



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

March 16-23, 2007

26 Adar-4 Nisan, 5767

VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI

SHABBAT HAHOODESH

MEVARKHIM HAHOODESH

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 35:1 - 40:38

TRIENNIAL Exodus 39:22 - 40:38

MAFTIR Exodus 12:1 - 20

HAFTARAH Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18

NEXT WEEK: VAYIKRA

TORAH: ANNUAL Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26

TRIENNIAL Leviticus 4:27 - 5:26

HAFTARAH Isaiah 43:21 - 44:23

PLEASE NOTE:

**KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE TIMES
CHANGE AFTER DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME**

Beginning *Friday, March 16*
the early service will start at 6:00PM
and the late service will start at 7:30PM,
both at 88th Street.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

March with BJ for an End to the War in Iraq

Sunday, March 18 • 10:30AM

*Workmen's Circle, 45 E. 33rd St. between Park
and Madison*

If you believe that enough lives have been lost; that our government must end our military's role in Iraq; that our country should be a source of peace and hope in the world—join the BJ contingent in Sunday's major anti-war demonstration. While BJ does not endorse all positions of United for Peace and Justice, the national coalition organizing the march, we will take this opportunity to join tens of thousands of New Yorkers to mark four terrible years of war in Iraq with a plea for peace.

We will gather from 10:30AM-12:30PM at the Workmen's Circle with other Jewish organizations and boro president Scott Stringer for bagels, sign-making, and prayer. At 12:30PM we'll go together to the assembly point. The route is about 3 miles long, ending at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 2nd Ave. and East 47th St.

Please bring ID, Metrocard, snacks, water, hats, and signs! A fun, safe, and inspiring experience for BJ'ers of all ages. More info: Guy, x259.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:00 PM – 88th St.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:30 PM – 88th St.

B'nai Mitzvah '08-'09 Class Family Dinner

Following 6:00 PM Service –
88th St. Frankel Hall

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

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

Aliyat Hatan VeKallah

David Reiff and Tanya Cohen

Speaker

Yael Dayan

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM – 88th St.

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 19

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, MARCH 20

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: Preparing For Pesah*

7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel (SEE P.2)

Hebrew School Prospective Parents Night

7:00 PM – RSVP for location (SEE P.3)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

Kesharim

2:00 PM – 88th St.

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

Limud: The End of Patriarchy*

7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

B'nai Mitzvah Orientation Meeting

7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

Limud: Mekhilta de Rabbi Ishmael

12:00 PM – BJ Office (SEE P.2)

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

Film Screening: *A Good Uplift* and
The New Old Country

7:30 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.3)

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Elain Calmon and her family on the death of her beloved grandmother, Liselotte Jakobowitz.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Tanya Cohen and David Reiff on their upcoming wedding.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Steven Foster and Confirmation Class, Congregation Emanuel, Denver, Colorado.
- Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum and Confirmation Class, Congregation Beth Israel, Carmel, California.
- Rabbi Alan Cohen and Confirmation Class, Congregation Beth Shalom, Overland Park, Kansas.
- Rabbi Jack Romberg and Confirmation Class, Temple Israel, Tallahassee, Florida.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• Volunteer Recognition Aliyah and Kiddush

Saturday, March 24: Join us for a special Shabbat morning service during which all B'nai Jeshurun volunteers will be called to the Torah for an aliyah to honor you for your service and commitment to BJ. The festivities continue with a Community Kiddush in the SPSA Social Hall, followed by a teaching and study with our rabbis. RSVP to Belinda Lasky at x224 and indicate the ages of any children who might be joining us so we can provide appropriate programming.

• Taste of Me'ah

Tuesday, March 27, 7:00PM, 88th Street: BJ is pleased to announce another opportunity to participate in Me'ah, an intensive program of Jewish study which furnishes adults with a framework for the ongoing study of Jewish texts, ideas and history. Join us for a "Taste of Me'ah," a sample lesson by Rabbi David Hoffman and chance to find out more about the specifics of the program from Moshe Margolin, Regional Director of Me'ah. BJ Me'ah graduates will also be present to answer questions about the Me'ah learning experience. For more information, contact Amanda at aschanfield@bj.org or x233.

• SAVE THE DATE! Yom HaShoah at BJ

Sunday, April 15, 6:45PM, 88th Street: Following services and the annual Reading and Hearing of the Names of relatives of BJ members and friends who were murdered during the Shoah, we will screen the award-winning classic documentary *AS IF IT WERE YESTERDAY/ COMME SI C'ETAIT HIER* (1980, 86 min.) by BJ member and filmmaker Myriam Abramowicz. This film tells the story of Belgians who risked their lives to hide and save Jewish children during the Shoah. Introduction by the Honorable Renilde Loecx-Drozdiak, Consul

General of Belgium. Q&A with Myriam Abramowicz will follow. The all-night vigil of The Reading and Hearing of the Names will be held at SAJ, 15 W. 86th St., from 10:00PM-8:00AM, and continue at the JCC, 334 Amsterdam Ave., from 8:30AM-6:00PM.

