



December 5 – December 11, 1997

Friday, December 5

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM – 88th Street

ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted Service

Aleph Class Dinner 6:00 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:45 PM – 86th Street

Dinner and Study with Dr. Marcia Falk
Following Services – 88th Street

Saturday, December 6

Shabbat Services 9:30 AM – 86th Street

ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted Service

Parashah: Vayetze, Genesis 28:10 – 32:3 Pg. 194

Triennial: Genesis 31:17 – 32:3 Pg. 210

Haftarah: Hosea 12:13 – 14:10 Pg. 344

Minyan Hazzanut (ages 8-12) 10:15 AM – Chapel

Children's Services (all ages) 10:45 AM – Chapel

Following the service these minyanim meet:

Minyan HaK'tanim (pre-K, ages 2-4) Parlor Room

Minyan Gan Aleph (ages 5-7) Board Room

Naming of Joshua Gabriel Nodiff

Speaker: Ron Young
Executive Director, U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East

Kids Havdalah Program 3:30 PM – 86th Street

Study and Havdalah with Dr. Marcia Falk
4:15 PM – 88th Street

ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted

Gay and Lesbian Havdalah Study Group 5:00 PM – 430 West 119th Street (at Amsterdam Ave.), #47

Sunday, December 7

BJ/St. Luke's AIDS Brunch 11:00 AM – 86th Street

BJCOTs 6:00 PM – 86th Street

Monday, December 8

BJ/SPSA Shelter for the Homeless 86th Street

Monday, & Thursday nights.

Introduction to Judaism 6:30 PM – 88th Street

Beit Midrash 6:30 PM – 88th Street

Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM – 86th Street

Tuesday, December 9

Talmud with Rabbi Hillel Friedman 8:10 AM – 88th Street

BJ/SPSA Shelter for the Homeless 88th Street

Tuesday & Wednesday nights.

Employment Bank Support Group 6:30 PM – Montana Apartment Building

Volunteerism vs. Professionalism with Rabbi Bronstein
6:30 PM – 88th Street

Wednesday, December 10

Kesharim 2:00 PM – 88th Street

Theology and Meaning in the Prayerbook with Rabbi Matalon 6:45 PM – 88th Street

Thursday, December 11

Lunch Program 8:30 AM – 88th Street

Parashat Hashavuah 6:30 PM – 86th Street

Committee Chairs Meeting 7:00 PM – 88th Street

Next Week's Parashah: Vayishlah
Torah: Genesis 32:4 – 36:43 Pg. 217
Triennial: Genesis 35:16 – 36:43 Pg. 233
Haftarah: Hosea 11:7 – 12:12 Pg. 349

SCHEDULE FOR MORNING MINYAN
Monday - Friday - 7:30 AM – 88th Street
Sun & Nat'l Holidays - 9:30 AM – 88th Street

Volunteer Opportunity of the Week

Volunteerism versus Professionalism

Join Rabbi Bronstein, along with Marion Dienstag (BJ's Executive Director) and Patty Goldstick (BJ's Director of Programming and Volunteers), for 4 workshops on the respective roles of volunteers and professionals in building and maintaining a holy community. This workshop, beginning **December 9th**, is especially recommended for BJ volunteers, Committee Chairs, Jewish communal professionals, as well as all those interested in expanding their participation in the BJ community. No registration is necessary. Just join us on Tuesday, **December 9th** at 6:30 PM at 257 West 88th Street.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please call our office to let us know about family events such as births, celebrations, illness, or death, so that we can inform the Rabbis and make the appropriate announcement to our Community.

Attention: All announcements, blurbs or flyers for the next Kol Jeshurun are due at the BJ office on the Tuesday before printing at 12:00 noon.

Condolences

The Community of B'nai Jeshurun extends its sincere condolences to the following BJ members and their families:

- Jacqueline Barnathan on the death of her beloved father, Julius Barnathan.
- Abraham, Evelyn, Robert and Jonathan Silin on the death of Abraham's beloved sister, Brina Schwartz.

