



VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI, SHABBAT HA'HODESH

ANNUAL: Exodus 35:1 - 40:38
TRIENNIAL: Exodus 39:22 - 40:38
HAFTARAH: Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18

NEXT WEEK: VAYIKRA

ANNUAL: Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26
TRIENNIAL: Leviticus 4:27 - 5:26
HAFTARAH: Isaiah 43:21 - 44:23

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY
 OF THE WEEK

WANTED: People who love to knit and crochet for the Judith Bernstein Lunch Program

You may remember that this past winter we distributed 150 holiday gift packages for our lunch program guests. Each package included a warm hat, scarf, or gloves, many of them hand-made and contributed by BJ members and friends.

We want to do even better this year! That's why we need your help. If you like to knit or crochet, we hope you'll make hats and scarves for our holiday packages. It's a great opportunity to use up leftover yarn and do a most appreciated mitzvah. Let's get started!

If you have questions, please contact Susan Samuels at x338 or sssamuels@aol.com.

Finished items should be brought to the Ansonia BJ Office at 2109 Broadway: c/o Judith Bernstein Lunch Program.

Thanks, as always for your help!

*Volunteers of the
 Judith Bernstein Lunch Program*

RABBIS

Marshall T. Meyer (1985-1993)
 J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

CANTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS

Rabbi Meir Feldman • Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman • Kliel Rose

March 19 - March 26, 2004

27 Adar - 4 Nisan 5764

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Tot Shabbat (p. 3) 5:45 PM – 86th St.
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM – 88th St.
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:45 PM – 86th St.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Shabbat Service 9:30 AM – 86th St.
 Bat Mitzvah Rebecca Halfon
 Aliyot Hatan veKallah Alejandro Lacreu and Sandi Berger
 Matthew Elefant and Tammy Pessin
 Mark Weiss and Allison Baker
 Alejandra Naftal, Memoria Abierta, Argentina
 Children's Service 10:45 AM – 86th St.
 Mevarkhim HaHodesh Leaning and Lunch (p. 2) 12:30 PM – 88th St.
 Night of 100 Dinners
 Dessert and Dancing 9:00 PM – 88th St.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.
 Pre-Pesah Family Sing-Along (p. 3) 10:00 AM – 88th St., Frankel Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 22

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Class: Introduction to Judaism, Rabbi Zimmerman 7:00 PM – 86th St.
 Class: Yaakov Became Yisra'el, Rabbi Feldman 7:00 PM – 86th St.
 Rosh Hodesh Women's Group 7:00 PM – 88th St.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Geshet and 8th Grade 5:00 PM – BJ Office

ROSH HODESH NISAN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Class: Psalms, Rabbi Sol 12:30 PM – BJ Office
 Kesharim 2:00 PM – 88th St.
 Class: Hassidic Teachings about Pesah, Rabbi Matalon 6:30 PM – 88th St.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St.
 Class: Parashat HaShavua, Kliel Rose 7:00 PM – 86th St.
 Class: Preparing for Pesah, Rabbi Zimmerman 7:00 PM – BJ Office
 Visiting Scholar: Reb Mimi Feigelson (p. 2) 7:00 PM – 88th Street

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR HEBREW SCHOOL TEACHERS

We're looking for a few good men and women – to teach in BJ's Hebrew School next year. Hebrew School meets on Monday and Thursday afternoons, and includes children from kindergarten through grade 7. Subjects taught include Hebrew, Jewish history, music, and the arts. Never done it before? We'll train you! If you love kids, know your Jewish "stuff," and have the passion to teach burning inside of you, please contact Hollis Gauss, hgauss@bj.org or x244.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Rebecca, Marci, Jay and Avery Halfon on Rebecca becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Sandi Borger and Alejandro Lacreu on their upcoming wedding.
- Tammy Pessin and Matthew Elefant on their upcoming wedding.
- Allison Baker and Mark Weiss on their upcoming wedding.
- Linda White and Dr. Carlos Rizowy on their recent engagement.
- Richard Forman, Alison, Emma and Jane Locker-Forman on the birth of their son and brother, Benjamin Theodore Locker-Forman.
- Jules Love upon his induction into the Brandeis University Athletic Hall of Fame.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

LIMUD

- **Mevarkhim HaHodesh Learning and Lunch – Eretz Israel: Through the Eyes of Her Beholders**

