



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

April 7 - 14, 2006 **9 - 16 Nisan, 5766**

TZAV

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

NEXT WEEK:
SHABBAT HOL HAMO ED PESAH
TORAH Exodus 33:12 - 34:26
MAFTIR Numbers 28:19 - 25
HAFTARAH Ezekiel 37:1 - 14

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

TAHLIS TIME: LET'S GET TO WORK!
 Tuesday, April 25
 88th Street Sanctuary • 6:30-8:30 PM

Panim el Panim Launches Four NEW Action Campaigns:
 Join us for an evening of conversation, inspiration, and perspiration as we kick off our second round of action campaigns. All four action hevras will meet under one roof to welcome new members and commit to action steps. We need doers, planners, thinkers, and dreamers. Now is the time to join this growing and vibrant initiative.

- By next Passover, you'll know you were part of:
- **Fair Share for Healthcare:** repairing our broken health-care system by requiring corporations to pay their fair share, and by lowering the price of prescription drugs in our state.
- **Healthy Teens Act:** ensuring that families can access comprehensive, age appropriate, and medically accurate sex education.
- **Marriage Equality:** speaking out for equal legal rights and benefits for same-sex couples.
- **Greening BJ:** adopting environmentally sustainable practices in our synagogue and our homes, and building a movement among local congregations to do the same.

To RSVP for April 25, please call 212-787-7600 x366 or e-mail shatchett@bj.org.

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Wandering Minyan 6:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
 Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM – 88th St. Sanctuary

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Shabbat Services 9:30 AM – 86th St.
 Children's Services 10:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor and Chapel
 Naming Stella Hanna Merims
 Bat Mitzvah Sydney Golden
 Bat Mitzvah Maya Liran

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

BJ HEBREW SCHOOL CLOSED
 Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Limud: Gems From Genesis** 8:10 AM – 88th St.
 with Rabbi Hillel Friedman

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12 **FIRST SEDER PESAH**

BJ OFFICE CLOSSES AT 1:00 PM
 Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
 Siyyum and Se'udat Mitzvah 7:30 AM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)
 First Evening Pesah Service 6:45 PM – 88th St.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13 **FIRST DAY PESAH SECOND SEDER PESAH**

BJ HEBREW SCHOOL CLOSED • BJ OFFICE CLOSED
 First Day Pesah Services 9:30 AM – 88th St.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14 **SECOND DAY PESAH 1ST DAY OMER**

BJ OFFICE CLOSED **HESED SHEBEHESED**
 Second Day Pesah Services 9:30 AM – 88th St.

| PESAH SCHEDULE OF SERVICES | | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| First Evening Pesah | Weds., April 12 | 6:45 PM | 88th Street |
| First Day Pesah* | Thurs., April 13 | 9:30 AM | 88th Street |
| Second Evening Pesah | Thurs., April 13 | No Service | |
| Second Day Pesah* | Fri., April 14 | 9:30 AM | 88th Street |
| Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Pesah (evening)/Kabbalat Shabbat | | | |
| | Fri., April 14 | 6:00 & 7:30 PM | 88th Street |
| Shabbat Hol Hamo'ed Pesah (morning)* | | | |
| | Sat., April 15 | 9:30 AM | 86th Street |
| Seventh Evening Pesah | Tues., April 18 | 7:30 PM | 88th Street |
| Seventh Day Pesah* | Weds., April 19 | 9:30 AM | 88th Street |
| Eighth Evening Pesah | Weds., April 19 | 8:30 PM | 88th Street |
| Eighth Day Pesah* — Yizkor | Thurs., April 20 | 9:30 AM | 88th Street |

*Children's Services begin at 10:45 each morning.
 Services for Hol Hamo'ed Pesah will be at the usual minyan times.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Stephen Shepard, Lynn Povich, Sarah and Ned Shepard on the death of Stephen's beloved sister and Sarah and Ned's beloved aunt, Barbara Glaser.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Leslie and Daniel Merims and Theodora and Adam Merims in honor of the naming of their granddaughter and daughter, Stella Hanna Merims.
- Sydney Golden, Michael Dini, Daniel, and Julian Golden in honor of Sydney becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Maya Liran, Shlomi Liran and Adena Greenberg, Hilda Greenberg, and Omri, Katie, Tyler, Ira, Bianca, Lynn and Noam, in honor of Maya

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Sale of Hametz before Pesah

If you wish to sell your Hametz, call the BJ Hametz hotline at 212-787-7600 x345 and leave your name and address. Speak slowly and clearly so your information is properly recorded. It is customary at this time of the year to send a donation for this to BJ—please mark “Hametz” in the memo section of your check.

