory exploration of the importance of the environment, our connection to Israel, and the gift of life. [Click here](#) to register online. If you need assistance, please contact [Robin](#), 410-730-6044. Please confirm your attendance by January 20.

## CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

January 5-11, 2016

View the CJC monthly [calendar](#)

### Tuesday, January 5

7:00pm, CJC Board Meeting (East Branch, Howard County Library)

### Wednesday, January 6

### Thursday, January 7

### Friday, January 8

Light Candles, 4:21pm

6:15pm, [TOT Shabbat](#)

7:30pm, Shabbat Evening Service led by Rabbi Sonya Starr.

### Saturday, January 9

10:00am, Combining the intimacy of the lay-led Chavurah service with the beauty of our clergy-led service, we come together in one service - *B'Yachad!* Please join us as we celebrate the [completion of the book of Exodus](#). All are welcome!

### Sunday, January 10

9:45am, [Men's Club Meeting](#)

1:30pm, [Zahav Autobahn trip](#)

### Monday, January 11

12:15pm, Parshat Hashavua, Weekly Torah Portion with Rabbi Siegel

**Weekly Update Shortcuts! Easy access to the news you use!**

[Chavurah](#)

[CJC Youth](#)

[Adult Education](#)

[Keshet: Connection!](#)

[Adult Programming](#)

[Men's Club](#)

[Tikkun Olam and Tzedakah](#)

[Jewish Reconstructionist Communities](#)

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## CHAVURAH

To volunteer to co-lead a Chavurah service, prepare Drash or Leyn Torah, please [click here](#) to select your date.

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## CJC YOUTH

### CJC YOUTH GROUPS

**Kesef -- grades 3-5**

**Zahav -- grades 6-8**

**Baraisheet BBG -- girls grades 9-12**

**Patuxent AZA -- boys grades 9-12**

For the 2016 Youth Group brochure [click here!](#)

For the Howard County BBYO website [click here!](#)

### KESEF and ZAHAV

**February 7, 2016, 1:30pm**

[AvalancheXpress Snow Tubing](#), York, PA

### KESEF

**Sunday, January 31, 2016, 1:30pm**

[Monster Mini Golf](#), Jessup

### WHAT'S NEW FROM CAMP JRF?

Now is the time to register your kids for a joyful, creative, and inclusive Reconstructionist summer experience. Campers swim, play sports, sing and explore the arts, all while forming lasting friendships and forging their own

Jewish identities. [Apply now](#) for Summer 2016!

Experience Camp JRF with their new [promo video](#)!

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## **ADULT EDUCATION**

Thank you for great attendance for our Fall classes. Winter Adult Ed offerings will be announced soon.

### **FUTURE ADULT EDUCATION OFFERINGS**

#### **Exploring Judaism: A Reconstructionist Approach**

Based on the book by Jacob Staub and Rebecca T. Alpert

**Sunday, January 31, 2016 -- 9:00am**

CJCS/Oakland Mills High School

This discussion is ideal for everyone who wants to know more about Judaism. Whether you are a long-time participant in the Jewish community, a newcomer or someone who has struggled to find a home in Jewish life, this introduction to Jewish thought and practice from a Reconstructionist perspective will offer inspiration and guidance. You are encouraged, but not required, to read the book ahead of time. Book is available at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). For more information contact [Rabbi Sonya Starr](#), 410-730-6044. Please confirm your attendance with [Robin](#), 410-730-6044.

There is no charge to members for classes, except when a materials fee is noted, but it is essential that participants register one week before the class begins. Some classes require a minimum number of participants. To register for any and all of this season's classes contact the [CJC office](#), 410-730-6044.

### **THE PARABLE OF JESUS**

[Click here](#) for dates and times.

Rabbi Ilyse S. Kramer and Deacon Peter Barbernitz

**Short Stories by Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine**

Location: Oakland Mills Interfaith Center

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## ADULT PROGRAMMING

### CHAPTER 2 DAY TRIPPERS

For more information about Chapter 2 please contact [Charlene Levine](#)

### INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUES

**Sunday, January 17, 2016, 11:00am**

CJCS/Oakland Mills High School

Wouldn't it be great if our younger congregants could be exposed to older-grandparent age, perhaps - members' recollections of what life was like without internet, personal computers or cell phones? Wouldn't it be equally important for the younger group to talk with their "elders" about what life is like in the electronic age, in a time where threats of drugs and alcohol abuse, climate change, cyber bullies, cyber-predators and school violence are realities.

What can we teach each other? We are looking for people to support two new initiatives:

1. A one-time event where teenagers offer free technological support for seniors on all their electronic mobile devices. What can we teach each other?
2. An ongoing project to video teens as they interview our seniors about their lives, and perhaps take the opportunity to reflect on how their lives are similar or different.