Mazal Tov To:

- Gabriel and Katherine Boyar on the birth of their daughter, Allison Mae Boyar.
- Sam Weintraub and Susan Sanders, and Gabriel Weintraub, on the birth of their son and brother, Daniel Lev Weintraub.
- Debra Nodiff on the naming of her son, Joshua Gabriel.
- Richard Koffler and Lauren Skopov on their recent engagement.
- Steven Lehrman and Naomi Brunn, Harold and Helen Lehrman, Mark Lehrman and Marya Pollack on Steven and Naomi's recent engagement.
- Jared Thaler and Joy Batashoff, Alvin, Pat, Shmuel, and Jonathan Thaler on Jared and Joy's recent engagement.

Brukhim Ha'Baim To:

- Rabbi Daniel Nevins, Youth Director Marc Kay, and the Confirmation Class of Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills, Michigan.
- Malka Drucker and Chavurah Beth Chai of Northern Westchester.

Apartment Needed

A senior, out-of-town couple wishes to be near their daughter who is ill. They are seeking an apartment close to BJ for intermittent use now and in the foreseeable future (please inquire of friends who may be away for all or part of the winter). Call and leave a message at (212) 724-9197.

Help Make BJCOTs Annual Toy Drive a Success!

BJCOTs is collecting toys for boys and girls, ages 4 to 12, at the Grosvenor Neighborhood House. Toys should be new, wrapped in Hanukkah paper, and securely marked with the appropriate age and sex. No guns or weapons, please; if your toy is a doll, an ethnic doll would be appreciated. Drop off toys at Shabbat services from **December 12th** through **January 10th** or at the BJ Hebrew School from **December**

8th through **January 8th**.

Two Hours a Month, Two Hundred Mitzvah Points

For several years, we have provided a monthly brunch for people with AIDS at St. Luke's Hospital. The committee needs your help – we are looking for a coordinator and volunteers to assume responsibility for this extremely worthwhile project. It's the first Sunday of every month and all it takes is some phone calling, menu planning, and volunteer coordination. Please call Patty at x240 to discuss the project in greater detail and to arrange a meeting with the current committee leaders.

The Homeless Shelter Needs Your Help

The BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter has returned to the Synagogue at 88th Street on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. With the colder weather approaching, we need additional people to staff the Shelter. Volunteers are needed to prepare light snacks, set up the Shelter, and, most urgently, to sleep over. Please call John Morris at (212) 479-6228 or Barbara Blumenthal at (212) 265-0396 to volunteer.

Modern Hebrew

Join our on-going beginner and intermediate levels of Modern Hebrew with a Touch of Israeli Culture. Beginners: Thursdays, 8:00 PM; Intermediate: Thursdays: 6:30 PM. Morning classes are being organized. Call Michal Nachmany at (212) 865-4050.

Hanukkah Gift for BJ Music Lovers

The CD *Celestial Wedding*, by the Israeli musical group Sheva, one of whose members performed at Friday Evening Services on November 7th, is available for purchase at the BJ office for \$18. A perfect gift for Hanukkah, this CD features the popular song "Salaam" (Od Yavo Shalom). If you would like to purchase one, bring a check or cash to the office, but call (212) 787-7600 first to check on availability.

Hebrew School Food Collection for the Month of Kislev

This month the BJ Hebrew School is collecting **Shabbat and/or Hanukkah candles** for Dorot. Food drop-off points will be at the BJ Offices at 100A West 89th Street, or at the Hebrew School at 270 West 89th Street. Please do not bring any donations to the synagogue. Thank you for your support

Help a Young Child Become a Reader

The BJ/PS 166 Tutoring Program is in need of tutors to work individually with children who need help in reading. Training, materials and supervision will be provided. We need volunteers who can teach on Mondays (12:30 – 1:30) and/or Wednesdays (12:30 – 1:30). Please call Audrey Sieger at (212) 595-8756 or Beth Handler (212) 316 –1168.

Torah and Haftarah Cantillation Classes

Cantor Deborah Togut is offering classes in Torah cantillation Mondays 6:30 PM at the BJ Office and Thursdays 5:30 PM in members' homes. She is teaching Haftarah cantillation Mondays 7:45 PM and Thursdays 6:30 PM. To register and for more information, please call Deborah at x341.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Marcia Falk Comes to BJ as Teacher-in-Residence

BJ is proud to welcome renowned poet, translator, and Judaic scholar Marcia Falk, author of *The Book of Blessings: New Jewish Prayers for Daily Life, the Sabbath, and the New Moon Festival*, as Teacher-in-Residence for this Shabbat, **December 5th – 6th**. Dr. Falk will join us for a communal Shabbat meal following the 6:00 PM Service at 88th Street. The service, dinner, and all sessions with Dr. Falk will be ASL interpreted. **The dinner is full, and, unfortunately, we cannot accommodate walk-ins.** Dr. Falk will also address the congregation at Shabbat Morning Services, and at 4:15 PM on Saturday she will give a lecture at 88th Street followed by Havdalah. This lecture is free and open to the public.

