



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 • Chen Ben Or Tsfonti

February 2 - 9, 2007

14 - 21 Shevat, 5767

BESHALAH

SHABBAT SHIRAH
 TU BISHEVAT
TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 13:17 - 17:16
TRIENNIAL Exodus 14:26 - 17:16
HAFTARAH Judges 5:1 - 31

NEXT WEEK: **YITRO**
TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 18:1 - 20:23
TRIENNIAL Exodus 19:1 - 20:23
HAFTARAH Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 6

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

Do They Represent You?
Call your State Senators and Assembly Members!

Panim el Panim, BJ's Community Organizing and Advocacy Initiative, needs your help. Two bills that BJ has chosen to support are being reintroduced in the State Senate and Assembly in Albany.

Healthy Teens Act—Would give New York families access to sex education that is comprehensive, age-appropriate, and medically accurate. Join BJ's Women's Rights Hevra in this vital effort! More info: getthefactsny.org

Marriage Equality Act—Would grant same-sex couples access to the rights and responsibilities of civil marriage in New York State. Join BJ's Marriage Equality Hevra in one of the biggest civil rights struggles of our time! More info: prideagenda.org

Call your state reps and ask them to sign on as cosponsors of the bills. If they already have, thank them. If not, ask them to do so right away! Not sure who represents you? Go to assembly.state.ny.us and senate.state.ny.us

To get more involved:
Women's Rights Hevra: contact Cindy Wachenheim, cwachen@yahoo.com
Marriage Equality Hevra: contact Susan Olderman, susanolderman@yahoo.com
 Or call Guy Austrian, x259.

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Wandering Minyan
 Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service
 BJHS Bet Class Family Dinner
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service
 Oneg Shabbat

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Shabbat Services
 Junior Congregation
 Children's Services
 Bat Mitzvah
 Family Tu BiShevat Seder

Limud: Shabbat: A Sanctuary in Time* with Rabbi Jonathan Lipnick
 BJ Musicians Concert

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Morning Minyan
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Morning Minyan
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter
Limud: Introduction to Judaism*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Morning Minyan
Limud: Gems of Genesis*
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter
Limud: Jewish Practice Skills: Kashrut*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Morning Minyan
 Kesharim
Limud: Heschel: Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity*
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Morning Minyan
 Judith Bernstein Lunch Program
Limud: Mekhilta De Rabbi Ishmael*
 BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter
Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a*
Limud: Introduction to Islam*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Morning Minyan

EREV TU BISHEVAT

5:45 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
 5:45 PM – 88th St.
 Following 5:45 PM Service – 86th St.
 7:15 PM – 88th St.
 Following 7:15 PM Service – 88th St. (SEE P.2)

TU BISHEVAT • SHABBAT SHIRAH

9:30 AM – 86th St.
 10:30 AM – 86th St. Social Hall
 10:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor and Chapel
 Meredith Ruskin
 Following Services –
 86th St. Social Hall (SEE P.3)
 4:30 PM – 86th St. Social Hall followed by havdalah (SEE P.2)
 8:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)

9:30 AM – 88th St.
 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

7:30 AM – 88th St.
 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
 7:00 PM – BJ Office

7:30 AM – 88th St.
 8:10 AM – 88th St.
 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
 7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)

7:30 AM – 88th St.
 2:00 PM – 88th St.
 6:30 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)
 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

7:30 AM – 88th St.
 12:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall
 12:30 PM – BJ Office (SEE P.2)
 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall
 7:00 PM – BJ Office
 7:15 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)

7:30 AM – 88th St.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Anne Mintz and her entire family on the death of Anne's beloved father, Kalman Mintz.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Meredith, Brad and Rachel Ruskin and Susan Brooks on Meredith becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Zoe, Jonathan and Cathy Rubin on Zoe being called to the Torah during the Minḥa/Maariv Service at 3:00PM, February 3 at Anshe Chesed.
- Rebecca, Israel, Julie and Jacob Lowy on Rebecca becoming a Bat Mitzvah and being called to the Torah during the BJ Family Israel trip in December.

- Deborah and Lowell Kirschner on the birth of their twins, Max Ben-Azai and Shira Elisheva.

TODAH RABBAH

- This week's flowers for the bimah are sponsored by Susan Brooks and Brad Ruskin in honor of their daughter Meredith becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Michael Torop and Confirmation Class, Temple Beth-El, St. Petersburg, Florida.
- Moshe Schwartz and 12th grade class, Solomon Schechter High School of Long Island.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Tu BiShevat Oneg with Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi

Friday, February 2, following the 7:15PM service, 88th Street: Come enjoy the fruits of Tu BiShevat, learn with BJ's Environmental Action Hevra and Hazon, and enjoy the music of Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi. Co-sponsored by BJ's Environmental Action Hevra and Hazon. We will provide light snacks, learning, and entertainment. Please bring a kosher bottle of wine to share.

