



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 31 - April 7, 2006

2 - 9 Nisan, 5766

VAYIKRA

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

.....

NEXT WEEK: **TZAV**
 SHABBAT HAGADOL

TORAH: ANNUAL Leviticus 6:1 - 8:36
TRIENNIAL Leviticus 7:11 - 38
HAFTARAH Malakhi 3:4 - 24

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 5:30 PM – 88th St.
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:15 PM – 88th St.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Shabbat Services 9:30 AM – 86th St.
 Junior Congregation 10:30 AM – 86th St. Social Hall
 Children's Services 10:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor and Chapel

Bar Mitzvah Andrew Orenstein
 Bar Mitzvah Harry Zieve-Cohen

Music of the BJ Musicians 8:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, APRIL 3

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
*Limud: Gems From Genesis** 8:10 AM – 88th St.
 with Rabbi Hillel Friedman
*Limud: Preparing for Pesah** 7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)
 with Marshall T. Meyer Fellow Rabbi Katie Mizrahi

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Kesharim 2:00 PM – 88th St.
*Limud: Contemplative Practice** 6:00 PM – Makom Room, JCC (SEE P.2)
 with Rabbis Marcelo Bronstein and Rachel Cowan
 B'nai Mitzvah Introductory Meeting 7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
*Limud: Parashat Hashavu'a** 7:00 PM – BJ Office

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

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:
DEADLINE MAY 1, 2006!
 Visit the BJ website at www.bj.org/ctp/

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

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE
OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday, April 25
 88th Street Sanctuary • 6:30 PM

Panim el Panim Launches NEW Action Campaigns: You've read our KJ blurbs, you've heard about our leadership trainings, and you've seen the results we achieve when we take action as a community. Now, come find out for yourself what all the fuss is about.

Please join us on April 25 as we announce our second round of action campaigns. Connect with fellow congregants, tap into your social justice passions, and commit to joining an action *Hevra* at this fun and celebratory event.

To RSVP, please e-mail shatchett@bj.org or call 212-787-7600 x366.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HA-MAKOM YENAHM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our beloved member Ruth Bernstein and extends sincere condolences to Edward Brill and Micki Levin and their entire family.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Harry Zieve-Cohen, Joel Cohen, Karyn Zieve-Cohen and Samuel Zieve-Cohen in honor of Harry becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Andrew Orenstein, Hank and Sonia Orenstein in honor of Andrew becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's flowers for the bimah are sponsored by Sonia and Hank Orenstein and Karyn Zieve and Joel Cohen in honor of their children Andrew Tivon Orenstein and Harry Zieve-Cohen becoming B'nai Mitzvah.
- To members who hosted BJ guests for Shabbat dinner this past Friday evening: Ira Schwarz and Bonnie Oglengsky, Andrea Newman,

Lauren Rott, Stacey Shubitz, Robin Kerner, Estare and David Weiser, Judith and Jules Love, Karen Radkowsky, Robin Fleischner and Ted Metzger, Elaine Nevins.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Program Coordinator Mary-Ellen Friedland and 6th grade class, Temple Emanuel of Maryland, Kensington, Maryland.
- Rabbi Marc Soloway, BaDerech class of Congregation Bonai Shalom, Pardes Levavot, and Nevei Kodesh, Boulder, Colorado.
- Rabbi Mark Shapiro, Cantor Emily Meckler and students of Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts.
- Rabbis Fred Reiner and Shena Potter and Confirmation Class of Temple Sinai of Washington, DC.
- Youth Educator, David List and students of Congregation Beth El of the Sudbury River Valley, Sudbury, Massachusetts, and the Hugim School of Haifa.
- Josh Laurence, Youth Educator and teens from Temple Beth Sholom, Miami Beach, Florida.

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!

• 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. If you would like to take part in this mitzvah, please complete the forms that are online at www.bj.org. For further information, please contact Carol Dikman at cdikman@bj.org or x255.

• Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day

Monday, April 24, 6:45PM at 88th St.: Please join us at our annual Yom HaShoah service. In loving memory, we will recite the names of family members murdered during the Shoah. This year, we honor the

memory of artists with a screening of Barbara Pfeffer's "Art and Remembrance: The Legacy of Felix Nussbaum." Following the film, there will be a question and answer session with Dr. Susan Chevlowe, Adjunct Professor in Jewish Art and Visual Culture at the Jewish Theological Seminary, moderated by Myriam Abramowicz.

• 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).

