



**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 Dara Frimmer • Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt • Brent Chaim Spodek

December 8 - 15, 2006 17 - 24 Kislev, 5767

**VAYISHLAH**

**TORAH: ANNUAL** Genesis 32:4 - 36:43  
**TRIENNIAL** Genesis 35:16 - 36:43  
**HAFTARAH** Ovadiah 1:1 - 2:11

NEXT WEEK: **VAYESHEV**  
 MEVARKHIM HAHOESH  
**TORAH: ANNUAL** Genesis 37:1 - 40:23  
**TRIENNIAL** Genesis 39:1 - 40:23  
**MAFTIR** Numbers 7:1 - 7:17  
**HAFTARAH** Zekhariah 2:14 - 4:7

**SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK**

A Light that Lasts Beyond Eight Days:  
 This Hanukkah, Purchase a Book or Books for 3rd Graders at the Ralph Bunche School

The holiday season is upon us and we are reminded of the miracle of a little light that illuminated longer than the likelihood of its anticipated life. This Hanukkah, as you prepare to celebrate the festival of lights, the volunteers of the BJ/Ralph Bunche School Partnership would like to offer you the opportunity to create an everlasting light in the minds of the children. Third-grade teachers at the Ralph Bunche School have put together a list of books for their classroom libraries. We invite you to contribute by purchasing a book or books through amazon.com by clicking the button that says "Gifts and Gift Certificates" and entering "BJ/Ralph Bunche School" in the "Find someone's Wish List" search field. You can also click the link on the Social Action/Social Justice page of [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) to be taken directly to the list. For more information, please contact Danae Yarnell at [DSY621@aol.com](mailto:DSY621@aol.com) or leave a message at x301.

**"SAND AND SORROW"**  
 Thursday, December 14, 7:30PM, 88th Street: American Jewish World Service and BJ are screening a powerful film about Darfur called "Sand and Sorrow." Please join us and confirm your attendance as seating is limited. RSVP to [screening@suatld.com](mailto:screening@suatld.com) or 212-792-2829

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 5:45 PM – 88th St.  
 Community Shabbat Dinner Following 5:45 PM Service – 88th St. (SEE P.2)  
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:15 PM – 88th St.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9**

Shabbat Services 9:30 AM – 86th St.  
 Children's Services 10:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor and Chapel  
 Bar Mitzvah Stuart Spivak  
 Bat Mitzvah Anna Bernstein  
 Community Kiddush Following Services – 86th St.  
 Minḥa/Ma'ariv—Storahtelling 4:00 PM – 88th St.  
 Bar Mitzvah Tai Bendit-Shtull

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10**

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.  
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11**

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.  
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall  
*Limud: Introduction to Judaism\** 7:00 PM – BJ Office

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12**

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.  
*Limud: Gems of Genesis\** 8:10 AM – 88th St.  
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall  
*Limud: Who is Man? Who is Woman and Where Is His/Her Community?\** 7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)  
*Limud: Prayer and Synagogue Skills\** 7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13**

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.  
 Kesharim 2:00 PM – 88th St.  
 Family Hanukkah Program 4:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)  
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14**

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.  
 Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall  
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall  
*Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a\** 7:00 PM – BJ Office  
 Screening of "Sand and Sorrow" 7:30 PM – 88th St (SEE SIDEBAR)

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15**

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
 On Friday, December 22 and Friday, December 29, there will be just one Kabbalat Shabbat service: 6:30PM at 88th Street.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HA-MAKOM YENAHM

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

- Sharyn Wagreich on the death of her beloved grandmother, Leah Mosher.
- James, Anna and Alexander Altman and Ellen Schechter on the death of James' beloved father, Stanley Altman.
- Wendy, David, Robert Linderman and Ida Granowitz on the death of their beloved mother and mother-in-law, Harriett Linderman.

### MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Anna, Matthew, Elissa and Isabel Bernstein on Anna becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### • Community Shabbat Dinner: Share Shabbat with BJ Rabbis and MTM Rabbinic Fellows

**Friday, December 8**, following the 5:45PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Tonight's dinner welcoming new MTM Fellows Brent Chaim Spodek and Chen Ben Or Tsfoni is filled. If you have pre-registered, please join us downstairs in Frankel Hall immediately after the service. **SAVE THE DATE: Our next Community Shabbat dinner will be on Friday, January 19.**

### • Shabbat Luncheon: Ledor Vador Celebrates Women in Our Community

**Saturday, December 16**, following Shabbat morning services, 88th Street Frankel Hall: We're delighted to host a panel discussion featuring four dynamic members of the BJ community across the generations. Join us for a special luncheon as Dorothy Hilf, Harriet Abraham, Andrea Newman and others tell us about their lives, careers, and roles in the Jewish community. Register at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) and please RSVP at x334 as well, leaving the names of those who will attend. Also, send a check for \$15/member or \$18/non-member (children free of charge) with "Ledor Vador 12/16" in the memo line.

