



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 Kliel Rose • Katie Mizrahi

January 28 - February 4, 2005 18 - 25 Shevat 5765

YITRO

TORAH

ANNUAL: Exodus 18:1 - 20:23
TRIENNIAL: Exodus 18:1 - 18:27
HAFTARA: Judges 5:1 - 31

NEXT WEEK: MISHPATIM

TORAH

ANNUAL: Exodus 21:1 24:18
TRIENNIAL: Exodus 21:1 - 22:3
HAFTARA: Jeremiah 34:8 - 22, 33:25 - 26

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

Project Hope Needs Volunteers!

On **Monday, February 28**, the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct its third annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) to produce a point-in-time estimate of the unsheltered homeless population in New York City. This will help to reduce street homelessness by assessing the scope of the problem and assisting individuals living in public places. HOPE is a one night commitment for volunteers. Volunteers will report to training centers throughout the city on February 28 at 10:30PM to receive training, and then be dispersed with their teams until approximately 4AM. DHS needs 2,000 volunteers to make this event a success! Register at www.nyc.gov/dhs or dial 311.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Kabbalat Shabbat Service ASL INTERPRETED 6:00 PM – 88th St.
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:45 PM – 86th St.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Shabbat Service: TEEN SHABBAT 9:30 AM – 86th St.
 Children's Service 10:45 AM – 86th St.
 Naming Hannah Josephine Roth
 Community & New Members Kiddush Following services – 88th St.
 Mevarkhim HaHodesh Teaching
 Rabbi Felicia Sol and Bizchut Following Kiddush– 88th St.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Memorial Plaques Dedication 7 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Geshet 5:00 PM – BJ Office
 Limud: Theology and Meaning in the Prayerbook
 Rabbi Felicia Sol 7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Kesharim 2:00 PM – 88th St.
 Limud: Listening to Our Kids (Parents of Teens)
 Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein and Dr. Ron Taffel 7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel
 Limud: Deepening our Spiritual Practice II
 Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon 6:30 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
 Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a
 MTM Rabbinic Fellow Katie Mizrahi 7:00 PM – BJ Office

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

Mevarkhim HaHodesh Teaching

Following Kiddush this Shabbat join us for a learning with Rabbi Felicia Sol and Tirza Leibowitz, advocacy lawyer for Bizchut, the Israel Human Rights Center for People with Disabilities, who will talk about the situation of disability rights in Israel. Bizchut, an independent non-profit organization, is the leading disability rights advocacy organization in Israel working to achieve equal rights and opportunities for people within the entire spectrum of disabilities, regardless of age, gender, ethnic background or religion. Bizchut's work combines legal activism, community outreach and educational initiatives.

Memorial Plaques Dedication

For those of you who have added names of loved ones to the memorial plaques in our synagogue, we invite you to join us for a ceremony on Monday, January 31 at 7PM in the 88th St. Sanctuary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAMAKOM YENAHEM

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

- Amanda Monaco and her family on the death of Amanda's beloved grandmother, Santella Monaco.
- Emily Abrahams, Louis, Lev and Joseph Menand on the death of Emily's beloved mother, Gilda Abrahams.
- Arthur Simons and Sandy Panster on the death of Arthur's beloved brother, Gerald Simons.
- David and Estare Weiser on the death of David's beloved father, Lewis Weiser.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Marc Sack, Educator Judy Benderstilt and Confirmation Class, Rodeph Shalom, Tampa, Florida.
- Rabbi Lisa Izes and Confirmation Class, Woodlands Community Temple, White Plains, New York.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• ASL Interpretation at Shabbat Services

On February 4, the 6PM services at 88th Street will also be ASL Interpreted.

• "DECODING THE TABLECLOTH" - A one-woman show!

Saturday, February 5, 8PM, SPSA Theatre: Join the BJ Latin America Committee for Gabriela Kohen's New York International Fringe Festival award-winning solo performance, "Decoding The Tablecloth." This autobiographical show looks at the experiences of an immigrant girl growing up Jewish and Latina in New York. Kohen plays twenty-plus characters, from pre-holocaust Poland, to Argentina, to Disco 70's Brooklyn. "...A loving yet unflinching family portrait...Astonishing subtlety of gesture, expression and accent... The audience feels involved in the narrative..." NEW YORK MAGAZINE. Cost:\$10 members/\$15 non-members. Tickets are extremely limited. Register online at: www.bj.org For further information, please call: x240, or send an email to: BJLatinAmerica@yahoo.com

• Healing India's Wounds: A Witness Report

Wednesday, February 9, 8PM, 88th St Sanctuary: Rabbi Roly Matalon will report on his recent trip to Chennai (Madras), India, where he volunteered for Jeeva Jyothi, an American Jewish World Service local partner working with street and working children and against child labor. The area was gravely affected by the tsunami and Jeeva Jyothi is deeply involved in tsunami relief with support from AJWS.