Saturday, March 20, 88th St., after services: Each Mevarkhim HaHodesh, we join together to study a text selected by an Israeli teacher or leader as a foundational text in his/her understanding of Israel, as well as that person's commentary on the text. **The Shabbat Mevarkhim learning is made possible through the generosity of Jonathan and Orli Silver in honor of their parents Rochelle and Maks Etingin, Carol Silver and their children Elliot, Ben and Leah.**

- **Rosh Hodesh Women's Group**

Monday, March 22, 12:30 PM, 88th St.: Join Rabbis Felicia Sol and Jessica Zimmerman to welcome the new moon on this holiday traditionally associated with women. Registration is not required. For info, call Rabbi Zimmerman at x253.

- **Shabbat B'Yahad with Reb Mimi Feigelson**

Join us for a catered Shabbat dinner **Friday March 26**, at 88th St., Frankel Hall, with Reb Mimi Feigelson, MA. Reb Feigelson is a lecturer of Rabbinic studies at the University of Judaism, a PhD candidate at Hebrew University, and was a student of the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. In 1994, she was granted private orthodox *s'mikha*. She was a core founding member and associate director of Yakar in Jerusalem, where she directed the women's Beit Midrash and taught, specializing in Hassidic literature. She is also a founding faculty member of "Ta Shma," which promotes Jewish pluralism among college students and young Jewish leadership and has lectured throughout Israel and around the world. Cost: \$35/Mem, \$45/Non after **March 19**. **TO REGISTER:** Call x304 and follow instructions. **Note:** Reb Feigelson will also be speaking on **Thursday, March 25**, at 7 PM, at 88th St., and a text study and Havdalah on **Saturday, March 27**, at 4 PM, at 88th St. There is no charge for these two events.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- **"Night of 100 Dinners," March 20 – BJ's Annual Fundraiser**

It's here! For last minute reservations, call Gayle Weiner at x261.

- **Ledor Vador Intergenerational Lunch**

Saturday, March 27, 88th St. Sanctuary following Shabbat services: BJ members of all ages are welcome to join us as we commemorate the first Yahrzeit of our beloved and respected BJ member, Rabbi Sidney Greenberg. Dr. Steven Brown, Rabbi Arthur Ruberg, and Rabbi Lynnda Targan will talk about growing up in Philadelphia's Temple Sinai with Rabbi Greenberg, and the influence he had on their spiritual and professional lives. RSVP by **March 23** at x334, leaving the names of those who will be attending. Also, send a check for \$12 per person (\$15 non-members), marked Ledor Vador Luncheon, to Belinda Lasky at the BJ office. Children are welcome to attend free of charge.

The flowers for the bimah are sponsored by Jay and Marci Halfon in honor of their daughter Rebecca becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

BRUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbis Steven Foster and Julian Cook and Confirmation Class, Congregation Emanuel, Denver, Colorado.
- Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum and Confirmation Class, Congregation Beth Israel, Carmel, California.
- Cantor Arlene Bernstein and Confirmation Class, Congregation Beth Israel, San Diego, California.
- Rabbi Jonathan R. Katz, Director of Education, Charlene S. Gubitz and Confirmation Class, Congregation Achduth Vesholom, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- Rabbi Jack Romberg and Confirmation Class, Temple Israel, Tallahassee, Florida.

- **Volunteers Needed for March 27 Ledor Vador Luncheon**

As over 100 people are expected to attend the Luncheon commemorating Rabbi Greenberg's Yahrzeit, volunteers will be needed to help with logistics. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Belinda Lasky at x224 or blasky@bj.org.

- **Lower East Side Revisited**

Sunday, March 28, 10:30 AM: Join Sam Schatsky (a BJ member who lived on the Lower East Side for 25 years) for a walking tour of the area. Go back to the years of the Depression and immigration up to the present day. Suggested contribution of \$20 (or what your heart dictates), to benefit the Beba Bronstein Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund. The money allocated will enable needy Jewish children to attend Jewish summer camp. Make checks payable to Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, with "Lower East Side" written in the memo space. For reservations and further information, call Sam Schatsky at 212-496-8753. Space is limited, so please RSVP early.

