



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

April 8 - 15, 2005

28 Adar II - 6 Nisan, 5765

TAZRIA

SHABBAT MEVAREKHIM HAHOODESH

TORAH

ANNUAL: Leviticus 12:1 - 13:59

TRIENNIAL: Leviticus 12:1 - 13:39

MAFTIR: Exodus 12:1 - 20

HAFTARA: Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18,
I Samuel 20:18 and 42

NEXT WEEK: METZORAH

TORAH

ANNUAL: Leviticus 14:1 - 15:33

TRIENNIAL: Leviticus 14:1 - 32

HAFTARA: II Kings 7:3 - 20

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Kabbalat Shabbat Service - ASL Interpreted

Singles Dinner

6:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

6:45 PM – 86th St.

Following services – 88th St. Finkel Hall

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Shabbat Service

Children's Service

Bar Mitzvah

Bat Mitzvah

Aliyat Hatan VeKallah

Naming

Community Kiddush

9:30 AM – 86th St.

10:45 AM – 86th St.

Micah Nelson

Hillary Spiritos

Jonathan Lipton and Galina Kofman

Madeleine Isabella Howard

Following service – 86th St. Social Hall

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Morning Minyan

Bat Mitzvah

ROSH HOODESH NISAN

9:30 AM – 88th St.

Hannah Gross

MONDAY, APRIL 11

Morning Minyan

A Taste of Me'ah

7:30 AM – 88th St.

7:30 PM – 88th St. (Pg. 2)

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Morning Minyan

Gesher

Limud: The Contemplative Process

Rabbis Marcelo Bronstein and Rachel Cowan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

5:00 PM – BJ Office

6:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Morning Minyan

Limud: Pirke DeRabbi Eliezer

Rabbi Felicia Sol

Kesharim

Limud: Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

7:30 AM – 88th St.

12:30 PM – BJ Office

2:00 PM – 88th St.

6:30 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Morning Minyan

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program

Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a

MTM Rabbinic Fellow Katie Mizrahi

Limud: Preparing for Pesah

MTM Rabbinic Fellow Kliel Rose

7:30 AM – 88th St.

12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

7:00 PM – BJ Office

7:00 PM – 86th St. Board Room (Pg. 2)

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

Panim el Panim thanks you!

BJ would like to thank everyone who was a part of making our April 7 Forum with Speaker Miller a great success. Special recognition goes to the leaders of the Healthcare/Economic Hardship Hevra for organizing the event.

From Redemption to Revelation:
Contemplative Practice & Social Justice
Meditation Retreat

Friday, April 29 - Sunday, May 1 at Elat Chayyim: Join Rabbis Marcelo Bronstein, Rachel Cowan and Claudia Kreiman 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. Information and applications online at www.bj.org or call Anne at x240 for more details.

Limited Space Left to Participate in BJ Shabbat Initiative House Meetings

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? We are holding house meetings to engage in a community conversation and develop a path to modern Shabbat practice for our congregation. If you would like to attend a house meeting, please choose one of the following remaining dates and email Deborah Pinsky at dpinsky@bj.org: 6/1 and 6/8.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAMAKOM YENAH'EM

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

- Marian Weinman on the death of her beloved sister, Regina Zallman.
- Morty and Bernice Levine on the death of Morty's beloved sister, Paula Kalmanash.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members: and their families

- Micah, Leslie Nelson and Jill Hayman on Micah becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Hillary, Jeff and Andrea Spiritos on Hillary becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Zachary, Daniel, Charles and Valerie Wolloch on Zachary becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Jonathan Lipton and Galina Kofman on their upcoming wedding.
- Traci Slatton and Sabin Howard, Jessica and Naomi Hendel on the naming of their daughter and sister, Madeleine Isabella Howard.
- Hilary and Craig Bromberg on the birth of their sons, Samuel Simon Bromberg and Isaac William Bromberg.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Me'ah is Coming to BJ: An Incredible Learning Opportunity

Monday, April 11, 7:30PM at 88th St.: Get a "A Taste of Me'ah".