• Nominations for the BJ Board of Trustees

The nominating committee of the Board of Trustees is seeking recommendations for nominations to the Board to serve a three-year term beginning July 2006. BJ members who would like to suggest a candidate are invited to do so by April 11, 2006 by email to dpinsky@bj.org or call x 254. When making a recommendation, please keep in mind that BJ is seeking individuals who actively participate in BJ's communal life, are consensus builders, provide positive leadership and have prior experience. We will review all recommendations and present a slate for adoption at the annual meeting of the congregation to be held June 8, 2006.

UPCOMING LIMUD

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

• Preparing for Pesah

Marshall T. Meyer Fellow Rabbi Katie Mizrahi

2 Tuesdays (remaining class 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.

• 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. Frankel Hall

• 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 or call 646-505-5708. 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

• **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 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.

LGBTQ

• **BJ LGBTQ**

BJ Gay will be meeting after the late service on **Friday, April 21** at the rear of the 88th St. Sanctuary. All members of the LGBTQ community at BJ, and their families and friends, are welcome. Email Joe at joeantenson@msn.com for more information.

TORAH FACT



Oral Torah: Scholars date the Hebrew term Torah shebe al peh (by memory), or Oral Torah, as having originated in the Galilee between the third and fifth centuries CE.

The Oral Torah is thought to be what God gave to Moses on Sinai detailing instructions about how to carry out each of the 613 commandments and apply the laws. For example, the written Torah tells us to obey the Sabbath. The Oral Torah tells us what we must do. The written Torah tells us to kill animals in a kosher fashion. The Oral Torah tells us how to carry this out.

The Torah was given to Moses, who fulfilled the commandment of teaching it to others. It was meant to be handed down, given by word-of-mouth from teacher to student, each living it. Oral Torah was brought down through the rabbinic communities and ultimately canonized and written down, preserved as the mishnah.

It wasn't until the Jews were about to enter the Promised Land, and Moses was to soon die, that he wrote the scroll of the written Torah and gave it to the Jewish people. The basic teachings of the Torah are written. The rest needs to be remembered, discussed, and its questions clarified by every Jew. —Lynda Fisher



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.

• **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.

• **Women's Hamidrasha Delegation from Israel**

We will be hosting seven women from April 20-27. They will be staying with BJ members and attending the Women's Retreat on April 21-23. This is one more reason to sign up for the retreat before it fills up!

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.



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

• **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.

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.

...

... A permanent site for the current building on 88th Street was purchased in September, 1916. The work of building the edifice was made difficult by wartime conditions. The original plans were modified; they originally contemplated placing schoolrooms above the sanctuary but instead they were placed in the basement. The total cost of the building was \$360,000 including \$135,000 for the cost of the land.

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 community and Shabbat services, see our "Welcome to BJ" brochure at the back of the sanctuary, or ask an usher to be seated next to a congregant familiar with the services.

- **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.

PARTNERS IN JEWISH RENAISSANCE AND RENEWAL IN ISRAEL
By Stephen Stulman

The following is an excerpt from a recent Study by The Jewish Agency for Israel:

"Israelis are asking fundamental questions about the meaning of their lives and of their State ... They are evolving new forms of Jewish expression and Jewish community ... They need Jewish resources to guide them ... Should nurturing and supporting this movement remain a priority for Diaspora Jews? The answer is yes...more so than ever. The overarching challenge is how to bring the Jewish renaissance trend closer to the center stage of Israeli life ... The sense is that the time is right and that Israelis are ready to accept new alternatives, as Israel is moving towards a pluralistic stage in its development ... Jewish renaissance is a joint project between Israel and Diaspora Jews ... The Diaspora experience is an important model for Jews in Israel who are seeking to change the status quo ... They find inspiration in the Diaspora's diversity and creativity, and look to its many vital groups (especially BJ) for expertise and advice ... Many of the initiatives have been made possible by Diaspora philanthropic funds. It is impossible to overestimate the importance of Diaspora assistance at this early stage in view of the absence of government support, philanthropic consciousness and fund-raising sophistication."

If you would like to learn more about BJ's Israeli partners, please see BJ's website, www.bj.org (click on "Focus on Israel" in the left hand column of the home page), or contact the BJ Israel Steering Committee (robin.fleischner@verizon.net) and ask how you can help RESHET, our Network of Israeli Partner Communities.

Stephen Stulman has been instrumental in creating partnerships between Israeli nontraditional spiritual communities and BJ.

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