Please consider whether you, and those you know, might be interested in developing either one of these initiatives. Ages fifteen to eighty (an arbitrary minimum and maximum which can be modified) are welcome. Please contact [Robin](#) or [Susan Cohen](#) if you want to help make these possibilities a reality.

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## MEN'S CLUB

**Next Meeting -- Sunday, January 10, 9:15am**

Building Interfaith dialogue in Howard County. An important opportunity to discuss the role of interfaith dialogue in Howard County. **Rabbi Ilyse S. Kramer** will share her thoughts and describe the work of Keshet: Connection! She will encourage discussion highlighting how CJC can be an active participant addressing common interests and aspirations across the faith community.

If you need a ride to the events please contact ride coordinator [Mike Levine](#).  
Have an idea for a future event? Contact [Fred Thomsen](#) or [Jim Caffey](#),  
For information about the Men's Club contact [Alex Ross](#), [Gary Toller](#) or  
[Fred Thomsen](#).

[Click here](#) for the 2016 Men's Club Calendar

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## **TIKKUN OLAM GREEN TEAM**

**Next Meeting: Sunday, January 17, 2016**

The Green Team usually meets the third Sunday of the month at 11:00am at Oakland Mills High School. For information on the Green Team contact [Bonnie Sorak](#), 443-799-0349.

## **SOUP KITCHEN**

Soup Kitchen will be held at Shepherd's Table the 4th Sunday of every month. Please contact Ronee Rothman, 410-730-8162 for more details.

**Next date: January 24, 2016**

## **GRASSROOTS**

### **Cooking for Grassroots**

CJC provides dinner for the 51 residents of the Grassroots Homeless Shelter in Columbia on the fourth Sunday of every month. The meal consists of one main course, two side dishes and an optional dessert. You do not need to take on the whole meal. We usually split the cooking between a few families each month. Your portion of the meal is prepared in your home and is brought to the shelter on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. We are looking for volunteers for **January 24** and **February 28**. If interested in participating, or if you have questions, please contact [Marlene Trossman](#), 443-535-9579.

## **CJC FAIR TRADE GIFT SHOP**

For all your gift-giving needs! Shop the Fair Trade Gift shop for unigue kippot, jewelry, home accessories, Judaica, coffee, chocolate and so much more!

### **Hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday                      9:30am - 5:00pm

Friday

9:30am - 12:30pm

**CJC Note Cards** designed by CJC members Roz Zinner, Susan Cohen and Gabrielle Yanovitz are available in the CJC office. [Click here](#) for designs!

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## **TZEDAKAH FUND**

### **GIANT SCRIP**

Buy Giant scrip (gift cards) and support the CJC Tzedakah Fund. Giant scrip may be purchased at the CJC office during regular hours and at CJC events. It is available in \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations and is used just like cash at the supermarket. The net cost to you is \$0 and the congregation receives 5% back on all purchases, all of which goes to the *Tzedakah* Fund. Since the scrip is a gift card, equivalent to cash, only cash or checks will be accepted for purchases. And, if you are able to volunteer to sell Giant scrip, please contact [Sue Morss](#), 410-997-1099.

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## **JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST COMMUNITIES**

[click here](#) for Updates from the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

### **"WRESTLING WITH JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD" CONFERENCE AND SHABBATON**

Join us **April 8-11, 2016** in Philadelphia as we explore Jewish peoplehood. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

### **HEVREH**

For the second year in a row, members of Reconstructionist communities are invited to participate in Hevreh, a retreat for adult Jewish learners. The 2016 retreat will take place **July 13-17, 2016** at Capital Camps in Waynesboro, PA. Registration information will be available soon.

### **TIKKUN MIDOT -- Cultivating Our Character**

Jewish Reconstructionist Communities are participating in a *Tikkun Middot* program, with the goal of introducing the Jewish practice of *Musar*. [Learn more](#) or [sign up](#) to receive the "*Middah* of the Month".

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## OAKLAND MILLS INTERFAITH CENTER

### OUR TREES ARE PLANTED!

The trees will need to be watered. If you can help with this please go to [OMI Tree Watering Brigade](#). [Click here](#) to see photos from the day!

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## JEWISH FEDERATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

[Click here](#) for a list of upcoming Federation events

### COMMUNITY BEREAVEMENT GROUPS

Sol Levinson & Brothers and Jewish Community Services are offering community bereavement groups beginning this fall. Groups meet for eight sessions providing a welcoming environment in which people who are mourning the death of a loved one can address their feelings and concerns. Free of charge. Pre-registration is required. For information call JCS, 410-466-9200 or visit [sollevinson.com](http://sollevinson.com).