BJ/St. Luke's Hospital AIDS Brunch

The next BJ/St. Luke's Hospital AIDS Brunch will take place Sunday, **December 7th** at 11:15 AM at the hospital. Volunteers, food donations, and entertainers are needed. Food donations will be picked up at SPSA (86th Street side) between 10:30 - 11:00 AM. Please call Stuart Post at (212) 447-1672 for more information. Calls are accepted at any time. Please leave a message if machine answers.

New Israel Fund Benefit

New Generations of the New Israel Fund invites you to support democracy and pluralism in Israel by joining us for a benefit on Tuesday, **December 9th** at 8:00 PM. The event will take place at the Angel Orensanz Foundation on the Lower East Side and will feature live Klezmer music. Tickets begin at \$125 per person and the proceeds benefit the New Israel Fund. For reservations and information, please contact Bruce Tempkin at (212) 750-2333, or by email: bruce@nifny.org.

Kesharim

At our next session, Wednesday, **December 10th**, Sherry

Volleyball Players Wanted

(Experience helpful but not necessary). BJ has joined Anshe Chesed in sponsoring a weekly evening of volleyball. We play every Tuesday night – through rain or snow or gloom of night, 7:30 – 10:00 at Anshe Chesed (251 West 100th Street, at WEA) throughout the winter. \$3 members/\$5 non-members. All levels of skill and relationship status welcome. For more info, or to confirm if we are playing on any particular Tuesday, call BJ member Craig Sumberg on Tuesday at (212) 787-1390.

Kohn, a licensed massage therapist, will discuss simple massage and stretching that can be done at home for yourself or a loved one. On **December 17th**, Kesharim is going on the road to the Council Senior Center at 241 West 72nd Street for a Hanukkah Party. We will meet at the Center. Everyone is welcome at Kesharim, and there is always discussion and refreshments.

Attention Homeless Shelter Volunteers

If Hanukkah is coming . . . so is our annual Holiday Party! Monday evening, **December 15th** – please reserve the date. All volunteers or perspective volunteers are welcome. Please arrive by 7:15 PM and bring a desert to share (4-6 people) for the pastry table. This is a chance for all of us to share with our guests a festive meal, songs, and conversation. The party will be held in the SPSA social hall. If you have any questions, please call Shelley Bernard at (212) 724-5168.

Pre-Hanukkah Happening

Join the BJ community on Thursday, **December 18th**, 5:45 PM at 88th Street for an evening of study, singing, dancing, food, and fun. Please bring a board book for infants to 4-year-olds to donate to children in a new literacy program at the Columbia Presbyterian Hospital Clinic. For more information, see the flyer at the back of the Kol Jeshurun.

New Year's Eve Party

We are planning a New Year's Eve Party on **December 31st** at 9:00 PM for singles, couples, and their friends. The evening will include dinner, champagne, party favors, live music, and dancing, all for \$50. Join us for the fun and festivities. In order to make this happen, we need to know as soon as possible *if there is enough interest so we can plan accordingly*. If you are interested, call Mitch Flaum at (212) 496-3703 **no later than December 11th**.

SINGLES ACTIVITIES

Save the Date for Singles Night at the Theatre

Join us for *That's Life*, a witty, contemporary musical revue about being Jewish in America, Saturday night, **December 13th**. See the back of the Kol Jeshurun for details.

Swinging Singles!

Get into the swing on **December 14th**! BJ and Anshe Chesed pair up for a night of Swing dancing. Bring your dancing shoes to Anshe Chesed (100th and WEA). Instruction by Dance Pro Debbie Elkins from 7:30 – 8:30 PM then open dancing till 10:00 PM. Cost: \$10 BJ/AC members; \$15 non-members. No pre-registration necessary

but admission limited to first 150 people.

