



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 Katie Mizrahi • Dara Frimmer • Lauren Thomas

March 24 - 31, 2006

24 Adar - 2 Nisan, 5766

VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI
 SHABBAT HAHOODESH
 MEVARKHIM HAHOODESH
TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 35:1 - 40:38
TRIENNIAL Exodus 37:17 - 39:21
MAFTIR Exodus 12:1 - 20
HAFTARAH Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18

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NEXT WEEK: **VAYIKRA**
TORAH: ANNUAL Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26
TRIENNIAL Leviticus 3:1 - 4:26
HAFTARAH Isaiah 43:21 - 44:23

FRIDAY, MARCH 24	
Kabbalat Shabbat Service	5:30 PM – 88th St. .
Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:15 PM – 88th St.
"Share Shabbat" Dinners	Following Services – Members' Homes
SATURDAY, MARCH 25	
Shabbat Services	9:30 AM – 86th St.
Children's Services	10:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor and Chapel
Naming	Lucy Jean Webster
Community Kiddush	Following Services – 86th St.
Beit Midrash for Families	1:15 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.3)
SUNDAY, MARCH 26	
Morning Minyan	9:30 AM – 88th St.
MONDAY, MARCH 27	
Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
TUESDAY, MARCH 28	
Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
<i>Limud: Gems From Genesis*</i>	8:10 AM – 88th St.
with Rabbi Hillel Friedman	
<i>Limud: Preparing for Pesah*</i>	7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)
with Marshall T. Meyer Fellow Rabbi Katie Mizrahi	
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29	
Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Kesharim	2:00 PM – 88th St.
<i>Limud: Women's Rosh Hodesh Group*</i>	7:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary (SEE P.2)
<i>Limud: Building a Personal Theology of Revelation*</i>	
with Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein	7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)
THURSDAY, MARCH 30	
Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program	12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
<i>Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a*</i>	7:00 PM – BJ Office
FRIDAY, MARCH 31	
Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

Spring into Action with Panim el Panim

This November and December, Panim el Panim hosted 18 house meetings at which nearly 180 congregants reflected on their Jewish values and envisioned how we could make significant change in New York. Throughout January and February, a dedicated group of activists attended our Leadership and Action Training Series to learn strategies for effective action.

Now, after sharpening our skills, exploring our passions, researching issue campaigns and identifying community partners, **we are ready to spring into action!**

We invite you to join us. This April, we will launch our second set of action campaigns. Don't miss out on exciting opportunities to make a difference as part of a kehillah kedoshah (holy community).

To find out more, please contact Guy Austrian, Director of Social Action/Social Justice, at gaustrian@bj.org or x259, or Laura Horwitz, Social Action/Social Justice Organizer, at lhhorwitz@bj.org or x261.

PLEASE NOTE: **KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE TIMES CHANGE AFTER DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME**
 Beginning *Friday, April 7* the early service will start at 6:00PM and the late service will start at 7:30PM, both at 88th Street.

MAKE A COMMITMENT TO THE TORAH PROJECT ONLINE!
 Visit the BJ website at www.bj.org/ctp/

* Please see the the BJ website, www.bj.org for information and how to register.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Rachel Etz Webster and Matthew Webster on the naming of their daughter, Lucy Jean Webster.
- Lori Robinson and Matthew C. Pasher on their recent engagement.
- Sandra and Allen Labelson, and Cynthia and Lou Fox, on the birth of their granddaughter and daughter, Emelia Kate Fox.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Helen and Robert Stark in honor of the birthdays of Robert Stark and Robert's mother, Ann Stark, and by Rachel Etz Webster and Matthew Webster in honor of the naming of their daughter, Lucy Jean Webster.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Scott M. Nagel and Confirmation Class, Temple Oheb Shalom, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Rabbi Bradd Boxman, Cantor Nancy Ginsberg, Youth Director Eliot Weinstein, and 15 students of the Confirmation Class of Har Sinai Congregation, Owings Mills, Maryland.
- Congregants and 7th and 8th graders, Temple Society of Concord, Syracuse, New York.
- Rabbis Howard Ruben and Arturo Kalfus and Confirmation Class, Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple, Beachwood, Ohio.
- Rabbi Aryeh Azriel and 10th grade students, Temple Israel, Omaha, Nebraska.
- Rabbi Brian Zimmerman, Congregation Beth Am, Tampa, Florida, and Rabbi James Perman, Temple Shalom, Naples, Florida.
- Rabbi Misha Zinkow and Confirmation Class, Temple Israel, Columbus, Ohio.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Music of the BJ Musicians