- **Frederic Brenner's Madres de Desaparecidos**

Sunday, March 28, 5 PM, 88th St.: Frederic Brenner will present his film, *Madres de Desaparecidos* (Mothers of the Missing), featuring the testimonies of Argentine Jewish women whose children disappeared during the military dictatorship that began in 1976. The film is in Spanish with English subtitles. A Q&A session will follow. Frederic will also be signing and selling copies of his new book, *Diaspora: Homelands in Exile*. This event is sponsored by the BJ Latin America Committee. \$10 admission; proceeds will benefit the BJ Argentina Fund. For more info, contact x371 or BJLatinAmerica@yahoo.com.

- **Beyond the Movie: Reflections on 'the Passion' by People of Faith**

Monday, March 29, 7PM, 88th St.: Stimulated by the controversy surrounding the release of the film, *The Passion of the Christ*, a panel consisting of Senior Pastor Robert Brashear, (West Park Presbyterian Church), Reverend Doctor James Karpen (The Church of St. Paul & St. Andrew, UMC), Dr. Katherine Kurs, Professor of Religious Studies (The New School and General Theological Seminary), and Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon (Congregation B'nai Jeshurun) will discuss the significance of 'the Passion.' Rabbi Bronstein will moderate.

- **Passover Hosts Needed for Seder Matches: Please Consider Opening Your Homes**

Passover 5764: First Night: Monday, April 5... Second Night: Tuesday, April 6; To host people for Pesah is a mitzvah unlike any other. We have BJ members who have no place to celebrate the holiday this year. If you can help out, please contact Elana Weinberg at x351 or welcome@bj.org.

• **Save the Dates for BJ Retreats!**

We have several exciting retreats coming up this year. Join us on:
May 7-9: Women's Retreat at Elat Hayyim in Accord, NY. Info can be found at www.bj.org or in the March Kol Hadash. **June 4-6:** Community Retreat. More info will be available soon. **July 2-8:** Israel Retreat at Kolot: This summer's seminar will take an introspective look at Israeli society. Join Rabbi Roly Matalon to study with Rabbis Moti Bar-Or and Shlomo Fox, Professors Uriel Simon, Rachel Elior, Amnon Rubinstein and others. The trip will include a number of important site visits. Cost: approximately \$1500 (study, hotel and some meals) plus airfare. More info will be available soon. **July 8-12:** Women's Retreat at Hamidrasha in Israel. Join Rabbi Felicia Sol in connecting with our friends at Hamidrasha and their work in Israel. The trip will include home hospitality except for Shabbat, which will be spent with the women of Hamidrasha at a retreat center in Northern Israel. Cost: approximately \$300 plus airfare. More info will be available soon. This retreat is only open to BJ members.

• **New Israel Fund to Honor Members of BJ Community**

Rabbi Roly Matalon and four other members of the BJ community – Rabbi Rachel Cowan, Barbara Dobkin, Sally Gottesman, and Paula Rackoff – will be among those honored at the New Israel Fund's 25th Anniversary Dinner to be held at The Pierre Hotel on **Monday, May 10**. President Bill Clinton will be the keynote speaker. To pay tribute to BJ honorees or to find out more about the dinner, visit the New Israel Fund website – www.nif.org – before **April 16**.

• **Want to stop smoking? Tried everything?**

How about joining a free support group offered at BJ for you and others like yourself? If you can talk about it, if you can listen, this group might be just the thing for you. Learn to gain mastery over your smoking habit in a supportive environment. The group will be run by a qualified and licensed social worker whose expertise is in this very area. Confidentiality and discretion guaranteed. If interested, please contact Susan Kalev, CSW, our BJ social worker at x377.

SINGLES

BJ Singles' Uptown Comedy Night

March 27, 88th St.: Hors d'oeuvres, Comedy, Drinks & Dessert...what better way to spend your Saturday night? Join us as we schmooze, eat and laugh with three of New York's finest Stand-Up Comics: Russ Meneve (The Tonight Show), Laurie Kilmartin (Comedy Central), and Eric Richman (Comedy Cellar). Doors open at 8:30 PM. **TO REGISTER:** Go online at www.bj.org or you must call Michael at x260 AND send a check to: Congregation BJ, Attn: Michael. COST: \$20/Members; \$30/Non-members. Walk-ins will be allowed in (at \$30/Mem or \$40/Non-mem) if space available: **DEADLINE: March 23**. You MUST pay in advance or you will be charged the walk-in rate. NO EXCEPTIONS.

