



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

February 18 - 25, 2005

9 - 16 Adar 5765

TETZAVEH

TORAH

ANNUAL: Exodus 27:20 - 30:10

TRIENNIAL: Exodus 27:20 - 28:30

HAFTARA: Ezekiel 43:10 - 27

NEXT WEEK: KI TISA

TORAH

ANNUAL: Exodus 30:11 - 34:35

TRIENNIAL: Exodus 30:11 - 31:17

HAFTARA: I Kings 18:20 - 39

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

Panim el Panim: Cup After Cup!

The Environmental Action Hevra has recently convinced the JCC, JTS, and The Museum of Natural History to serve Fair Trade. The next essential step is for as many members of the congregation as possible to participate in this campaign. Please join us at Shabbat services to welcome David Funkhouser, from Transfair USA to learn more about how to make an impact on this important issue.

Here are 3 steps you can take to support Fair Trade right now:

- 1) Buy Fair Trade products. We need every BJ member to buy Fair Trade coffee, cocoa, tea, or bananas
- 2) Convince 2 friends to switch to Fair Trade
- 3) Help switch your office to Fair Trade!

For more on how to take action, contact us at x310 and go to www.bj.org and click on the Fair Trade logo.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Tot Shabbat

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

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5:45 PM – 86th St.

6:00 PM – 88th St.

6:45 PM – 86th St.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Shabbat Service:

Children's Service

Aliyat Hatan VeKallah

Speaker

9:30 AM – 86th St.

10:45 AM – 86th St.

Seth Jacoby and Lindsay Schwartz

David Funkhouser, Transfair USA

Bat Mitzvah

Renee Kraiem– 4:30 PM 88th St. Sanctuary

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Morning Minyan

Bar Mitzvah

OFFICE CLOSED, NO BJHS

9:30 AM – 88th St.

Michael and Philip Aciman

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Morning Minyan

Gesher

Limud: Theology and Meaning in the Prayerbook

Rabbi Felicia Sol

7:30 AM – 88th St.

Cancelled this Week

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Morning Minyan

Kesharim

Limud: Deepening our Spiritual Practice II

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

7:30 AM – 88th St.

2:00 PM – 88th St.

6:30 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Morning Minyan

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program

Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a

MTM Rabbinic Fellow Katie Mizrahi

7:30 AM – 88th St.

12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

7:00 PM – BJ Office

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

Creating Meaningful Shabbat Observance for the 21st Century

The BJ prayer service and rabbinic inspiration have been a pathway for modern seekers to discover and renew our Jewish spirituality. Yet, our tradition imagined Shabbat as a 25 hour experience, including not only prayer, but celebration, study, spiritual renewal and connection to loved ones. This Shabbat observance has sustained the Jewish People throughout our history because it is an eternal manifestation of our relationship to God – *ot he l'olam, an eternal sign* – as we recite each Friday night. Through a new initiative – Creating Meaningful Shabbat Observance for the 21st Century – our Rabbis and Board seek to engage the community in a discussion about our current practice and what we dream of. How can we claim our eternal inheritance with observance that is meaningful in our contemporary lives? If we imagined having a full day of Shabbat, what would it look like? Over the next six months, we hope to hold 15 house meetings with diverse segments of the BJ community using the Panim el Panim model of community conversation to develop a path to modern Shabbat practice for our congregation.

If you wish to be invited to a house meeting on one of the following dates, please choose 2 or 3 available dates and e-mail Deborah Pinsky at dpinsky@bj.org: 2/28, 3/9, 3/16, 3/30, 4/5, 4/12, 4/20, 5/2, 5/10, 5/18, 5/26, 6/1, 6/16, 6/21, 6/28.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAMAKOM YENAHM

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

- Saul and Carl Cunow and their family on the death of their beloved grandmother, Hildegard Cunow.
- Leslie Cooper on the death of her beloved uncle, Theodore Simkin

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Michael, Philip, Andre and Alexander Aciman and Susan Wiviott on Michael and Philip becoming B'nai Mitzvah.
- Renee, Ruben and Leon Kraiem and Lizzie Leiman Kraiem on Renee becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