• BJ Community Catered Shabbat Dinner

Friday, February 11, following the 6PM service at 88th St.: Extend the joy of Kabbalat Shabbat into the evening at Hakhnasat Or^{him}'s Community Catered Shabbat Dinner. Join Ari & Felicia and the BJ community in celebration with song, a little study, wonderful friends, and time for shmoozing. This dinner is co-sponsored with Shabbat B'Yahad. Cost: \$30 BJ members. EVERYONE MUST REGISTER: Call x304 and follow instructions. TO SUBMIT PAYMENT: Pay online at

LIMUD - WINTER/SPRING 5765

DEEPENING OUR SPIRITUAL PRACTICE II: KASHRUT, TZEDAKAH AND GEMILUT HASADIM

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

We must strive to create, deepen and constantly reexamine the pattern of our religious life, both as individuals and as members of a community. To help us achieve this, we will explore rabbinic, kabbalistic and hassidic texts about Jewish dietary practices, the giving of tzedakah, and deeds of loving kindness.

7 Wednesdays (February 2, 9, 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16), 6:30-8PM, 88 St., Frankel Hall. Cost: Free; registration required **CODE: 507**

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Adrienne, Michael and Abigail Roth on the naming of their daughter and sister, Hannah Josephine.
- Vivian, David and Pearl Port on the birth of their grandson and nephew, Jacob Stanton Port.
- Rise Dimson and John Hatleberg on the birth of Rise's grandson, Ilan Maxwell.
- Judith Stern Peck, Bradford, Kate and Oliver Samuel Peck and the Peck and Stern family on the birth of their grandchild, child, brother, cousin and nephew, Stephen Robert Peck.
- Jeanne Levin, Shane Lipson, Marvin and Nina Levin, Beth and Myer Lipson on the recent engagement of Jeanette and Shane.

www.bj.org or send a check made out to Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, "HO 2/11/05" to: Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, 2109 Broadway, Suite 203, NYC 10023, Attn: Carol. Please include a phone number. After February 7, add a \$10 late fee. As this is a community-building event, non-members will be included after February 7. Cost:\$40 non-members. For information, contact Elana Weinberg at x351 or Hospitality@bj.org

• Rabbi Maurice Lamm to Speak at B'nai Jeshurun

Tuesday, February 15, 7:30PM, 88th St.: We are privileged to have Rabbi Maurice Lamm address our community on the subject of his latest book, *Consolation: The Spiritual Journey Beyond Grief*. Rabbi Lamm is also the author of the acclaimed book, *The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning*.

• Ink Jet Cartridge Collection (Ongoing)

The BJ Latin America Committee is still collecting used ink jet cartridges (the type used in home and small office printers) for our sister congregation, Bet El, in Buenos Aires. Bet El volunteers refill these empty cartridges and resell them to help support their communal soup kitchen and food pantry. Please bring your empty ink cartridges from Cannon, Epson, HP and Lexmark ink jet printers to the B'nai Jeshurun office: 2109 Broadway, Suite 203. Your efforts will help feed the hungry and aid the environment. For further information, call x240, or email: akohn@bj.org

• **Volunteers Needed in the BJ Office:** Do you have extra time during the day, Monday through Friday, 9-5? Staff members in the BJ office need help making phone calls, entering data into the database, and assisting with general office work. Requirements: excellent office and computer skills. Volunteer help is greatly appreciated in the office and it is an amazing way of giving back to the BJ community. If you are interested, please contact Carol Dikman at x255.

BJ WOMEN'S RETREAT - APRIL 8-10

Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and MTM Rabbinical Fellow Katie Mizrahi on our Fourth BJ Women's Retreat. Information and applications are now available on-line at http://www.bj.org/womens_retreat.php

*To register please sign up by calling x221, or write to our address (found below this box), being sure to include your name, address, phone numbers and e-mail, and information about the class.

Online registration and detailed course descriptions at:
http://www.bj.org/spring_limud.php

CREATING KEHILLAH

SINGLES

• At-Home Catered Dinner

Friday, February 4: Join us for a Singles At-Home Catered Shabbat dinner following the 6PM service. This has been one of people's favorite ways to make new friends and share Shabbat getting together in groups of 12-18. Men can still register on-line at www.bj.org or call Michael at x260. Women should call for space availability. Cost: \$35 members/ \$45 non-members.