### THE JEWISH EMERGENCY NETWORK

When some of our Jewish neighbors face eviction, utility turn-off, and hunger, YOU can make a world of difference! If you'd like to make a difference in the life of a neighbor in need, please send an email to [Jewish Emergency Network](#) so that you will be notified when there is a financial emergency in the Howard County Jewish Community. There is no obligation to respond to requests, and pledges of any amount are accepted.

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## COMMUNITY

### EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION & JEWISH CULTURAL ARTS OUTREACH

#### George Washington University

An MA that brings together Jewish culture, art, and education, with internships at top-notch organizations, and up to 85% tuition support. What's not to like? Check out the Program in [Experiential Education & Jewish Cultural Arts](#) at George Washington University.



## **FREE CONCERT IN MEMORY OF DEBBIE FRIEDMAN**

**Sunday, January 10, 2016 -- 7:00pm**

DC area song-leaders invite you to an "Evening of Song" celebrating the beautiful music and spirit of Debbie Friedman. [Click here](#) for more information regarding this free event open to the entire community.

## **ONLINE SUPPORT GROUPS**

Jewish Family Services in Greenwich, CT provides online groups that are run by experienced, licensed social workers and offer the same supportive group dynamic as in-person gatherings. Online video support groups are terrific for people who cannot easily get out of their house due to chronic illness or caregiving responsibilities. For more information please contact [Naomi Kohl](#) or check out our [website](#). You can [register here](#).

## **JSSA WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN, TEENS, ADULTS & INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

JSSA's workshops and groups offerings cover a wide range of learning, behavioral, emotional, social and physical challenges for all ages. Participating in a workshop or group provides an opportunity to learn from our highly skilled professionals and to share with others who are facing similar challenges. [Click here](#) for more information.

## **50+ LGBT SUPPORT & SOCIAL GROUP**

**1st THURSDAY, MONTHLY, 6:00pm-8:00pm**

Providing the 50+ Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender community with support, resources and conversation in a welcoming, safe and confidential setting. We will meet 6:00-8pm the 1st. Thursday of each month. Questions or to confirm attendance please contact group facilitator: [Jessica Rowe](#), LCSW-C, 443-980-2914

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Kugel Connection, Inc. needs your help! This non-profit social action organization launched last year to assist senior citizens in the Howard County area. The first year was a huge success with over 30 seniors benefiting from what Kugel Connection has to offer. As Kugel Connection's client base increases, so does the need for additional volunteers. Volunteer responsibilities could be to: shop for or assist a senior in obtaining their

groceries; provide transportation to and from a social event; become a phone or in-person companion or other related Tzedakah acts of kindness. To learn more or if you want to help, please contact Cheryl Kaufman, 443-745-2866 or [info@kugelconnection.com](mailto:info@kugelconnection.com).

### **SPONSORCHANGE.ORG**

Sponsorchange.org has a program that connects people who have student loans with nonprofits that need volunteers. The idea is that one can volunteer and in so doing pay down one's student loans. Donors to the nonprofit pay down the student loans of those who volunteer for that non-profit. For more information [click here](#).

### **YOU CAN MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE...**

Neighbor Ride is a volunteer-based nonprofit dedicated to decreasing isolation and improving the quality of life for Howard County seniors by providing transportation for health care appointments, cultural and social activities, volunteer commitments, shopping, fitness and language classes, religious services and other personal needs. Contact Rosemary Noble or Patrice Cerwonka at (410) 884-7433 or [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information. You may also visit us on the web at [www.neighborride.org](http://www.neighborride.org).

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### **CJC Contact Information**

When you call the office, you may either reach staff or leave a voice mail message by dialing the following extensions:

[CJC Office](#), 410-730-6044

[Rabbi Sonya Starr](#), ext. 1, 410-660-9432

[Cantor Jan Morrison](#), ext. 2, 410-599-4901

[Robin Rosenfeld](#), ext 4

[Leslie Van Hasselt](#), ext. 3

[Rabbi Ilyse Kramer](#), Director, Keshet: Connection!

[Dave Yanovitz](#), Youth Group Coordinator

[Jerry Kiewe](#), CJCS Educational Director, 410-294-3205

[Columbia Jewish Community School](#), 410-730-6044, ext. 5

[Stuart Berlin](#) CJC President

[General Synagogue Information](#)

#### **CJC Office Hours**

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Tuesdays: 9:00am - 9:00pm

Fridays: 9:00am - 1:00pm

FOLLOW CJC ON FACEBOOK!