- Lindsay Schwartz and Seth Jacoby on their upcoming wedding.
- Susan Viuker Landau and Tom Reiner on the recent marriage of Susan's daughter, Jessica Lieberman to Bill Jaffe.
- Rabbi Carole Balin on being appointed a Professor of History with tenure at Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Jacques Cukierkorn and Confirmation Class, The New Reform Temple, Kansas City, Missouri.
- Rabbi Samuel Weinstein, Cantor Diane Yomtov and Confirmation Class, The Temple-Congregation Shomer-Emunim, Sylvania, Ohio.
- Sr. Rabbi Fred Reiner, Temple Sinai, Washington D.C.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- **Susannah Heschel at BJ**

Monday, March 21, 7PM, 88th St.: Susannah Heschel will lead an informal discussion of *The Sabbath*, by Abraham Heschel. Those who have read the book are invited to express their understandings of it and describe its meaning for them. The discussion is open to everyone.

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday May 24, 7:30PM

A joyful night of music to launch our 180th Anniversary Year! The BJ Benefit Concert Honoring Judith Stern Peck. Stay tuned for more details. To volunteer or for info: x392

INTERFAITH

- **First Annual Interfaith Lecture: An Evening with Rabbi Roly Matalon on 'Why Interfaith Matters'**

Tuesday, March 1, 7:30PM, 88th St. Sanctuary: The Interfaith Committee is pleased to present an evening with Rabbi Roly Matalon in which we will explore what it means for us personally, as a congregation, as New Yorkers and as Americans to embrace and empathize with 'the others' in our families, our city and our world. For more information about this event or the Interfaith Committee, please call the Interfaith hotline at x379.

- **Interfaith Intergenerational Shabbat Luncheon**

Saturday, March 19, 88th Street Frankel Hall following Shabbat services: The Ledor Vador and Interfaith Committees have come together to offer a very special Shabbat luncheon, at which we are hosting guests from SPSA. Master Christian and Jewish storytellers Eric Alderfer and Arthur Strimling will entertain and engage us with stories and music of family and our collective histories. Please RSVP at x334, leaving the names of those who will be attending. Also, send a check for \$15/member or \$18/non-members with "Ledor Vador 3/19" on the memo line. Children are welcome to attend free of charge.

- **An Evening with Rabbis Felicia Sol & Marcelo Bronstein: Life Cycle Issues**

Thursday, March 31, 7:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: The Interfaith Committee invites you to join us for an evening with Rabbis Felicia Sol and Marcelo Bronstein, who will lead an interactive seminar about life-cycle issues with an emphasis on matters relating to interfaith families. Bring family and friends to discover how our lives are entwined through marriage, conversion, adoption, work and community. For more information about this event or the Interfaith Committee, please call the Interfaith hotline at x379.

LIMUD - WINTER/SPRING 5765

BEIT MIDRASH -

Rabbi Na'amah Kelman

Sunday March 6 (6PM) & Monday March 7 (7PM), 88th St. Sanctuary: Study Israel's Declaration of Independence like a page of Talmud. The 2 sessions will be devoted to unlocking the sources of inspiration and controversy that gave birth to the final version of the document and the State of Israel. Rabbis for Human Rights has created an interactive learning experience to explore the foundation of our rights, hopes and aspirations to be a free people in our own land.

• **1st Session:** Where was the Jewish Nation Forged? The opening lines of the Megillah revise history, and yet they give a powerful argument for Nationhood based on land and culture. What makes us a Jewish People and what should guide us?

• **2nd Session:** Can democracy and Judaism co-exist or are they inherently contradictory? The words liberty, peace, and justice appear in the Megillah, but does that guarantee democracy? What critical court cases have been fought on the basis of these very words?