• SAVE THE DATE! Yom Iyyun: A day of reflection and discussion about Israel

Sunday, April 22, 2:00-5:00PM, with a Family Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration from 2:00-3:30PM, 88th Street: What is my personal connection to Israel? Craft your answer through a stimulating day of workshops and small group discussions. Hebrew University Professor Lisa Katz will lead a seminar on dream and reality in contemporary Israeli poetry. John Ruskay will guide us through some important aspects of Zionist history which will help us explore our relationship to Israel as American Jews in the 21st century. For more information, contact Jillian Cameron at jcameron@bj.org. Families with children are invited to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with "A Day in the Life of an Israeli Child." For family program, contact rrosenthal@bj.org

• **Preparing to Receive Torah: A Retreat for Walking Into Shavuot May 18-20, Camp Isabella Friedman:** Registration is now open for this year's Contemplative Retreat led by Rabbis Marcelo Bronstein and Rachel Cowan. Enjoy meditation, nature, yoga, excellent air and spiritual renewal. For beginners and advanced practitioners. Please register at www.bj.org. For more information, contact Charles at clenchner@bj.org or x240. Registration deadline is May 1. Early-bird discount for those registering by April 6.

UPCOMING LIMUD

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

CLASSES IN PROGRESS:

- **The End of Patriarchy: A Redefinition of the Male Jewish Voice**
Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein
5 Wednesdays (remaining classes March 21, 28) • 7:00-8:30PM • 88th St. Frankel Hall • Cost: Free, registration required.
- **Mekhilta de Rabbi Ishmael Continues!**
Rabbi Felicia Sol
3 Thursdays (remaining class March 22) • 12:00-1:00PM • BJ Office • Cost: Free, registration required.
- **Jewish Practice Skills Workshop: Preparing for Pesah**
Rabbi Dara Frimmer
3 Tuesdays (remaining classes March 20, 27) • 7:00-8:30PM • 86th St. Chapel • Cost: Free, registration required.

UPCOMING CLASSES:

- **Shabbat: A Sanctuary in Time**
Marshall T. Meyer Fellows Rabbis Dara Frimmer and Lauren Holtzblatt, **Chapter 5**
Saturday, April 7 • 5:00PM • 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. Please buy the book and bring it to class (copies **will not** be distributed). Concludes with havdalah.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **A Revolutionary Environmental Potluck!**

Friday, March 23, after the late service, RSVP for location: Join BJ's Environmental Action Hevra and the BJ Revolutionaries—BJ's team for Hazon's 2007 NY Jewish Environmental Bike Ride—at a home-hosted, vegetarian potluck Shabbat dinner. We will celebrate Shabbat together and learn about the Bike Ride. Space is limited! RSVP or more info: Elissa Meth, emm2@cornell.edu, or Jenny Eisenberg, jennyeisenberg@yahoo.com

• **Save the Date: Get on the Bus for Marriage Equality!**

Tuesday, May 1, all day, in Albany: Ride with BJ's Marriage Equality Hevra as we join our voices with hundreds of people of faith from across New York State. We'll meet with legislators to demand equal access to civil marriage for same-sex couples under New York State law. For more info, contact hevra co-chairs Susan Olderman at susanolderman@yahoo.com or Amy Lavine at alavine@gaycenter.org, or Guy at x259. To register, go to prideagenda.org/programs/leandj and be sure to enter "B'nai Jeshurun" under "Organization."

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• **Junior Congregation**

Saturday, March 17, 10:30AM: We're looking for leaders and participants for our next Shabbat morning Junior Congregation. Please contact Rebecca Rosenthal at rosenthal@bj.org or x243 if you want to lead or learn to lead any of the prayers. Don't delay—spots fill up fast!

• **Hebrew School Prospective Parents Night**

Tuesday, March 20, 7:00, RSVP for location information: Learn more about the BJ Hebrew School, including our vision and curriculum, meet our educators and other parents considering Hebrew School. Please RSVP to bjhs@bj.org or x260 for location information.

• **B'nai Mitzvah Orientation Meeting**

Wednesday, March 21, 7:00–9:00PM, 88th Street: Parents of children in 4th grade, or whose birthdates fall between September, 1996 and December, 1997 are invited to an introductory meeting—the first step on their family's bar/bat mitzvah journey. For more information, please contact Ivy at ischreiber@bj.org or x225.