Saturday, April 1, 8:00PM at 88th St.: Celebrate springtime with the resident musicians of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun as they gather for the first time to present their own original music and amazing artistry. Five bands offer an eclectic mix of styles including Middle Eastern, cocktail cabaret, classical and traditional Jewish song. Artists include Yoel Ben-Simhon and Sultana Ensemble (with special guest Yair Dalal), Eugene Carr, Noah Hoffeld, Saskia Lane and Amanda Monaco (The Lascivious Biddies), Daphna Mor, Basya Schechter (Pharaoh's Daughter), Matt Turk and Tomer Tzur (Sway Machinery). Special guests include Rabbi Rolando Matalon and Hazzan Ari Priven. Admission: \$10 at the door. Don't miss this special concert!

• The Left Hand of God

Thursday, March 30, 8:00PM at New York Open Center, 83 Spring St.: Rabbi Michael Lerner speaks on "Taking Back our Country from the Religious Right," a critique of the state of faith in politics. Cost: \$14, \$10 students. Register at www.opencenter.org or 212-219-2527.

• "The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time" with Dr. Jeffrey Sachs

Saturday, April 8, 1:15PM at the Society for the Advancement of

Judaism, 15 West 86th St.: Can world poverty be radically reduced by 2015? Are the UN Millennium Development Goals practical solutions to what seems like the endemic nature of poverty? Dr. Sachs is Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, the UN Millennium Project, and author of the recently published book, *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. All are invited.

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

Wednesday, April 12 is the night of the First Seder! Consider including at your Seder table BJ members who need a place to celebrate the holiday. Hosts are desperately needed and if you would like to take part in this mitzvah, the Host form is currently on the BJ website, www.bj.org. The Guest form will follow shortly. For further information, please contact Carol Dikman at cdikman@bj.org or x255.

• Glimpses of Passover, the BJ Passover Cookbook

This unique collection of stories, recipes, and traditions comes to you directly from the kitchens and lives of our congregation. Edited by our own Carol Gelles, chef extraordinaire and prize-winning cookbook author. Cost: \$18, plus \$3.00 for shipping (no shipping charge if you pick it up at the BJ office, where you can also see a sample copy).

UPCOMING LIMUD

Please see the the BJ website, www.bj.org for more information and how to register.

• Building a Personal Theology of Revelation

Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein

4 Wednesdays (remaining class March 29) • 7:00-8:30PM •

88th St. • Cost: Free, registration required

Through the process of analyzing texts dealing with revelation, we will explore building a personal theology centered on a personal and communal notion of revelation.

• Preparing for Pesah

Marshall T. Meyer Fellow Rabbi Katie Mizrahi

2 Tuesdays (March 28, April 4) • 7:00-8:30PM • 86th St. Chapel •

Cost: Free, registration required

We will learn about the Haggadah and study prayers and readings for Pesah, look at traditions from different times and communities, and discuss modern additions to the Seder. Please bring your questions! This is an opportunity to learn more about leading or attending a Seder and participating in the holiday of our freedom from bondage.

• Rosh Hodesh Women's Group for Nisan

Wednesday, March 29 • 7:00PM • 88th St. Sanctuary • Cost: Free,

registration not required

Please join us to celebrate, study and pray together on this holiday traditionally associated with women. Please bring a snack—fruit, veggies, dip or any packaged product that is marked Kosher—to share.

• Contemplative Practice

Rabbis Marcelo R. Bronstein and Rachel Cowan

Wednesday, April 5 • 6:00-9:30PM • Makom Room, The JCC,

334 Amsterdam Ave. at 76th St. • Cost: Free, registration required
Working on our souls, working in the world: linking the inner and the outer. A monthly series of urban mini-retreats—3 hours of meditation, a meal, study, reflection and prayer. Please join us to strengthen your spirit and open your heart!