• Co-sponsored Dance with Anshe Chesed - Noche de Tango!

Sunday, February 13, 7-10PM at Anshe Chesed, co-sponsored with B'nai Jeshurun. Expert instruction (Reba Perez of Empire Dance & Allan Brozek) - no experience, partner or reservations necessary. If you can walk, you can dance. Free delicious refreshments, a super dance floor, a fantastic crowd and fun, relaxed spaces to sit and schmooze. Cost is \$20 (\$15 AC/BJ/Mosaic members) per dance. Volunteers are needed (in return for free admission). Contact Michael Brochstein at (212) 678-7881 (before 9PM) to volunteer.

• 'Jewtopia' at the Westside Arts Theatre

Saturday, February 26, 8PM at the Westside Arts Theatre: Jewtopia tells the story of two 30 year old single men, Chris O'Connell and Adam Lipschitz. Chris, a gentile, wants to marry a Jewish girl so he'll never have to make another decision. Adam Lipschitz, a Jew, wants to marry a Jewish girl to please his family, but can't get a date to save his life. After meeting at a Jewish singles mixer, Adam and Chris form a secret pact. Chris promises that he will help Adam find the Jewish girl of his dreams and show him "Jewtopia", but only if Adam will help Chris shed his gentile-ness and bring him undercover into the Jewish world. Stereotypes collide, Cultures clash and chaos ensues! COST: \$65.00, great seats! TO REGISTER: Call Michael at x260 or email Mkelberg@bj.org DEADLINE: TODAY, January 27, 2005. Space is limited.

YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION

• Help Lead Junior Congregation on March 5!

Yashar coach to all the children who participated in the Junior Congregation Family Service on January 22! Students in 3rd through 7th grade are invited to help lead the next Junior Congregation Family Service on March 5. If your child would like to help lead the tefillot, play a musical instrument, or offer a d'var Torah or d'var tefillah, please contact Kerrith at ksolomon@bj.org or x253 by February 7. Children who help lead the service will be expected to attend rehearsals before the service.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• Panim el Panim: Children's Action Hevra

Through the Children's Action Hevra, B'nai Jeshurun has formed a partnership with the Ralph Bunche School in Morningside Heights. The BJ/Ralph Bunche School literacy program is well under way with BJ volunteers currently tutoring 40 Ralph Bunche students on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10:30AM. Now there is an opportunity for all BJ members to participate in the partnership by helping to provide teachers with the supplies they need to support a quality education. For more information and sign up to contribute to the Teachers' Wish List, contact the Children's Action Hevra at x301.

• Go Red for Women

On **Friday, February 4,** women, corporations, hospitals, towns, schools, small businesses, politicians, men and even the Empire State Building are GOING RED to focus attention on the No.1 killer of women: cardiovascular disease. Wear something red and your Go Red for Women 'Red-Dress' pin. For more info, contact BJ member Barbara Simon at bsimon@heart.org or (201) 475-2551. To learn more about women, heart disease and stroke, please call 1-888-MY-Heart or visit on-line at www.americanheart.org/red

• Affordable Housing Rally

Wednesday, February 2, at 4:30PM outside City Hall (Broadway, 2 blocks south of Chambers): Join JFREJ and the Jewish contingent at a rally to demand that city officials guarantee affordable housing to all New Yorkers! JFREJ and the Jewish contingent will be meeting with a number of other faith-based groups at 4PM at Saint Paul's Chapel (209 Broadway, ½ block from Fulton) and we will be stepping off to march at 4:30PM sharp. For info, flyers and to see the policy demands, go to www.housinghereandhow.org. RSVP to Matt Vogel at matthewvogel@gmail.com if you plan to join us.

BJ COMMUNITY/ HAVUROT

• Gay Men's Havurah

Monday, February 7. 7PM Our havurah meets on the first Monday of the month and are open to new members with similar life style. All ages and all levels of Jewish knowledge welcome. Please contact Jonathan Baron for more information, jonathan@jonathanbaron.com or (212) 663-6702.

• Coping with Loss and Bereavement

We are looking for members interested in joining a bereavement support group. This would help explore feelings of grief in a safe and supportive environment and offer people ways to cope with loss and mourning. Sharing in a group can reduce fear and isolation for the survivors. For information please call Susan Kaley at x377.