• Music of the BJ Shabbat Musicians

Saturday, February 3, 8:00PM, 88th Street: Celebrate with our resident musicians as they gather to present their own original music and amazing artistry. The different bands will offer an eclectic mix of styles including Middle Eastern, rock, jazz, classical and traditional Jewish song. Tickets: \$15/\$10 students, available at the door.

• Shabbat B'Yahad Dinner with The Tefillat Ensemble

Friday, February 9: Enjoy Shabbat dinner with The Tefillat Ensemble! Register before February 2, \$40 members/\$50 non-members; after February 2, \$50/\$60. Registration is first-come, first-served. Don't delay, register today! Please visit www.bj.org or contact Amanda at x233. The Ensemble will also offer a performance and discussion, followed by havdalah, on Saturday, February 10.

• SAVE THE DATE: Teacher in Residence Shabbat with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

March 9-10: Rabbi Seidler-Feller will teach at a Shabbat B'Yahad dinner following the Friday night 5:45PM service at 88th Street, give the D'var Torah during Shabbat morning services, and teach on Shabbat afternoon at 86th St. Watch the *Kol Jeshurun* and www.bj.org for more information.

• 6th Annual BJ Women's Retreat

March 16-18, Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center: Retreat from the city for a weekend of building community, being in nature and finding our voices together. Registration is now available at www.bj.org or contact Amanda at x233 to request an application.

• Leadership Candidates

The Board of Trustees is seeking individuals who have demonstrated skills and interest in assuming community leadership positions as committee members and/or chairs and for potential future board service. BJ members who would like to recommend individuals for service are invited to do so by email to dpinsky@bj.org or call x254 by March 1, 2007. We are always seeking individuals who actively participate in BJ's communal life, are team players and consensus builders and can provide positive leadership.

UPCOMING LIMUD

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

CLASSES IN PROGRESS:

• Abraham Joshua Heschel: Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity
Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon
6 Wednesdays (remaining classes February 7, 14) • 6:30-8:00PM • 88th St. Frankel Hall • Cost: Free, registration required.

• Lunchtime class: Text Study on Mekhilta De Rabbi Ishmael
Rabbi Felicia L. Sol
6 Thursdays (remaining classes February 8, 15) • 12:30-1:45PM
• BJ Office, Ansonia Building, 2109 Broadway, Suite 203 • Cost: Free, registration required.

• Jewish Practice Skills Workshop: Kashrut
Rabbi Dara Frimmer
3 Tuesdays (remaining classes February 6, 13) • 7:00-8:30PM • 86th St. Chapel • Cost: Free, registration required.

First Annual Stuart Polly Interfaith Study

• Introduction to Islam for Jews and Christians

Rabbi David Freidenreich, PhD

4 Thursdays (remaining classes February 8, 15, 22) • 7:15-9:00PM • 86th St. Chapel • Cost: Free, registration required.

UPCOMING CLASSES:

• Shabbat: A Sanctuary in Time
Rabbi Jonathan Lipnick, *Chapter 4*
Saturday, February 3 • 4:30PM • 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*. Concludes with havdalah.

• Women's Rosh Hodesh Group for Adar

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol, Dara Frimmer, and Lauren Holtzblatt
Monday, February 19 • 7:00PM • 88th St. • 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.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• Darfur Action at City Hall!

Saturday, February 4, 11:15AM: Join the BJ Darfur Response Committee, American Jewish World Service, and many other concerned citizens at a rally and press conference THIS SUNDAY at 11:15AM on the steps of City Hall. This event is in support of a resolution introduced in the City Council calling for New York City to divest its pension funds from Sudan in a targeted manner. Contact Josie at 917-306-6961 for more information.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• Junior Congregation

Saturday, February 3, 10:30AM: We're looking for leaders and participants for our next Shabbat morning Junior Congregation. Please contact Rebecca Rosenthal at rrosenthal@bj.org or x243 if you want to lead or learn to lead any of the prayers. Don't delay—spots fill up fast!

• Family Tu BiShevat Seder

Saturday, February 3, following Junior Congregation and Children's Services, 86th Street Social Hall: Join BJ families and kids of all ages as we celebrate Tu BiShevat, the birthday of the trees. We will sing, eat fruit and build community together while we learn about this holiday. Please bring your own dairy/vegetarian lunch and BJ will provide the fruit. RSVP to Rebecca Rosenthal, rrosenthal@bj.org

• Second Graders Cook for the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

Tuesday, February 13, 5:00-6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: All of BJ's second graders and their families are invited to prepare a simple meal for the guests of the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter. To participate, please RSVP to our February coordinator, Nancy Kline, at nfkline@aol.com no later than Friday, February 9.