Me'ah is an intensive program of Jewish study, which furnishes adults with a framework for ongoing study of Jewish texts, ideas and history. We believe Me'ah will be an extraordinary way for BJ members to gain an understanding of our tradition in a comprehensive framework. Join us Monday for a sample lesson and a question-and-answer session with Moshe Margolin, the Regional Director of the Me'ah program.

Attn: Morning Minyan-goers

We will be having a meeting to discuss new ideas for Morning Minyan. We would like you to join us and participate in this discussion. The date and time are **Wednesday, April 13** at 6:30PM at 88th St.

• Limud: Preparing for Pesah

2 Thursdays (April 14 and 21) 7 - 8:30PM, 1st Class at 86th St., 2nd Class in Frankel Hall: Join us for a study and preparation before Pesah. We will learn about the Haggadah and study prayers and readings for Pesah, as well as look at some traditions from different times and communities. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about leading or attending a Seder. Bring your own favorite Haggadah! Free, registration required. CODE: 529.

• "Share Shabbat:" BJ's Community Shabbat-At-Home Dinners

Friday, April 15: Join us as we open our homes and our hearts to share the blessings of Shabbat. Be a host or a guest (The guest form will be on the web by the end of this week). To sign up and

- Jennifer, Douglas, Stephen Kaufman and Marina Pinto-Kaufman on the birth of their son and grandson, Charlie Kaufman.
- Stacy and Eric Tavel on the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Leora Tavel.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Michael Torop and confirmation class of Temple Beth-El, St. Petersburg, Florida.
- Rabbi Arthur Starr and students of Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands.
- Candice Wesson, Director of Education and 9th Grade students of Beth El Temple Center, Belmont, Massachusetts.
- Rabbi Barry Friedman and 9th and 10th grade students of Temple Adath B'nai Israel, Evansville, Indiana.
- Rabbi Aryeh Azriel and 10th grade students of Temple Israel of Omaha, Nebraska.

This week's Community Kiddush and Flowers on the Bimah are sponsored by Jill Hayman and Leslie Nelson and Andrea Bernarde Spiritos and Jeff Spiritos in honor of their children Micah Nelson and Hillary Spiritos becoming b'nai mitzvah.

participate, you must be a BJ member. Go to www.bj.org and click on the "Share Shabbat" link. For info, contact Elana Weinberg, Chair of Hakhnasat Orhim, at x351 or at Hospitality@bj.org See attached flyer. Ten hosts have already signed up and so far we have room for 96 guests! Let's double the number of hosts by the closing date, April 13!

• Pesah Se'udah Match: Be a Seder Host or Guest

Saturday, April 23 (1st night Seder): Consider hosting BJ members at your seder table this year. Forms for hosts and guests were mailed to your home and can be found attached to this week's KJ. If you would like to take part in this mitzvah, all forms must be submitted by April 13. For info, please contact Elana Weinberg, Chair of the Hakhnasat Orhim Committee at x351 or at Pesah@bj.org

• BJ Book Group

Thursday, April 28, 7PM at 88th St.: The BJ Book Group will join with the Interfaith Committee to discuss *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. The award-winning novel is a lyrical, passionate meditation, depicting the inner life of a religious man; it's "a beautiful work -- demanding, grave and lucid" (The New York Times).

• BJ's 180th ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT in honor of Judith Stern Peck

Tuesday, May 24, 7:30PM at 88th St.: JOEL GREY IN PERFORMANCE. Join us for a joyful night to launch our 180th Anniversary Year! Stay tuned for more details. For info: x392.

• BJ's 180th Celebration Community Retreat

SAVE THE DATE! **June 3 - 5:** Don't miss out! This year's retreat promises to be a memorable one! Look for more details soon.

Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration at BJ - This year celebrate Israel's Independence Day at BJ!

Our celebration will span more than a week of study, Shabbat community meals, and other festivities with special guests.