• Tzedakah Kenahal Eitan: Justice Like a Mighty Stream

Rabbis J. Rolando Matalon and Felicia L. Sol

3 Wednesdays (May 10, 17, 24) • 6:30-8:00PM • 88th St. •

Cost: Free, registration required

We will explore Jewish sources that serve as the foundation for our vision of social change.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• BJ/Ralph Bunche School Partnership Seeks Volunteers

We invite you to join us Tuesdays or Thursdays from 9–10:30AM when we gather at the Ralph Bunche School (P.S. 125) to help children in Grades 1–4 strengthen reading and comprehension skills. This partnership is an exciting opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children, one child at a time, and be part of a mitzvah that strengthens the force of tikkun olam within our community.

For additional information on becoming a part of the Reading Partnership, contact Ruth Joseph at rjoseph@aaahawk.com or 212-877-6682.

• Rally for Darfur: Save the Date and Sign Up TODAY

Sunday, April 30, Washington, DC: Get on the bus! Join the BJ rabbis in demanding that the world respond to the ongoing crisis in Darfur. Sign up today at www.jccmanhattan.org/darfur. There are special buses for teens and Tze'irim (20s and 30s). To join our Darfur Committee or for more information, contact Charles Lenchner at clenchner@bj.org or x240.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• Volunteer to Help Lead April Junior Congregation!

All of BJ's children who are in 3rd grade and up are invited to help lead our Junior Congregation service. If your child is interested in helping to lead part of the April Junior Congregation service on **Saturday, April 1**, please contact Kerrith at ksolomon@bj.org or x253 by **Tuesday, March 28**.

• Change in Date of Second Graders Cooking for the Shelter

Please note that because of Pesah, the second graders will not be cooking for the shelter on April 11 as originally planned, but rather will join the first graders on **May 9**. More information will follow closer to the date.

• Reminder: B'nai Mitzvah Introductory Meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00PM at 88th St.: Parents of children whose birthdates fall between September, 1995 and December, 1996 are invited to take the first step in their family's Bar/Bat Mitzvah journey. Call x223 with questions.



**180TH ANNIVERSARY
COMMUNITY TORAH PROJECT**
Darkhei No'am • Ways of Pleasantness

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Family Beit Midrash with Rabbi Felicia Sol

Saturday, March 25 following Kiddush at 86 St.: Join us for a special Family Beit Midrash geared towards guiding families in finding their connection to our new Torah. Please let us know at 212-787-7600 x392 or torahproject@bj.org if you plan on attending.

• SAVE THE DATE—Siyyum: Our Devarim Celebration

Sunday, May 21, 4:00-6:00PM at 88th St.

• REMINDER: Pick up a beautifully designed tzedakah box so your child (under 13) can be part of the commitment process.

For further information about these events
or the Community Torah Project in general, contact
Marnee Horesh at torahproject@bj.org or x241.



SPRING 2006 RETREATS

Register at www.bj.org for these special weekends:

• Working on Our Souls, Working in the World: Linking the Inner and the Outer

April 7–9, Elat Chayyim: Our annual meditation retreat, led by Rabbis Marcelo Bronstein and Rachel Cowan. Explore contemplative practice as a resource for inspiring, supporting and sustaining wise social action. 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 cultivate an awareness to become kinder, more compassionate and more effective activists, able to build communities of action that support their members. Cost: \$280 per person, double room/\$330 single for BJ members who sign up by March 20.

• 2006 BJ Women's Retreat

April 21–23, Camp Isabella Freedman, Falls Village, CT: BJ's fifth annual Women's Retreat, led by Rabbis Felicia Sol and Katie Mizrahi in honor of our 180th anniversary. Be part of a Shabbat weekend devoted to encountering tradition—and ourselves—through kol nashim (women's voices). This is a great opportunity for women seeking a "time out" from the stress of New York living, a chance to be in intimate spiritual community, and a way for new or less-connected members to deepen their BJ experience. Cost: \$210–\$285 for BJ members who sign up by March 30.