• Se'udat Mitzvah

Wednesday, April 12, 7:30AM at 88th St.: Following morning minyan, all are welcome to join in a siyyum, completion of a tractate of rabbinic literature, followed by a se'udat mitzvah, a meal accompanying the performance of a mitzvah (here the completion of study). All first born in attendance are then permitted to eat and break the Fast of the Firstborn (Ta'anit B'khorim).

• HaLaileh Hazeh, The Music of Pesah at BJ CD AND Glimpses of Passover: The BJ Passover Cookbook

Both are now available at the BJ office or online for \$18 each (plus shipping where applicable).

• 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.

• A Shabbat Weekend With Deborah Lipstadt, Ph.D.

May 5–6: Dr. Lipstadt is Director of Rabbi Donald A. Tam Institute for Jewish Studies and Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University. Her book, *History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving*, is the story of her libel trial in London against

becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

- Merrill Feinstein-Feit and Stuart Feit on the engagement of their son Rabbi Shir Yaakov Feinstein-Feit to Shayna Korb.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's flowers for the bimah are sponsored by Dini and Michael Golden, and Adena Greenberg and Shlomi Liran in honor of their children, Sydney Golden and Maya Liran, becoming B'not Mitzvah.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Teacher Lisa Paiva and students, Lakeshore Catholic High School, Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada.
- Student Rabbi Rachel Greengrass and students, Goucher College, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Minister John Shorb and the 20's/30's Group, Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew.

David Irving, who sued her for calling him a Holocaust denier and right-wing extremist. **Friday, May 5**, following the early service, at 88th St.: Shabbat B'Yahad dinner. Dr. Lipstadt will discuss her experiences in the trial, its outcomes and what lies ahead. Dinner: \$40 members/\$50 non-members. \$50/\$60 after April 28, space permitting. Register at www.bj.org, by phone, or by mail. Along with your check, please include your name, address, phone numbers, and email, and the names of each person attending. Write the date of the dinner, 5/5, in the memo section of your check. Address your envelope "Attn: Shakeara." **Saturday, May 6, 4:00PM** at 88th St.: Dr. Lipstadt will offer a lecture to our community. Cost: Free, registration required.

• The 18th Annual Renee Kaufman Memorial Program

Tuesday, May 9, 7:30PM at 88th St.: We are honored to have Rabbi Joseph Telushkin speak on the topic "You Shall Be Holy"—What is Distinctive About Jewish Ethics." *A Code of Jewish Ethics*, Rabbi Telushkin's recently published book, will be available for sale. Blu Greenberg and Tovah Feldshuh will also participate. Following his presentation, there will be refreshments and Rabbi Telushkin will be pleased to autograph his book. It is a privilege to have a scholar such as Rabbi Telushkin address the BJ community. Doors open at 7:00PM. Admission: Free.

• The Amulet, an original translation by BJ member Ellen Perceman and Mark Altman

April 13–May 6, New Worlds Theatre Project (Ellen Perceman, founder and executive director). Directed by Isaac Butler. Wed.-Sat. at 8:00PM. 78th St. Theatre Lab, 236 West 78th St. Tickets: \$18 (\$12 with student ID) at www.newworldstheatre.org or call SmartTix, 212-868-4444.

• Spiritual Activism Conference

May 17–20, Washington, DC: Held by the National Network of Spiritual Progressives. Speakers include Rev. Jim Walis, Sister Joan Chittister, Rabbi Brian Walt, Katrina Vanden Heuvel and many others. For more information, visit www.tikkun.org

UPCOMING LIMUD

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

• 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.

• Prayer and Synagogue Skills

Marshall T. Meyer Fellows Dara Frimmer and Lauren Thomas

2 Thursdays (May 11, 18) • 7:00-9:00PM • 88th St. Frankel Hall

• Cost: members free/non-members \$30, registration required

What is the structure of the service? When and why do we bow during the Amidah? In this workshop, we will explore the structure and "choreography" of the service and address such questions as: how can we find meaning in the rigidity of daily prayer? How can tallit and tefillin enhance our prayer experience?

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **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). For more information, contact Charles Lenchner at clenchner@bj.org or x240.

• **Darfur Action Meeting**
Tuesday, April 11, 7:00PM at the BJ Office: This is a volunteer meeting to help plan our community's response to the genocide in Darfur, and to strengthen our presence at the "Save Darfur" rally in Washington, DC on April 30. Contact Charles Lenchner at x240 or clenchner@bj.org for more information.

• **What's Happening in Darfur? Educational Event with Ruth Messinger**
Monday, April 17, 7:30PM at 88th St.: In preparation for the "Save Darfur" Rally on April 30, BJ is hosting an educational event with Ruth Messinger, Rabbi Roly Matalon and a spokesperson from Darfur.