- **Tuesday, May 3**, in co-sponsorship with the New Israel Fund, Martin Indyk, the former Ambassador to Israel will speak at BJ.
- **Friday, May 6**, join us for a community Shabbat Dinner with our guests from Hamidrasha.
- The week leading up to Yom Ha'Atzmaut, we will welcome our friends from Hamidrasha. They will lead us in discussion on topics that include Religion & Spirituality, Relations between Israel & the Diaspora, Connection to the Land, Jews & Arabs, Peace, Women & Economic Gaps. This event is hosted by the Israel Program Committee.
- **Wednesday, May 11**, The week of celebration culminates with a festive celebration on Yom Ha'Atzmaut.
- **Friday, May 13**, join us for Shabbat B'Yahad Dinner with Professor Arnie Eisen. Details about this dinner on page 3.



Sale of Hametz before Pesah

If you wish to sell your Hametz, call the BJ, Hametz hot line at x345 and leave your name and address. Speak slowly and clearly so your information is properly recorded. It is customary at this time of year to send a donation for this to BJ – please mark “Hametz” in the memo section of your check.

SINGLES

• Catered Shabbat Dinner at 88th Street

Friday April 8, at 88th St. Frankel Hall : If you have registered for this dinner, please join us following the 6PM service.

• Dorot (Passover) Package Delivery:

Sunday, April 10: If you have registered, please meet at 11AM at Brandeis High School (171 West 85th St. near Amsterdam).

• Singles Oneg

Friday, May 13 at 86th St. Social Hall following 6:45PM service: Spring is in the air and so is a new friend or special someone. Don't miss it! Refreshments served. See you there!

Save the Date!! • Date Bait Sunday, May 22, 6:30-9:30PM at 88th St. Your favorite singles' event is back! Not once, but twice this year! Get a chance to introduce yourself, mingle, list the people you want to date and let the “Dait Bait” facilitators and their computers tally up your match (participants who list each other) and then it's time to make your dates. Register online at www.BJ.org or with a credit card by calling x260. Checks can be sent to the BJ office marked “Singles Dait Bait-5/22”. To confirm registration call x260 to check money was received. Cost: \$20/ members/ \$30/non-members. Deadline is May 18. \$40 at the door if space is available. For info call Date Bait at (212)971-1084 or Michael at x260.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• Cup After Cup!

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

1. Buy Fair Trade products- coffee, cocoa, tea or bananas: Check BJ website for locations. Consumer demand is critical!
2. Convince 2 friends to switch to Fair Trade. Help affect Tikkun Olam and spread this idea in the world.
3. Help switch your office to Fair Trade. For info, please call x310.

• 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. For further information or to get involved in our efforts, call x369.

• 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. 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.

• **Attention: AIDS Walk 2005:** We are looking for 2 people to help Loren Brenowitz chair the BJ AIDS Walk team this year. If interested, please contact Carol Dikman at cdikman@bj.org or at x255.

YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION

• Families Cooking for the Shelter

Tuesday, April 12, 5PM at 88th St. Frankel Hall: Families with children in kindergarten and younger are invited to prepare a simple meal for the guests of BJ's shelter. *Please note that this event includes families with young children, and takes the place of the event originally scheduled for May 10.* Volunteers are asked to RSVP before Friday, April 8 to hgauss@bj.org

• Information Session for Parents of Prospective BJHS Students

Tuesday April 19 at 7PM in BJ's offices in the Ansonia, 2109 Broadway, Suite 203, (enter on 73rd Street): Parents who are considering enrolling their children at BJHS for the first time are invited to attend this information session. Please join us to learn more about the Hebrew School's vision, curriculum and unique approach, meet the Principal and Assistant Principal and members of the parents' committee. Bring your questions! In the meantime, we encourage you to review our Judaic and Hebrew Language curricula and Spring calendar on the website.

• Save the Date: BJ'S TRIP TO ISRAEL - Family Track!