Love and the Kabbalah

On Wednesday, **December 17th**, the Singles Committee hosts a lecture – followed by a book signing and a wine and cheese reception – by Rabbi David Aaron, author of *Endless Light: The Ancient Path of the Kabbalah to Love, Spiritual Growth, and Personal Power*. Rabbi Aaron, founder and dean of the Isralight Institute in Jerusalem, interprets Jewish texts with particular emphasis on questions of how to live a meaningful life and the process of love. The program to be held at the Montana, Broadway between 87th and 88th Streets, begins at 7:30 PM. \$10 members, \$15 non-members.

Singles Shabbat Dinner

BJ Singles will hold their next catered Shabbat dinner on

Friday, **December 19th** at 88th Street following the 6:00 PM service. The cost is \$20 for BJ members; \$25 for non-members (priority is given to members and is on a first come, first serve basis as space is limited). Please send your check, marked “12/19 Singles Dinner” to the BJ Office. Please include a day and evening phone number, email address and indicate your membership status. Checks must be received by noon on Monday, **December 15th**. No exceptions can be made. You will only be contacted if we cannot accommodate you. For more information, call x306.

Singles Trip to Israel

Save the Date for the first BJ Singles Trip to Israel, tentatively **May 7 – 17, 1998**. Details to follow.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Shabbat Afternoon Fun and Games – JUST FOR KIDS!

All kids (grades kindergarten through 7) are invited for a Shabbat afternoon of fun and games this Saturday, **December 6th** from 3:30 – 5:30 PM at 86th Street. Parents are invited to conclude the afternoon with Havdalah at 5:00 PM. Please RSVP at x6. 7th graders are asked to be helpers.

BJ's Junior Youth Group

This Saturday, **December 6th** at 3:30 PM the Junior Youth Group will have a special afternoon of fun and games and then join all the kids of BJ for Havdalah. Following Havdalah, watch a movie, and have pizza and popcorn. Parents are asked to bring \$5 for dinner when they pick their child up at 8:00 PM at SPSA. (Please do not bring the money on Shabbat) Call Daniel Barash to RSVP at (212) 388-2918.

BJCOTs

BJCOTs will meet this Sunday, **December 7th** at 6:00 PM in the Parlor Room at SPSA. Please bring \$20 – we're collecting money so we can have a food fund for the year. See you then. BJCOTs is the B'nai Jeshurun Council of

Teens, and teens in 8th grade and above are encouraged to join. Call Felicia at x244 for info.

Family Service and Dinner

Every month, BJ offers a special Family Service at 5:45 PM at 86th Street, geared toward children 2nd grade and under, followed by a catered Family Shabbat dinner. Part of making Shabbat a joyous experience is celebrating together. The next Family Service and Dinner will be Friday, **December 12th** and reservations are honored on a first come first served basis. Please note that while the Service is still at 86th Street, the Dinner has been moved to **88th Street**. Call Felicia at x244 for more information. Flyers can be found on the back table.

New and Expecting Parents

The next New and Expecting Parents Luncheon will be in the Parlor Room at SPSA, Saturday, **December 13th** following Shabbat morning services. Please bring lunch for you and your family and arrive by 12:45 PM. Call Judith Kahn at (212) 769-3681 for more information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Questions for Board Members?

Liz Stern and Herb Levy are available during December to answer questions that members may have about the Board, or to discuss issues affecting the BJ community. You may reach Liz at (212) 724-1904 or Herb at (212) 370-4950.

Expanded Rabbinate, No Waiting!

BJ's Rabbinic interns are available for counseling, questions, or just to chat. Mark Sameth (x319), by appointment Wed. afternoons, Tami Crystal (x334) by appointment, Mon.-Thurs. afternoons and evenings, and Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Rabbinic Fellow, Shoshana Dworsky (x337), Wednesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM and 5:00 – 7:00 PM or by appointment. Please call.

Special Needs/Reserved Seating:

If you have special needs (such as physical, hearing, or visual disabilities) and are in need of reserved seating (aisle, close to the front, etc.) for Shabbat Services, please let us know. Call the BJ Office voice mailbox, x320.

Transliterations:

For those of you attending Shabbat services who are not completely comfortable reading the Hebrew but still want to join in the singing and chanting, we have inserted transliterations in our siddurim.

Damaged Prayerbook?

If you find a siddur or Chumash that is in shabby condition, or damaged in any way (torn pages, etc.), please give it to an usher so that it can be repaired.