D'VAR TEFILLAH

Matai timloch b'tzion? Bkarov beyameynu l'olam vaed tishkon...

The high point of the prayer service is the communal kedushah located in the first paragraphs of the standing Amidah prayer. In this section of prayer, we imagine ourselves to be angels of the heavenly realm, proclaiming Holy Holy is the Lord of Hosts, the fullness of the world is God's glory.

Yet even as we enact this angelic chorus, we never relinquish our human concerns as we face our Creator. Two lines later we read, *When will You reign in Zion?* Let it be soon, in our time, and throughout all time. Having gained access to God's heavenly presence with the words of angels, we immediately give voice to our human longing for God's presence on earth. May our prayers always be for us that bridge which raises us up to our highest potential, and draws the Divine presence into the ordinary parts of this world which need it most.

-Katie Mizrahi, MTM Rabbinic Fellow

Mazal Tov to the following BJ Community authors:

- Former BJ staff member and ongoing Kol Hadash editor David Ebenbach and former MTM Fellow Rabbi Rachel Gartner, on the selection of David's first collection of short stories, *Between Camelots*, as the 2005 winner of the Drue Heinz Literature Prize, to be published by University of Pittsburgh Press in October 2005.
- BJ member Penninah Schram on the publication of her latest children's book, *The Purim Costume*, published by the URJ Press.

TSUNAMI RELIEF

In the wake of the terrible tragedy in Asia, our community can best respond through donations to the relief effort. The following agencies have set up emergency funds to help provide basic medical and relief needs for the survivors:

- Go to www.ajws.org or send donations to the American Jewish World Service, Asia Tsunami Relief, 45 West 36th Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018.
- Go to www.ajc.org or send donations to the American Jewish Committee Tsunami Fund AJC, 165 East 56th Street, New York, NY 10022.
- Go to www.jdc.org or send donations to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee - Asia Tsunami Relief, Box 321, 847A Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kol Jeshurun Layout and Editing: Miya Rotstein

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 bring your books to the back 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 Klief Rose, x264.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

HAMIDRASHA SHABBAT CONFERENCE

Shabbat often raises divisive questions among secular and religious groups in Israel. Should we open stores and shopping malls or offer public transportation on Shabbat? Who is being "discriminated" against? Whose religious or non-religious mandates are being imposed on "the other?"

Given these typically charged and often political debates, the atmosphere of Hamidrasha's recent conference on the questions of Shabbat in Israeli society was particularly refreshing. Over 650 persons - young and old, religious and secular - gathered for the event. Despite differences in background and opinion, the auditorium was filled with a strong sense of solidarity and commitment to confront the challenges of Shabbat in a pluralistic, democratic Jewish state. Many topics were discussed: social concerns, preservation and renewal of Jewish heritage, Shabbat in Israeli poetry, and the struggle to be genuine and sincere in our prayers (be they traditional or otherwise).

The conference also included a panel discussion on new initiatives to create alternative Kabbalat Shabbat services for non-Orthodox Jews, such as Hamidrasha's "Nigun Halev" community which has been meeting for the past four years. Other newer groups have also been established in Tel Aviv, Nazareth, the lower Galilee. A journalist from the Israeli newspaper, "Ha'aretz," attended the conference and wrote a feature article focusing on this phenomenon for the weekend paper. As you can read, the article repeatedly refers to BJ and its inspirational role in triggering this "movement" in Israel. May you find much joy and satisfaction in knowing that you have a significant place in making Israel's spiritual landscape more pluralistic and enriched! You have touched and blessed our lives in so many ways and we thank you. We hope that more of you will come to Israel to experience these efforts firsthand and to welcome a Shabbat with us!

Shabbat Shalom,
Moti, Saraleh, Chen, and all your friends at Hamidrasha.

One of BJ's closest partners in Israel, Hamidrasha, was formed by a group of Israeli educators to provide secular Israelis opportunities for meaningful, modern Jewish education, prayer, and connection.

The "Focus on Israel" column is edited by Robin Fleischner (robin.fleischner@verizon.net), Co-Chair of the BJ Israel Steering

BJ GOES TO ISRAEL - July 5 - 17, 2005

It's been 10 years since our first community trip to Israel. Mark your calendars and join us for another amazing journey. The trip will be an encounter with the texts of our tradition, the land of our people and the lives of the people who live there. Our focus will be in the south (Negev), Jerusalem and the Galilee. Embrace the opportunity to experience Israel as a community, uniting old friends, making new ones and deepening our connections with our Israeli brothers and sisters. More details to follow soon.

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