December 25, 2005 to January 3, 2006: Join Roly, Marcelo, Felicia, and Ari on a BJ-designed trip to Israel in celebration of our 180th anniversary. Be among 180 of your fellow BJ members on this historic trip, comprised of multiple tracks for varying ages. We will have a special family track, including indoor and outdoor family friendly activities tied to daily themes. You will receive details about price shortly.

SHABBAT B'YAHAD

• Shabbat B'Yahad with Dr. Arnold M. Eisen

Friday, May 13 Following services at 88th St.: Dr. Eisen is the Department Chair and Daniel E. Koshland Professor (Hebrew University of Jerusalem). He has written several books including, *The Chosen People of America* and *Galut: Modern Jewish Reflection on Homelessness and Homecoming*. Cost: \$30/members; \$40/non-members. Register online at www.BJ.org or send a check made out to Congregation B'nai Jeshurun. In memo section of the check, write “SBY 5/13/05”. Note: All checks must be confirmed received by calling Michael at x260. Please include a phone number. Deadline is May 6. If space is available, add \$10 late fee for reservations received after deadline.

BJ COMMUNITY

• Too Cool for Shul - Steinhardt Jewish Heritage Festival

April 2 to May 7: BAM celebrates Jewish Heritage Month with contemporary Jewish music and the Fifth Annual Brooklyn Jewish Film Festival--this year highlighting Jewish humor. Plus live stand-up, special guest appearances, and free events! Visit www.BAM.org for complete details.

• Renaissance Concert

Sunday, April 17, 3PM at Christ & St. Stephen's Church, (122 W.69 St.): BJ member Judith Davidoff and the New York Consort of Viols will present a program of Renaissance and recent works including a setting of the Song of Songs. Cost: \$20/ seniors and students \$10. For more info, see flyer at back of SPSA or www.nyconsortofviols.org

CELEBRATE PESAH WITH ADDED JOY!

This year, make your Pesah seder an even richer experience!

- B'nai Jeshurun's CD and Songbook, "HaLailah Hazeh: The Music of Pesah at BJ".
- **GLIMPSES OF PASSOVER**" BJ's own cookbook featuring: stories, poems, memories and recipes galore.

Each item costs \$18

All are now available at the BJ office OR use order form on flyer in back of sanctuary. Order online at www.bj.org

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 Klitel 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

Join Roly, Marcelo, Felicia, and Ari on a BJ-designed trip to Israel in celebration of our 180th anniversary. We've chosen December 25th to January 3rd as the dates so that the maximum number of congregants of all ages can participate in this extraordinary Israel experience. Be among 180 of your fellow BJ members on this historic trip, which will include multiple tracks for varying ages and interests. You will receive sign-up materials shortly.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

ISRAELI SUPREME COURT RULES ON NONORTHODOX CONVERSION

by Kathleen Peratis

The perennially hotly debated question, "Who is a Jew," is actually, as it plays out in Israel, "Who is a rabbi?" For many years, converts from the Diaspora have been eligible to immigrate to Israel and claim Israeli citizenship under the Law of Return, no matter the denominational affiliation of the converting rabbi. Let us call that Rule 1.

On the other hand, the Israeli government does not recognize the legitimacy, for Law of Return-citizenship purpose, of the conversion of an Israeli resident who, in Israel, has studied with and converted under the auspices of a non-Orthodox rabbi. Let us call that Rule 2.

So, which rule applies to the non-Jewish resident of Israel who studies in Israel with a non-Orthodox rabbi and then goes abroad for a non-Orthodox conversion? This is the issue that faced the Israeli Supreme Court in a case decided last week.

Arguing for Rule 1 was the Israel Religious Action Center, representing fourteen foreigners living in Israel, including a Colombian national who has been living in Israel for fifteen years, working with handicapped children and studying Judaism with a Reform rabbi. He went to Buenos Aires for the actual conversion ceremony. The government argued that Rule 2 should apply, in order to maintain what it called "unified standards."

In a 7 to 4 decision, the Court said Rule 1 applied to the petitioners. "There is now more than one way to become Jewish in Israel, and that is wonderful," said Anat Hoffman, head of IRAC. Amen to that.

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