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.

TZE'IRIM: 20S/30S

• **Mimouna: End Passover With Tze'irim**
Thursday, April 20, 8:45PM: Come celebrate Mimouna (an end-of-Passover festival) at 420 Bar & Lounge, located at 420 Amsterdam Avenue at 80th St. \$10 charge, open beer and wine bar. Please contact clenchner@bj.org for more information. *To join the Tze'irim 20s/30s email list, email bjtzeirim-subscribe@yahoo.com*

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



Respectful Treatment of the Sefer Torah: Sacred books are treated with the utmost respect in Jewish tradition, according to strict rules. The Torah above all else is treated as a living holy object. Books containing the Sefer Torah (i.e., Humashim) may be placed upon other books, but not vice-versa. We stand when the Torah is removed from the Ark and are very careful not to allow it to touch the floor.

To drop a Torah scroll shows an indifference to its care, and carries with it an obligation to redeem oneself and atone for having shown disrespect. The tradition of fasting 40 days, equal to the 40 in which the Torah was given, helps us atone. The responsibility of fasting falls on everyone who was present at the time. This fast is less strict than other fast days. It does not have to be 40 days in a row and is done only during daylight hours. In addition to the fast, people normally give tzadakah. These acts of fasting and charity remind us of the Sefer Torah's holiness and the respect it deserves.

—Lynda Fisher



PLEASE NOTE: The BJ Women's Retreat is full. Should there be a cancellation, call Charles Lenchner at x240 to sign up.

• **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 are invited to suggest a candidate by April 11, 2006 to dpinsky@bj.org or x254. 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.



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

THERE IS LESS THAN ONE MONTH LEFT TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR COMMUNITY TORAH PROJECT!

Our new Torah will be complete when each of its 304,805 letters is written. But our community will not be complete without your participation. **Make a commitment to the BJ community and be a part of the Community Torah Project today.**

Be sure to make your donation before the **May 1** deadline. For further information, contact Aviva Raichelson at 212-787-7600 x242

• **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 the Community Torah Project, contact **Marnee Horesh** at mhoresh@bj.org or x241.

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.

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 direct quote from a passage describing us in 1918 in *A Century of Judaism in New York*: "The dignity and beauty of the Religious Service as it was conducted at B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue made a strong appeal to the Synagogue-going Jews on the West Side. It was the only Service of its kind in the neighborhood. The other Services were either Orthodox or Reform. The B'nai Jeshurun Service, combining the traditional element with some of the modern innovations, was well received."

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 7:30PM 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 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.

MEETING ISRAELIS
By Anne Landsman

When Andrea Siegel sent us a questionnaire about what we wanted to do, see and learn in Israel, one of the categories was "meeting and getting to know Israelis." I'd met Israelis all over the world—in Israel, when I lived on a kibbutz for three months when I was nineteen, in South Africa, where I grew up, in America, which has been my home since the early eighties. They often seemed fiercely opinionated, single-minded to a fault. Without a second thought, I gave the "meeting Israelis" category a low score.

What I didn't bargain for, was how different this trip was going to be. I came as an adult, and not a teenager. This time, I had the privilege of traveling with a community I treasure, a husband I love and two children who are the light of my life. Something had shifted inside me, had opened up. The ancient landscape started to fill up with people, people I wanted to talk to, to learn from.

Traveling with us on the Zelda bus was Yehuda Stein, one of the youth educators. On one bus ride, he told my husband and I about his time serving in the Army and how he had lost his best friend in a bombing. He's twenty-three, and could be my son, I kept thinking, as he described how hard it was for him to lay tefillin when he lost his friend, how it seemed as if he lost everything.

Everywhere we went, I found myself talking to Israelis, compelled by their stories, their lives. In Tel Aviv, on the night we had Shabbat with our Israeli partners, we were seated at dinner with Baruch and Zohar Lipsky. Baruch wrote his M.A. thesis on women partisan fighters in the Second World War. Baruch's father had been a partisan fighter, a great hero, but he found it hard to talk to him about his past. So he wrote about women fighters, and, from interviewing them, learned about his own father. I told him that my parents had come to Israel from South Africa in 1948, to fight in the war. He was immediately interested in their story. We realize that the same questions were threaded through our lives. We had been raised by the same generation of parents, and we had struggled, in similar ways, to make sense of their lives so that we could make sense of our own.

In ten short days, it felt as if we had made a myriad of instant connections. I was no longer looking at Israel from the outside as a tourist, but from the inside, as a Jew among her fellow-Jews.

Anne Landsman is the author of a novel, The Devil's Chimney. Her writing has appeared in The American Poetry Review, Bomb, Poets and Writers, and The Washington Post.

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