Cost: \$25/\$35 for one session, \$40/\$60 for both sessions. **CODE: 599.**

BJ WOMEN'S RETREAT - APRIL 8-10

Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and MTM Rabbinic 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

FROM REDEMPTION TO REVELATION:

CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE & SOCIAL JUSTICE MEDITATION

RETREAT: April 29 - May 1 at Elat Chayyim

Join Rabbis Marcelo Bronstein and Rachel Cowan at a unique retreat to explore contemplative practice as a resource for inspiring, supporting and sustaining wise social action. We believe that as we organize to change conditions of injustice, we must also be aware of tendencies towards injustice within ourselves, and develop practices for becoming mindful of them. Through prayer, study, song and meditation, we will develop practices and cultivate awareness so that we are kinder, more compassionate and more effective activists, able to build communities of action that support their members in working together.

Note: This retreat can be taken in conjunction with the four part class entitled *Contemplative Process – A Pathway to Liberation*. Look for more information and applications on-line at www.bj.org soon.

*To register for all classes, please call 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

• **Co-sponsored Dance with Anshe Chesed: Square Dancing**
Sunday, March 6, Swing your partner! If square dance caller Allan Brozek can't get you dancing then you must not have feet. No partner, experience or reservations necessary. Lessons throughout the evening starting at 7:15PM at Anshe Chesed. Co-sponsored with B'nai Jeshurun. Free expert instruction (Reba Perez of Empire Dance & Allan Brozek). Free delicious refreshments, a super dance floor, a fantastic crowd and fun, relaxed spaces to sit and schmooze. Cost: \$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.

• **Oneg Shabbat**
Friday, March 11 following 6:45PM service at 86th St. Social Hall: After a long hiatus, march into spring with a new friend or special someone. Join our monthly gathering, refreshments served. See you there!

• **Basherte Workshop**
Sunday March 13, 11-3PM, 88th St. (Frankel Hall): Join Rosalie and Efraim as they lead one of their renowned relationship workshops: "Aligning Your Desires for Mutually Satisfying Relationships" - Strategies for Winning at Love. Includes a light lunch. Cost: \$30/mem; \$40/non-mem. TO REGISTER: www.bj.org or send a check made out to Congregation B'nai Jeshurun: "Basherte Workshop 3/13/05". Note: All checks must be confirmed received by calling Michael at x260. Mail checks to: Attn: Michael, Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, 2109 Broadway, Suite 203, NYC 10023. Include phone number! DEADLINE: March 8. Add \$5 after deadline and at the door if space available. Call x260 or email Michael at Mkelberg@BJ.org for info.

YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION

• **Celebrate the Building of a Community**
Saturday, March 12, Parlor Room 86th St.: Teens from B'nai Jeshurun will run a special program for the children of BJ 3rd -5th grades. Using games, stories, songs and fun activities, we will imagine what it was like for the Israelites to come together as a community to build the Tabernacle. Join our planning committee or just volunteer on the 12th. COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDIT AVAILABLE. Contact Leah at leah.zimm@verizon.net for details.

• **BJ Youth Go to Israel**
Join Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in partnership with IsraelExperts for a special birthright israel FREE 10-day trip to Israel for eligible 18-26 year olds See www.bj.org "upcoming events" section for a for more information, details and how to register. Go to www.israelexperts.com and click on the "birthright israel" button or contact Kerrith Solomon ksolomon@bj.org or x253 with any questions.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **Wanted: A Few Good Men**
The Children's Action Hevra welcomes all BJ members who want to take part in the BJ/Ralph Bunche School Reading Partnership. We read with 1st and 3rd graders on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 - 10:30AM. Because many of our young partners lack male role models, we are especially interested in "a few good men" to join us as reading partners. If you have the time and the desire to make a difference in the lives of children, please call us at x310.

• Concert Benefiting City Harvest

Saturday, February 26, 8PM at SPSA: Jewish Spiritual Singer, Joshua Nelson, is appearing with The Winard Harper Sextet and special guest reedman Frank Wess in an Evening of Jazz, Blues & Spirituals, a BWC Benefit Concert highlighting CITY HARVEST, which combats hunger throughout the city. Cost: \$20 (tax deductible) Please bring 2 cans of food to the concert. www.BETTERWORLDCHORUS.org or (212)-613-6367 for details.