Prices are slightly higher for non-members and late registrants, if space allows. Contact Charles Lenchner at x240 or clenchner@bj.org for more information.

TORAH FACT



Torah Trivia—More than the Four Questions: Don't peek at the answers. I've given you hints for some; for others you need to go to the Humash, or check past Torah Facts. If you haven't saved them, fear not; they're all at http://www.bj.org/torah_facts.php

1. What is the longest word in the Torah? (It's in Genesis.)
2. How many total columns are there in the Torah scroll?
3. What is the first letter of every column except for Genesis 1:1 and Numbers 24:5?
4. How many lines are there in each column?
5. How is the writing of the "Song of the Sea" (Exodus 15) and Moses' farewell poem (Deuteronomy 32) different from the writing in the rest of the Torah?
6. What is different about the last three words of the Sefer Torah?
7. How many verses are there in the Torah?
8. How many words does the longest verse in Genesis have?

—Lynda Fisher

ANSWERS: 1. 'l'mshp'choteihelm, Gen. 8:19 2. 248 3. vuv 4. 42 5. Both are in a different style from the rest of the Torah 6. They must be written on a line of their own 7. 5845 8. 26

MASA'EINU—OUR JOURNEY



As BJ turns 180, each week the Kol Jeshurun will feature an anecdote about our history. Much of the information is gleaned from A Century of Judaism in New York by Rabbi Israel Goldstein, who served this congregation for many years in the last century.

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... Under the rabbinic leadership of Dr. Judah L. Magnes in the years 1911 and 1912, BJ stood out eminently among the Jewish congregations in America. It was to become the vehicle of a new dispensation in American Judaism. Some of the most prominent Jews in the city joined the Congregation, among them: Felix Warburg, Louis Marshall, Irving Lehman, Cyrus Sulzberger, and Henrietta Szold.

JOIN US AT THE BJ MORNING MINYAN: See updated information about the Morning Minyan at www.bj.org/schedule.php where you can indicate what days you plan to attend and view how many people have signed up for the current week—and see where our need is greatest.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 on becoming a member? BJ is 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 7:15PM Friday night service, please bring books to the back as you leave. Tallitot and damaged books may be brought to the back of the sanctuary after Shabbat services. Men are asked to wear kippot upon entering the sanctuary and during services. Food, photography, and cell phone use is not permitted in the sanctuary. To prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before services begin.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

The "Focus on Israel" column presents information about our Israeli partnerships, texts and commentary on Israel, book reviews, and discussions of education, spirituality, and social justice in Israel.

**KOL HA-ISHA
By Sally Gottesman**

As March is International Women's Month, I wanted to share with you information about Kol Ha-Isha—The Jerusalem Women's Center (literally, "The Woman's Voice"), www.kolhaisha.israel.net—one of Israel's many wonderful and important women's organizations.

Kol Ha-Isha, founded in 1994, is a feminist grassroots organization in downtown Jerusalem. Dedicated to developing and promoting a feminist, multicultural model of social change, Kol Ha-Isha empowers women from often marginalized socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds, nationalities, and sexual orientations. Kol Ha-Isha makes a difference in the City of Jerusalem and in the lives of women and men who live there.

Directed by Yehudith Oppenheimer, Kol Ha-Isha runs a full range of programs. One you'll want to see for yourself when you are next in Jerusalem is Antea, a small feminist art gallery featuring amazing work by women of all class and national backgrounds. Most of Kol Ha-Isha's work, though, is with poor women in Jerusalem. Among their excellent programs are:

- A Comprehensive Program for the Economic Empowerment of Women, which consists of two micro-business projects, "A Business of Your Own" and "Women Cook up a Business" (a catering company);
- Mi Askuka/Ta'asuka, an employment readiness program; and
- Crisis Counseling and Referral Center, providing peer and legal counseling and referrals to support and empowerment groups at Kol Ha-Isha and in low-income neighborhoods.

Kol Ha-Isha is a living attempt to promote genuine social change and co-existence in Jerusalem. This Shabbat it is an honor to share these women's voice.

Sally Gottesman is a member of BJ's Israel Steering Committee and the Chair of Moving Traditions. She can be reached at sally@eleemosynary.net

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

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