• **Dorot Package Delivery**

Sunday, March 28, 12 PM; Do a mitzvah at our last of three package deliveries. Our group will meet at Brandeis High School down the block and across the street from Dorot (171 West 85th St. near Amsterdam) for a brief orientation and then pair up into our teams of three to make our deliveries to homebound elderly on the Upper West Side. Spend quality time with someone who will very much appreciate your time spent chatting and visiting. Please RSVP by **March 23** by emailing Michael at mkelberg@bj.org or calling x306 and leaving your name and phone number. This confirms you.

FAMILY LIFE

• **Tot Shabbat**

Friday, March 19, 5:45 PM, 86th Street Sanctuary: Families with children 5 and under are invited to a short, sweet, Kabbalat Shabbat service. A light kiddush will follow.

• **Pre-Pesah Family Sing-Along**

Sunday, March 21, 10 AM, 88th St., Frankel Hall: Join songleader par excellence Shira Kline for singing, dancing, and stories about Pesah. To RSVP, please contact Hollis at hgauss@bj.org or x244. This program is sponsored by the Miriam L. Siroky Fund for Family Education.

• **PJ's and Havdalah**

Saturday, March 27, 5 PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Put on your pajamas and join us for a late Shabbat afternoon of singing, learning, and fun. We will conclude with Havdalah, juice, and cookies. To RSVP, please contact Hollis at hgauss@bj.org or x244.

• **Introductory B'nai Mitzvah Meeting**

Save the date! Wed., April 28, 7 PM, 88th St. Sanctuary: Parents with children born between Sept. 1993 and Dec. 1994 are invited to take the first step on their journey towards bar or bat mitzvah. A formal invitation and application will be sent in early April.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **Habitat for Humanity Volunteers Needed!**

Sundays, April 4, May 16 from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM at the new Harlem location – West 134th St. Have you ever wanted to build a house? BJ is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to coordinate groups of volunteers to build homes once a month. We need 10 volunteers, over the age of 16, for each date. We are also looking for a volunteer to be the Team Leader for the day. No prior construction experience is necessary. Contact Cathy and Matt Silberstein, at the Habitat Voice Mail at x359, or cats@ix.netcom.com, to join the BJ team for any one of the spring dates. Please leave your name, email address, phone number, and the date(s) you wish to participate. Those without email will be contacted by phone.

• **March For Women's Lives**

Sunday, April 25, Washington, DC: The BJ bus is now full, but seats are still available through NARAL until April 9. Be a part of history and join hundreds of thousands in DC to express support for reproductive choice and women's lives. \$40 round trip tickets to the March are still available through NARAL at www.prochoiceny.org. Call NARAL directly at 212-343-0114 for more info on how to register. If you want to join up with the BJ Delegation in DC, please contact Rabbi Pam Wax at pwax@bcn.net or the Women's Rights voicemail at x369 and request to be put on our email distribution list.

• **Aids Walk 2004: Volunteers and Participants Needed**

Sunday, May 16: Save the Date! *Participants* are needed to register: On the web at www.aidswalk.net/newyork (please make sure to register as part of Team #1017 listed in the drop down menu as Congregation B'nai Jeshurun), by mail (pick up a registration form at the rear of either sanctuary), or by telephone (x384 – leave your name, address and telephone number). *Volunteers* are needed to assist with the Registration Phonathon on **March 30** from 6:30 PM - 9:30PM; Underwriting or donating BJ Team Shirts; Underwriting or donating bagels & juice. For further information, please contact chairs Loren Brenowitz and Elliot Davis at x384 or at BJAwny@bj.org.

• **AJWS Provides Relief to the People of Haiti**

American Jewish World Service, a non-sectarian international development and relief organization, is collecting funds to assist in humanitarian relief efforts for people affected by the political instability in Haiti. Monies raised for the current crisis will be used to support immediate needs such as food security by access to agricultural supplies and irrigation, as well as long-term development projects that lead to economic security. Donations can be sent to: American Jewish World Service, Haiti Relief, 45 West 36th Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Or call 1-800-889-7146 or visit www.ajws.org.