TZE'IRIM: 20S/30S

• **Cooking for the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter**

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

• **Shabbat Without Chairs—Members Only**

Friday, March 30, following the late service: Home-hosted potluck Shabbat dinner exclusively for BJ members in their 20s and 30s. Sign up by sending an email to shabbatwithoutchairs@yahoo.com with "Members Only Shabbat" in the subject line.

AFFILIATES

• **Join SPSA at "Songs for Darfur—The Water Project"**

Monday, March 26, 7:00PM, 86th Street: The Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew hosts a benefit concert starring Tony Award-winner Victoria Clark, Broadway's Cheyenne Jackson, and singer/songwriter Jane Kelly Williams, along with Maureen McGovern, Malcolm Gets, Elizabeth Stanley, Marvis Martin, Kelli O'Hara, Marilyn Torres, Everett Bradley and musicians Ted Sperling and David Richards. Funds will support UMCOR's water programs in Darfur and the Darfur People's Association of New York. Join us! Info at www.songsfordarfur.com; tickets also on sale at the SPSA office Monday–Friday 9:00AM–5:00PM.

Led by Roly, BJ's exciting summer trip to Israel from June 29 to July 8 is filling up!
Sign up at www.bj.org or contact Jillian Cameron, jcameron@bj.org

Mah nishtanah...How is this night of story-telling different from all other nights?

Thursday, March 22 • 7:30-9:30PM • 88th Street Sanctuary

Tze'irim (20s/30s) warmly invites the community of B'nai Jeshurun to a screening of two exciting documentary films about Jewish identity and history:

A GOOD UPLIFT and THE NEW OLD COUNTRY



Faye Lederman, film producer, will join us to lead a discussion touching on the significance of memory and storytelling in families, as well as the role of geographic space in the formation of our modern Jewish identities.

- **A Good Uplift** captures a lighthearted glimpse into a Lower East Side lingerie shop where owner, and Jewish grandmother, Magda, embraces and enhances women of all shapes and sizes in pursuit of the perfect bra.
- **The New Old Country** follows Jews from across the country, whose journey to the Lower East Side in search of bialys, pickles, and their grandparents' memories raises poignant questions about nostalgia and memory.

The perfect films to see before Passover!

Tickets, available at the door: \$5 BJ members/\$7 non-members
Please RSVP to Rabbi Dara Frimmer, dfrimmer@bj.org, to let us know you're coming!

ENJOY THE MUSIC OF BJ AT PASSOVER:
Order your BJ Passover CD now!

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Glimpses of Passover, stories, recipes, menus and traditions from the kitchens and lives of BJ members

Go to www.bj.org and click on "BJ CDs, Songbooks, & Music" to order both



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. 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.

"A thought is like a person. It arrives because it needs to be restored. A thought severed, abused, seeks to be reunited with its root. Furthermore, it may be a message sent to remind a man of a task, a task he was born to carry out."

—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.

BEIT TEFILAH ISRAELI RECEIVES ITS FIRST SEFER TORAH By Esteban Gottfried

Recently Beit Tefilah Israeli celebrated the welcoming of its first Sefer Torah, donated by the Comunidad Bet El from Buenos Aires, marking a significant milestone in the development of our congregation. Thrilled and excited about the effect it could have on our community life, we dedicated our Beit Midrash to coping with the meaning of having our own Torah, and designed a genuine, powerful and emotionally charged ceremony.

It started at the beach. Two hundred people gathered, including present and past Bet El members, friends from Nigun Halev, Kol Haneshama, and other sister communities, and the Argentinean Ambassador to Israel. After a guided meditation and chants, the Shofar signaled the start of the procession through the streets of Tel Aviv with the musicians of Beit Tefilah Israeli.

Arriving at the hotel where we gathered, Shlomo Gronich, a well-known Israeli composer, welcomed us with two beautiful songs he created especially for this ceremony, while the Sefer was passed from hand to hand among the 200 celebrants – many with tears in their eyes.

The service included passages from Bialik, Heschel, and the Israeli Declaration of Independence. We received the Torah under a Chuppah, chanting adaptations of the traditional seven wedding blessings, symbolizing Beit Tefilah Israeli's new commitment. We prayed, sang, danced with the Torah, and chanted Shehecheyanu together.

For me, receiving the Torah from Bet El, the community in which I grew up, had a special and profound meaning, linking the past, present and future.

May this Torah accompany us in our spiritual growth, in study and in action, as a community and as individuals.

Esteban Gottfried is a co-founder of Beit Tefilah Israeli, a sister community with whom we will celebrate Shabbat on BJ's trip to Israel this summer

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