TZE'IRIM: 205/305

• Neighborhood Shabbat Dinners

Friday, February 23, following the late service: Would you like to spend Shabbat with your neighbors? We have hosts in the following neighborhoods: New Jersey, Yonkers, Upper East Side, Upper West Side and Gramercy Park. If you are interested in attending any of these neighborhood dinners, please contact shabbatwithoutchairs@yahoo.com with your name, age and preferred location.

• Cooking for the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

Monday, February 26, 6:00PM: No cooking experience is necessary, and the cost of groceries will be split between all volunteers (about \$8-10/person). Please RSVP to Susan and Rebekah at tzvolunteers@yahoo.com The next cooking date will be Monday, March 26.

LEDOR VADOR

• Ledor Vador Shabbat Luncheon—Honoring the Shekhinah through Dress: One Woman's Journey of Self-Discovery

Saturday, February 24, following Shabbat morning services, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Ledor Vador continues our series of featuring vibrant women in the BJ community through our Shabbat luncheons. Tziporah Salamon will entertain us through a rich tapestry of pictures, stories and costumes. Please RSVP at x334, leaving the names of those who will be attending. Also, send a check to the BJ office for \$15/member or \$18/non-member with "Ledor Vador 2/24" on the memo line. Children are welcome to attend free of charge.

BJ BOOK GROUP

• *The Genizah at the House of Shepherd*, by Tamar Yellin

Tuesday, March 6, 7:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Shulamit, a biblical scholar from England, returns to her grandparents' home in Jerusalem for a visit, after an absence of many years. Almost immediately she becomes embroiled in a family feud over possession of the so-called Shepherd Codex, a mysterious and valuable manuscript which has been discovered in the attic.



SAVE THE DATES...

PURIM EVENTS—MARCH 3 AND 4

FOR FAMILIES:

Saturday, March 3, 6:30PM, 86th Street:
Family Megillah reading with special guests.
Costumes encouraged!

Sunday, March 4, 12:30PM, 88th Street:
Purim Carnival—Food, prizes and much, much more!

Sunday, March 4, 1:45PM, 88th Street:
Annual Purim Play
Come watch our BJ students shine on stage!

FOR ADULTS:

Saturday, March 3, 7:30PM, 88th Street:
Megillah Reading like never before. Costumes encouraged!
Masquerade Ball immediately following Megillah reading.
Costumes required! Featuring live music, exceptional food, spectacular libations, dancing, fortune-telling, prizes for best costume and many more surprises!

Sunday, March 4, 9:30 AM: 88th Street:
Megillah reading for all!

• BJ Summer Israel Trip Registration Now Open!

June 28–July 8, 2007: Explore and discover the meaning of "holy" in Israel this summer! Accompany Roly and 75 fellow members on a BJ trip to Israel to participate in Israel's spiritual renewal by bringing a Torah to our sister community, Hamidrasha/Niggun Halev. Join us in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and the North as we strengthen our connection to Israel and spend time with old and new BJ friends. For registration materials, including a preliminary itinerary, please contact Jillian Cameron, jcameron@bj.org or x241.

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 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.

REMEMBERING HESCHEL

In this centennial year of Abraham Joshua Heschel's birth, it's good for us to remember not only his original and challenging ideas, but also the breathtakingly beautiful language in which he couched them. This year in the Kol Jeshurun we will periodically print short quotations from Rabbi Heschel's works.

"The meaning of faith is not to believe in an idea because it is incontestable. To believe is to contend against impediments, to defy refutation, and to accept embarrassment."

—*A Passion for Truth*

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.

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.

WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM OUR ISRAELI PARTNERS By Stephen Stulman

BJ is engaged in facilitating the emergence of a network of new Jewish communities in Israel, where a century of nationalism, sectarianism and socialism have left a large number of Israeli Jews detached from their past—from their traditional roots and their common heritage. BJ is also engaged in creating new Jewish community in America, where a century of humanism, assimilation and individualism have left a large number of American Jews detached from their future—from their historic vision and their common purpose.

Our Israeli Partners are trying to reconnect to Judaism by creating more relevant new models of synagogues and communities, centered around study, social action and spirituality, where the mind, the heart and the hand are engaged together to bring about wholeness and transformation. BJ's creativity, passion and authenticity inspired them as they began this process. Perhaps the innovative paths into prayer and community which the Israelis are now exploring will inspire us to be even more imaginative and daring in our own efforts to make Judaism relevant in America. Too often, we focus upon the cultural and sociological differences between Americans and Israelis, rather than upon the common spiritual needs and aspirations which are the real basis of our partnership.

Steve Stulman is a Board Member of BJ and a pioneer of the BJ-Israeli Partnership.

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 • Bikkur Holim • New Havurot Applications