



RABBIS

Marshall T. Meyer (1985-1993)

J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

CANTOR &amp; MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS

Rabbi Kliel Rose • Katie Mizrahi

## February 25 - March 4, 2005 16 - 23 Adar 5765

## KI TISA

## TORAH

**ANNUAL:** Exodus 30:11 - 34:35**TRIENNIAL:** Exodus 30:11 - 31:17**HAFTARA:** I Kings 18:20 - 39

## NEXT WEEK: VAYAKHEL

## TORAH

**ANNUAL:** Exodus 35:1 - 38:20**TRIENNIAL:** Exodus 35:1 - 37:16**HAFTARA:** I Kings 7:40 - 50

## SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

**The Environmental Action Hevra is drinking again. Coffee, that is.**

The Hevra is full swing into a campaign to convince local businesses, non-governmental bodies and faith-based organizations to offer Fair Trade Certified coffee. Collectively, we effect change by choosing coffee for which farmers, who use environmentally sustainable practices, have been paid a fair price. The Hevra is also working towards the passage of NYC Council Resolution 0762 - 2005, calling on the city government to use Fair Trade Certified coffee. The resolution is sponsored by Council Member Gale Brewer and 11 others. Help promote fair trade by:

"Buying and asking for Fair Trade products.

"Telling your council member to co-sponsor the bill.

"Encouraging your workplaces to switch to FT coffee.

Questions? Call us at x 310 or check out [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org)

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:00 PM – 88th St.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:45 PM – 86th St.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Shabbat Service

9:30 AM – 86th St.

Children's Service

10:45 AM – 86th St.

Bat Mitzvah

Sara Winograd

Bar Mitzvah

Gabriel Rudin

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM – 88th St.

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 1

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

Geshet

Cancelled this week

Limud: Theology and Meaning in the Prayerbook

Rabbi Felicia Sol

7:00 PM – 86th St.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

Kesharim

2:00 PM – 88th St.

Limud: Deepening our Spiritual Practice II

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

6:30 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

## THURSDAY, MARCH 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, MARCH 4

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 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 email Deborah Pinsky at [dpinsky@bj.org](mailto:dpinsky@bj.org): 2/28, 3/9, 3/16, 3/30, 4/5, 4/20, 5/2, 6/1, 6/8 and 6/16.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HAMAKOM YENAHEM

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

- Tziporah Salamon on the death of her beloved father, Isaac Salamon.
- Ellen, Jonathan, Hannah and Rayna Litt on the death of Ellen's beloved mother, Claire Grosnass.

### MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Sara, Barry, Joan and Max Winograd on Sara becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Gabriel, Stephen Rudin and Fern Rudin on Gabriel becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Traci Slatton and Sabin Howard, Jessica and Naomi Hendel on the birth of their daughter and sister, Madeleine Isabella Howard.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### • Women's Rosh Hodesh Group Shabbat Dinner

**Friday, March 11:** Join us in a BJ member's home to celebrate Shabbat and welcome in the 2nd month of Adar. The dinner will be a potluck and each BJ member will contribute a dairy/vegetarian dish for the Shabbat meal. To RSVP for the dinner and let us know what you are going to bring, please email [womensnews@aol.com](mailto:womensnews@aol.com). Registration will be on a first come, first served basis and for BJ members only. Confirmations and location will be emailed by March 8.

### • 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.

### • BJ's 1st Annual Benefit Concert and 180th Anniversary Kick-Off

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

### 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:** The opening lines of the Megillah revise history, and yet they give a powerful argument for Nationhood based on land and culture.

• **2nd Session:** The words liberty, peace, and justice appear in the Megillah, but does that guarantee democracy?

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

\*To register for all classes, please call x221,

Online registration and detailed course descriptions at:  
[http://www.bj.org/spring\\_limud.php](http://www.bj.org/spring_limud.php)

- Ellen Harnick and Andrew Krystal on their recent engagement.

### B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Rosie Haim and congregants, Temple Tifereth Israel, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Alejandro Heinemann and the Hillel Argentina Business Club, Argentina.
- Rabbi Scott Nagel and Confirmation Class, Temple Oheb Shalom, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Rabbi Keith Stern, Youth Educator Ron Saykin and 10th grade students, Temple Beth Avodah, Newton, Massachusetts.
- Rabbi Shena Potter and Confirmation Class, Temple Sinai, Washington, DC.

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.

#### 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. 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](http://www.bj.org) soon.

#### 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](http://www.bj.org/womens_retreat.php)

## CREATING KEHILLAH

### SINGLES

• **Co-sponsored Dance with Ansche 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 Ansche 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 ACBJ/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 reknowned 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](http://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](mailto:Mkelberg@BJ.org) for info.

### YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION

• **1st Graders and their Families Cooking for the Shelter**  
Tuesday, March 8, 5PM: 1st graders and their families are invited to help prepare a simple meal for the guests of BJ's Homeless Shelter. To volunteer, contact Beth Kern at [beth.kern@att.net](mailto:beth.kern@att.net) or (212) 724-5336

• **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](mailto: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](http://www.bj.org) "upcoming events" section for a for more information, details and how to register. Go to [www.israelexperts.com](http://www.israelexperts.com) and click on the "birthright israel" button or contact Kerrith Solomon [ksolomon@bj.org](mailto: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 x301.

• **Panim el Panim: Women's Rights Hevra**  
The BJ Women's Rights Hevra is campaigning to: (1) help pass legislation in New York State to make emergency contraception (EC) available over-the-counter, and (2) educate pharmacists about EC. Emergency contraception is a back-up birth control method that can be used within 3-5 days of unprotected sex, contraceptive failure or sexual assault. EC is a safe and effective method to prevent unintended pregnancies. It reduces the risk of pregnancies by up to 89%. The abortion rate in Washington State decreased by 30% when EC (also called Plan B or the morning-after pill) went over-the-counter. For further information or to get involved in our efforts, call x369.

### 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](mailto:Markschlei@hotmail.com) with your names, telephone and email.

• **Rabbi Shefa Gold in concert**  
**Tuesday March 22**, 8PM, 225 West 83rd. Shefa Gold, whose melodies are used often at BJ, is giving an intimate evening of song and chant to benefit ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal. ALEPH supports the worldwide Jewish renewal movement by organizing and nurturing communities, developing leadership, liturgy and resources, and by working for social and environmental justice. Minimum donation \$50 (\$40 if sent by March 15). Flyer and registration form at back of sanctuary, or [www.aleph.org/retreats.html](http://www.aleph.org/retreats.html), or email Bena/David: [shefagoldevent@nyc.rr.com](mailto:shefagoldevent@nyc.rr.com)

### 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 Ahashuerus' 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](mailto:akohn@bj.org)

• **Seeking Divrei Torah**

You have an opportunity to be one of 54 teachers of Torah in our community this year! Throughout the year, as you know, a weekly d'var torah on the parashat hashavu'a is disseminated to our community. We have already found people to write divrei torah for some of this year's parashiyot, but there are still many openings for BJ members (first come, first serve). If you are a BJ member and would be interested in writing a d'var torah, please call or e-mail Miya (x256 or mrotstein@bj.org) as soon as possible.

• BJ's **Shabbat Torah Study** is starting up again! Please find Shelly at the back of the sanctuary on Shabbat for more information.

*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 Kliel Rose, x264.*

**TSUNAMI RELIEF**

In the wake of the terrible tragedy in Asia, our community can best respond through donations to the relief effort. Please go to [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) for a list of agencies helping to provide basic medical and relief needs for the survivors.

**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](mailto: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**

A Sabbatical in Jerusalem  
by Elizabeth Langer and Richard Chused

The day we departed for Jerusalem, there was a double suicide bombing in Be'er Sheva. Fourteen people were killed. The day we returned five months later, Haaretz reported that Ariel Sharon and Mahmoud Abbas would soon meet to discuss a moratorium on violence. These were the bookends of a remarkable sabbatical in Jerusalem.

We set up housekeeping in a small apartment on French Hill. Our hope was to begin to know Israel from the inside-as Jerusalemites, not tourists. We learned that Israelis are smart, tough, opinionated, highly principled and often rude. We learned that you can be thoroughly Jewish in Israel without going to shul each week. We learned that Israelis love music, shopping, good food and American movies. We learned that Israelis have strong political opinions and understand history. We learned that there is much poverty in Israel.

Above all, we learned how much Israelis want peace. And surprisingly, we learned how much Palestinians want peace. Only 40 days after Arafat's death, in two opinion surveys among the Palestinian population published in Haaretz, a significant 41% gave Arafat negative marks on advancing the peace process, and 50% expressed the opinion that Arafat had done more harm than good with regard to creating a democratic system of government and developing the Palestinian economy.

This week, Sharon and Abbas met at Sharm el-Sheikh and declared an end to hostilities. We have come a long way from August's suicide bombing in Be'er Sheva.

*BJ members Elizabeth Langer and Richard Chused recently returned from a sabbatical in Jerusalem, where Richard taught at the Law Faculty of Hebrew University under a Fulbright grant.*

The "Focus on Israel" column is edited by Robin Fleischner ([robin.fleischner@verizon.net](mailto: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