YAD L'YAD – HAND TO HAND

Each week, we will highlight some examples of how your dollars make a difference. Tzedakah connects us to our Jewish values and culture, spirituality and our community. The giving of Tzedakah to BJ helps make a difference. Did you know....B'nai Jeshurun enhances our Shabbat learning opportunities by bringing visiting scholars for Shabbat teachings throughout the year, and by gathering congregants for Mevarkhim HaHodesh learning one Shabbat each month. Your contribution of \$5000 makes a weekend with a scholar in residence possible, and your contribution of \$1000 makes a Shabbat Mevarkhim lunch possible.

• **SPSA's Social Hall Under Construction, March 15**

On March 15, The Church of St. Paul & St. Andrew began a major construction project in the Social Hall, in the basement at 86th St. This construction will continue through the rest of 2004, and will produce a much improved space. Meanwhile, however, the Social Hall and the basement bathrooms are unavailable to us. We will only occasionally hold onegs or kiddushim after services, and those will be in other spaces. Effective March 17, new restrooms are available – go out the door on the middle of the north side of the sanctuary, down a flight of steps, and follow signs from there. We apologize for any inconvenience, and thank you for your understanding!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kol Jeshurun Layout and Editing: David Ebenbach

WELCOME TO B'NAI JESHURUN! If you are unfamiliar with our services, see our "Welcome to BJ" brochure at the back of the sanctuary, or ask an usher.

• **Membership at B'nai Jeshurun:** Are you considering joining BJ? Would you like information about becoming a member? BJ is also pleased that visitors choose to connect with us when they are in town. Why don't you consider joining our community as a BJ Friend? Contact Membership Director Belinda Lasky at x224 or blasky@bj.org.

• **A Note from the Ushers:** For those at the Friday night service at 88th St., please return your siddurim to the back of the sanctuary as you leave. Place damaged books or tallitot in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary. We ask that men wear kippot upon entering the sanctuary and during services. We do not allow food in the sanctuary. So that we may prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before the services begin.

We attempt to be as accurate as possible concerning the information contained in the Kol Jeshurun. Due to the tight deadlines under which we work, errors can sometimes occur. We apologize in advance for any mistakes. If you need any Hebrew words translated, please call Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman, x253 or Rabbi Meir Feldman, x264.

D'VAR TEFILLAH

The Aleynu closes with: "*Ba'yom ha'hu (on that day), yihyeh adonay ehad (may God be the God of Unity and Oneness), ushmo ehad (and may God's name be Unity and Oneness).* If we were all identical, there would be no need to make such a statement. Unity would be inevitable or inherent. But we're not all the same. Thus, the oneness we seek depends upon multiplicity. It must grant the highest dignity to difference. (See *The Dignity of Difference*, Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of Great Britain.)

– Rabbi Meir Feldman

THIS WEEK IN ISRAEL'S HISTORY

On a dark, moonless night in March of 1944, Hanah Senesh parachuted into Yugoslavia and spent three months fighting the Germans under Tito's partisans. The German army just invaded her native Hungary. Her goal was to sneak back into occupied Hungary to warn Jews of their fate and assist with a possible uprising.

Hanah Senesh was born in Budapest to a very assimilated family, but anti-Semitism led her to become involved in Zionist activities. She left Hungary for Israel in 1939 and settled on Kibbutz Sdot Yam. While on the kibbutz Hanah Senesh wrote many poems that have been set to music and are frequently sung both in Israel and at BJ. In 1943 she joined the British Army and volunteered to be parachuted into occupied Europe. After training in Egypt, she was one of thirty-three volunteers chosen for this extremely dangerous mission.

On June 7, 1944, at the height of the Jewish deportation, Hanah Senesh crossed the border into Hungary but eventually was caught by the border police. During the next four months she was brutally tortured but refused to divulge any secret information. At the trial in October of 1944, Hanah Senesh strongly defended her activities and refused to request clemency. When she was executed on November 7, 1944, she refused to be blindfolded, staring squarely at her executioners.

At the end of her trial in Budapest, Hungary, Hanah Senesh was quoted as saying: "Light shining from the stars is visible on earth long after it has been extinguished and the stars have died. Likewise, there are human beings whose memory shines long after they are gone from this world. That shining light piercing the darkness of night guides the path of man and shows him the way."

– The Israel Committee

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR FLYERS AND MORE INFO ON:

• Welcome to BJ • Membership at BJ • Membership Packets • BJ Annual Catalogue • Limud Catalogue • Bikkur Holim • New Havurot Applications