## UPCOMING LIMUD

Please see the BJ website, [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org), for more information and how to register.

### • Who is Man? Who is Woman and Where Is His/Her Community? Questions, Responses, Discourse and Drinks: A Gathering for Singles Rabbi Felicia Sol

**3 Tuesdays (remaining class December 12) • 7:00–9:00PM**

• 88th St. Sanctuary • Cost: Free, registration required. Explore the nature of the individual and the community through traditional texts, the teachings of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, and the text of life in New York City in the 21st century. BYOB to share, light snacks provided.

### • Jewish Practice Skills Workshop: Prayer and Synagogue Skills Rabbi Dara Frimmer

**4 Tuesdays (remaining classes December 12, 19) • 7:00–8:30PM**

• 86th St. Chapel • Cost: Free, registration not required. What is the structure of the service? How does it change on Shabbat and festivals? What are the unique components we offer at B'nai Jeshurun? 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? We will also learn/review some of the popular BJ melodies. **On Tuesday, December 12, we will study the Shabbat service.**

### • Women's Rosh Hodesh Group for Tevet Rabbis Felicia Sol, Dara Frimmer, and Lauren Holtzblatt

### Thursday, December 21 • 7:00PM • 88th St. Sanctuary

• Cost: Free, registration not required. Each new month on the Hebrew calendar, we will have an opportunity to study, discuss, celebrate and pray together on this holiday traditionally associated with women. Please bring a dairy/vegetarian kosher snack to share with the group as part of the celebration of Rosh Hodesh.

### • Shabbat: A Sanctuary in Time

Rabbi Jay Moses, *Chapter 3*

**Saturday, January 6 • 4:00PM • 86th St. Social Hall • Cost: Free, registration not required.** During the course of Abraham Joshua Heschel's centennial year, we will read together as a community Heschel's *The Sabbath*. On the first Shabbat of each month, a different rabbi/teacher in our community will teach one chapter through various sources. All are encouraged to buy the book and bring it to the Shabbat afternoon sessions (copies of each chapter **will not** be distributed). Concludes with havdalah.

### • Jewish Practice Skills Workshop: Torah Study

Rabbi Dara Frimmer

**3 Tuesdays (January 9, 16, 23) • 7:00–8:30PM • 86th St. Chapel**

• Cost: Free, registration required. What are the wide range of Jewish texts and what skills are used to understand them? What are some of the techniques used by the rabbis to understand the Torah and can we learn how to better dissect a Jewish text?

• Stuart, Shira, Howard and Judith Spivak on Stuart becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

• Tai Bendit-Shtull, Michael and Ora, Noa, and Carmel on Tai becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

### TODAH RABBAH

• This week's Community Kiddush and flowers for the bimah are co-sponsored by Matthew, Elissa and Isabel Bernstein and Howard, Judy and Shira Spivak in honor of Anna Bernstein and Stuart Spivak becoming B'nai Mitzvah.

### B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

• To our new BJ members participating in the New Member Orientation program tonight.

### • Shabbat Onegs at BJ: A Taste of the World to Come!

**Friday, January 5**, following the late service, 88th Street: Shabbat in the 21st century doesn't have to look like the traditional meal of generations past—maybe there's live music, maybe there's no Manischewitz. You bring the kosher wine/grape juice (we ask everyone to contribute) and we'll provide light finger food and a great space to socialize.

### • BJ Goes To Israel: June 28–July 8, 2007

Be part of Israel's spiritual renewal when BJ brings a Torah to our partners at Hamidrasha this summer. Our trip will further an extraordinary mission: just as BJ has contributed to the revitalization of Judaism in America, it is now playing a similar role in Israel. Be inspired and energized by discussion and celebration with our Israeli spiritual partners—groups dedicated to forging new paths into Judaism. Rabbi Roly Matalon will lead 75 BJ members in an exploration of what makes for holiness in space and time. For more information, look for announcements in the *Kol Jeshurun*, *Kol Hadash*, and community emails, or contact Jillian Cameron at [jcameron@bj.org](mailto:jcameron@bj.org) or x241.

## SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

### • Knitters Needed for Holiday Gift Packages!

Each winter, BJ's Judith Bernstein Lunch Program distributes holiday gift packages to our lunch program guests. Each package includes a warm hat, scarf, or gloves, many of them hand-made and contributed by BJ members and friends. If you like to knit or crochet, make hats and scarves for our holiday packages (adult sizes only, please). It's a great opportunity to use up your leftover yarn and do a most appreciated mitzvah. Finished items should be brought to the BJ office. We are also happy to accept NEW clothing and donations from manufacturers (especially socks!). For more information, please contact Susan Samuels at [ssamuels@aol.com](mailto:ssamuels@aol.com) or x338.

### • Join the Environmental Action Hevra in Saving Energy and Reducing Greenhouse Gases

**Purchase CFLs Online at a Discounted Rate!** Our country disproportionately contributes to global warming with over-consumption and ill-advised environmental policies. Through "Greening BJ," the Environmental Action Hevra hopes to reduce our community's environmental footprint by changing our environmental habits and adding our voice to local campaigns that seek policy solutions. CFLs, which save save 75% of the energy that incandescent bulbs use, are available through the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life at only \$2.25 each. Go to [www.bulbs.com](http://www.bulbs.com), click on "Your Account" and enter [info@coejl.org](mailto:info@coejl.org) for the email and COEJL for the password. To replace a 75 watt incandescent bulb, you should order the Max Lite Micro Max Spiral 20 watt bulb, item number SKS20EA Warm White. Contact [info@coejl.org](mailto:info@coejl.org) for more information.

### • Help the BJ/Ralph Bunche School Partnership Expand: Math Volunteers Needed

Curious about how math is taught in school? We're looking for volunteers who enjoy working with children and are comfortable with numbers. (Advanced math skills not required.) If you can volunteer from 12:00noon to 1:00PM and would like to work with a 4th grader one day a week, please contact Ilene Richman at [i.richman@att.net](mailto:i.richman@att.net) for more information.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

### • 4th Grade Families Cooking for the Shelter

**Tuesday, December 12, 5:00–6:30PM, 88th Street:** All 4th graders and their families are invited to prepare a simple meal for the guests of BJ's homeless shelter. We will meet at the 88th Street kitchen at 5:00PM. Margie Vandow, December coordinator, is planning the evening's menu. Please contact Margie at [mvandow@yahoo.com](mailto:mvandow@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend and would like to volunteer.

### • Family Hanukkah Program

**Wednesday, December 13, 4:00–5:30PM, 88th Street:** Join BJ families and kids of all ages as we prepare to celebrate Hanukkah. We will be making table covers for Junior Congregation and Children's Services to rededicate our space on Shabbat Hanukkah, helping make sandwiches for the BJ lunch program, playing dreidel, singing Hanukkah songs and MORE. Please RSVP to [rrosenthal@bj.org](mailto:rrosenthal@bj.org) or x243.

### • Junior Congregation

**Saturday, December 16, 10:30AM, 86th Street Social Hall:** We are looking for leaders and participants for our next Shabbat morning Junior Congregation. Please contact Rebecca Rosenthal at [rrosenthal@bj.org](mailto:rrosenthal@bj.org) or x243 if you want to lead or learn to lead any of the prayers. Spots fill up fast, so don't delay! This week, we will be dedicating our space using the new Torah table covers that are made at the Hanukkah party!

### • Teen Seminar With Two Darfur Natives

**Sunday, December 10, 4:30–5:30PM, 86th St. Chapel and Parlor Room:** All BJ teens and their friends are invited to a seminar with Abdelgabr Adam, president of the Darfur Human Rights Organization of the USA. Abdelgabr came to the United States 14 years ago from Darfur, leaving much of his family behind, and will recount some of what he and his family went through. He will share ideas about how to respond and answer questions about his experience. Please contact Kerrith at [ksolomon@bj.org](mailto:ksolomon@bj.org) for more questions or to RSVP.

## TZE'IRIM: 205/305

### • Havdalah and Hanukkah: Let There Be Light!

**Saturday, December 16, 5:30PM, 86th Street:** Bring your friends to our 20s & 30s celebration of the Second Night. Candles, wine, dessert, and live music from 6–8pm with BJ musicians Basya and Uri. Please bring a bottle of wine (kosher optional) or a dessert to share.

### • Limmud NY Tze'irim Participants Dessert Party

**Thursday, January 4, 7:00PM:** Tze'irim members registered for LimmudNY are invited to join together for a dessert reception. This is an opportunity to meet other Tze'irim members and begin the LimmudNY experience a week early. RSVP to [bjtzeirim@yahoo.com](mailto:bjtzeirim@yahoo.com)

## AFFILIATES

### • Israel Book Connections

Israel Book Connections, [www.adl.org/israel/books](http://www.adl.org/israel/books), is a new ADL Web-based resource that BJ member Anne Millman was involved in creating. It lists books about Israel for students K-12 and, with Hanukkah coming, offers a great selection for kids beyond the standard holiday-related fare.