MEMBER/AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES

Divorce Support Group for Men

In response to the great discussions that began on the Single's Retreat, a new support group is forming at BJ for divorced men. Please call Harvey Friedman at 787-8233 to participate or if you would like further information.

Older Adult Psychotherapy

The highly trained, caring staff of OATS (Older Adult Treatment Service) Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy, dedicated to the mental health and well being of adults over age 60, can provide psychotherapy at a clinic, private offices, or your home. Medicare accepted. Call Laura Clines at (212) 333-3444

New Book, New Play

BJ member Arthur Sainer's *New Radical Theatre Notebook* is in bookstores now. *The Burning Out of 82*, set on the beach at Wellfleet and the Soviet Gulag, has opened and is running through **December 20th**. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, 8:00 PM, and Sunday, **December 7th** and **14th** at the Theater for the New City, First Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Tickets are \$10; for reservations, call (212) 254-1109.

Judaica Crafts Festival

Anshe Chesed invites the community to a festival showcasing the work of local and internationally acclaimed Judaic artisans. Artwork will be available for purchase. Saturday, **December 6th**, 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM, \$12.50 (wine and hor d'oeuvres reception). Sunday **December 7th**, 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM, \$5 adults, \$2.50 children (including many activities for children), at Anshe Chesed (251 W. 100th St.). For more info, call (212) 865-0600.

Storytelling

BJ member and storyteller Peninnah Schram will teach a 4 hour workshop on "There's a Story in Your Name" on Sunday, **December 7th** from 10 AM to 2 PM in the Warburg Lounge at the 92nd Street Y. Advance registration is necessary. For tickets to both events, call (212) 996-1100.

Pluralism in Israel

On **December 7th**, 1:00 – 6:00 PM at the Matilda Schechter Dormitory of JTS (415 W. 120th St.), you are invited to attend an afternoon of study and discussion on the topic "Religious Pluralism in the State of Israel." Our speakers will include spokespeople, scholars, and leaders of the Masorti Movement in Israel. Included will be singing and lunch. The event is free

(including lunch), but you must call Hezi Nir at (212) 533-7800 x2021 or (212) 339-6920 to reserve.

Being Jewish

In *A Symposium on Being Jewish*, filmmaker Jonathan Perlman travels around the world speaking with renowned Jewish poets, philosophers, theologians, and public figures. Some of these segments feature our beloved Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer. The film will be shown in eight half-hour episodes on WLIW, Channel 21 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM on Sunday **December 7th** and Sunday **December 14th**.

Children of Holocaust Survivors – 2nd Meeting

The first gathering of BJ Children of Holocaust Survivors was a great success, and a second meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, **December 11th** at 7:00 PM. If your parents were refugees, hidden children, or concentration camp detainees, and you are curious if others whose parents survived the Holocaust share your childhood (and adult) experiences, then please come! Call Mark Schleisner at (212) 579-7391 for more information. If enough people respond, a second group may be formed which will meet on Tuesdays.

Holocaust Stories

BJ member Rachel Wineberg is co-directing *Holocaust Stories*, a haunting dance/theater production conceived and choreographed by Gabriella Lansner, text by Bertolt Brecht and Cynthia Ozick. Performance dates are Wednesday **December 17th** – Saturday **December 20th** at 8:00 PM and Sunday, **December 21st** at 4:00 PM at HERE, 145 Sixth Avenue (South of Spring Street at Dominick). Tickets: \$12. Call for reservations: (212) 647-0202.

BJ Eastsiders

BJ Eastsiders is having a musicale on Sunday, **January 11, 1998** from 7:30 to 10:00 PM at the home of one of our members. The program will include performances by members of our havurah, such as Shari Wagner, a professional jazz singer and acoustic guitarist, Richard Seaman, a pianist/composer/singer, Gail Buchwald, and Barry Carman, a pianist. Homemade refreshments will be served. Admission is \$10. For reservations, location, payment, and more info, please call Charlotte Schwab at (212) 717-5234 any evening but Shabbat, between 7:00 and 9:00 PM ONLY. You do not need to be a member of our havurah to attend. Space is limited, so please reserve early.

Ecological Suggestion of the Week

To conserve energy, turn off lights, appliances, and machines when not in use.

Pesukim of the Week

“Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely Adonai is present in this place, and I did not know it!’ Shaken, he said, ‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the abode of God, and that is the gateway to heaven.’”

(Genesis 28:16-17)

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