• 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. 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.

• Adopt a Resident of the Jewish Home and Hospital

Volunteers are needed to visit Jewish residents of the nursing home at 120 W.106 St. Many of these older people have no family, and you have an opportunity to bring companionship and some joy into their lives. If you can spare a half hour or more every two weeks, contact Miriam Perrin at (212) 650-9800 or MPerrinLTD@aol.com

BJ COMMUNITY/ HAVUROT

• Musician's Havurah

Monday, February 28 7PM at 88th St.: Contact Matt Fried at (212) 877 3147 for more info.

• New Jersey Havurah in Formation

Saturday, March 5: Looking for BJ members who live "west" of the river! We are forming a new havurah of New Jersey members. If you live in NJ, please come to our first for dinner and havdalah to get to know one another and develop a meaningful community of friendship, learning and fun. Call Ann & Henry Schwartzstein for more information: (973)-720-9455.

• Couples Havurah in Formation

Wednesday, March 23, 7PM (organizing meeting). We are assembling a group of BJ member couples who are interested in creating meaning and connection by coming together for Friday night dinners once a month. Start the spring off right by refreshing your social circle! Send an RSVP to Markschlei@hotmail.com with your names, telephone and email.

PURIM

• Purim Idol Auditions

Tuesday, March 1, 7 - 9PM. Take your shot at the biggest event since sliced bread! You can be this year's Purim Idol, hosted by celebrity comedienne, Judy Gold. Watch the Esthers, Mordys, Hamans (boo!), Vashtis and Ashshuerus' battle it out in the world's largest talent competition since American Idol! Purim Idol Finalists will take the main stage on March 24 and compete in Karaoke, Talent and Q & A categories. With special guest judges and special prizes for the winner!! You don't want to miss this opportunity to be a star and this year's Purim Idol. For the audition, come prepared with a favorite Karaoke song, 30-60 second talent and some sharp wit. All types and talent will be considered. For location and to get an audition time, please call Anne at x240 or AKohn@BJ.org

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.

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.

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.

BJ GOES TO ISRAEL FOR 180TH ANNIVERSARY IN DECEMBER

For its 180th Anniversary, BJ has decided to take 180 members of all ages to Israel from December 21st, 2005 to January 1st, 2006. For all those who were planning to take the trip this summer, please join us in celebration of our 180th in Israel this winter instead. More details to follow.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

Gays and Lesbians and the High Court
By Kathleen Peratis

Compare these news stories:

No. 1: "The Supreme Court refused on Monday to hear a challenge to a Florida law that prohibits gays and lesbians from adopting children," thereby prohibiting a man who had been named 'outstanding foster parent of the year' from adopting the thirteen-year-old boy he and his partner had raised since the boy's infancy.

No. 2: "The Supreme Court decided on Monday that two lesbian women who have been living together for 15 years are allowed to adopt each others children."

How to reconcile these stories? Are they from different decades? No, same decade. In fact, they refer to the same day-January 10, 2005. The difference is-the first story comes from the United States Supreme Court; the second from Israel's.

Israel, its High Court and its legislatures, have been astonishingly progressive in their protection and promotion of the rights of gays and lesbians. Years ago, the state mandated spousal benefits and pension rights for same-sex partners of government employees; gays serve in the military just like anyone else; anti-gay discrimination is broadly prohibited, including in employment.

The web site <http://www.actwin.com/eatonohio/gay/world.htm> provides up-to-date information on "homosexual rights around the world." Its alphabetical listing of the laws of nearly two hundred countries places Israel just after Ireland, where "Citizens can only adopt a child if they are legally married, widowed or judicially separated people." Huhh? Legally separated people can adopt but intact gay couples cannot?

We can rightly celebrate Israel's homophilism.

Kathleen Peratis is a partner at the New York law firm Outten & Golden LLP. She is on the board of BJ and co-chairs the task force on social action/social justice.

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

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