### • Limmud NY: A Jewfusion Celebration!

**Martin Luther King Weekend, January 11–15:** Limmud NY brings together hundreds of Jews of diverse backgrounds and all ages for a weekend-long celebration of all things Jewish (Jewfusion). Register now for the 3rd annual Limmud NY conference at the Friar Tuck Convention Center in Catskill, NY. Sign up online at [www.limmudny.org](http://www.limmudny.org) or call the Limmud NY office at 212-284-6968. Be sure to pick up a Jewfusion card in the rack at the back of the Sanctuary. Scholarships and student discounts are available.



## KIDS' PURIM PLAY AUDITIONS

**Tuesday January 2 and Wednesday, January 3, 4:00–6:00PM, 88th Street:** Be a part of the magic that is the Purim Play! **PREPARE:** To act, sing and dance. Kids will read from the script provided that day. If they would like to sing please have a short song prepared, a capella. **WHEN:** Sign-up is at 4:00PM and is on a first-come, first-seen basis until 6:00PM. Once you have auditioned, you are free to go. Dress comfortably. Come either day. **WHO:** Auditions are required only for children grades 2 and up. 1st graders will automatically be placed in the chorus and need not audition, although parents and children should come on one of the audition days to pick up information and conflict sheets and meet our production team. Kindergarten children should stop by, too; a special rehearsal schedule will be made for them. Children must be IN Kindergarten to participate, regardless of age. **REHEARSALS:** General rehearsals are Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4:00–6:00PM and Sundays 10:00 or 11:00AM– 2:00PM. You must be available at least Tuesday or Wednesday AND Sunday to participate. See you at the auditions! Questions? Contact Michael at [kelberg@aol.com](mailto:kelberg@aol.com), subject: PURIM.

**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](mailto: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 during services.

Photography, cell phone use, and food is not permitted in the sanctuary. To prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before services begin.

• **Assistive Listening Devices for Services at BJ** are available during services at both 88th and 86th Streets. Contact the ushers at the back of the Sanctuary—and remember to return the devices when you leave.

**JOIN US AT THE BJ MORNING MINYAN:** See updated information about the Morning Minyan at [www.bj.org/schedule.php](http://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.

**Join the BJ Rabbis and more than 250 rabbis and students connected to Rabbis for Human Rights at two historic human rights events:**

- **Sunday, December 10, 7:00–9:00PM,** UJA Federation Conference Facility, 130 East 59th Street at Lexington Avenue: *International Human Rights Day: A Dialogue on Judaism and Human Rights in Our Time*. Keynote address. Tickets: \$18.
- **Monday, December 11, 8:00–10:00PM,** Congregation Rodeph Sholom, 7 West 83rd Street at Central Park West: *Inaugural Raphael Lemkin Human Rights Awards: To Do What is Just and Right/La'asot Tzedekah U'mishpat*. Tickets: \$75–\$150.

Visit [www.rhr-na.org](http://www.rhr-na.org) for more information and to purchase tickets.

**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.

**WHY JEWISH RENEWAL IN ISRAEL SHOULD BE A PRIORITY CONCERN**  
By Stephen Stulman

Some of my friends, Israeli and American, ask me why I give priority attention to the question of Jewish Renewal in Israel when there are so many other urgent issues facing that country—peace with the Palestinians, poverty, social justice, civil rights, Arab-Jewish relations, Israel-American relations, education, electoral reform.

My answer is that if the majority of so-called 'secular' Israelis had a deeper Jewish identity and understanding, if public policy were infused with a Jewish ethos, there would be much greater insight and urgency in the approach to all their other problems.

Israel's founding fathers made a tragic decision to put the role of Judaism "on the back burner" until the question of national survival and peace with the Arabs could be resolved. Sixty years later, we are now coming to realize that peace and the relationship between Israel and its neighbors is caught up in the historical evolution within Islam, as well as in the Middle East's relation to the world, and is not solely dependent upon what Israel does or does not do. However, the future of Israel as a Jewish State is a vital concern which is very much dependent upon the actions of the Jewish People... all of us.

*Steve Stulman is a BJ Board member and one of the initiators of the BJ Israel Partnership.*

*The "Focus on Israel" column is edited by Robin Fleischner, Co-Chair of BJ's Israel Steering Committee ([robin.fleischner@verizon.net](mailto: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 • Bikkur Holim • New Havurot Applications