



## RABBIS

Marshall T. Meyer (1985-1993)  
J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

## CANTOR &amp; MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ari Priven

## MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS

Rabbi Dara Frimmer • Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt • Brent Chaim Spodek • Chen Ben Or Tsfofi

May 11 - 18, 2007

23 Iyar - 1 Sivan, 5767

## BEHAR-BEHUKOTAI

MEVARKHIM HAHODESH

TORAH Leviticus 25:1 - 27:34

TRIENNIAL Leviticus 27:1 - 27:34

HAFTARAH Jeremiah 16:19 - 17:4

NEXT WEEK: BEMIDBAR

TORAH Numbers 1:1 - 4:20

TRIENNIAL Numbers 3:14 - 4:20

HAFTARAH Hosea 2:1 - 22

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

Sign Up Now to Give the Gift of Life!

BJ/SPSA Blood Drive

Tuesday, May 29 • 4:00-9:00PM • 88th St.

Give the gift of life at the upcoming Blood Drive. This donation doesn't depend on your bank account and is the greatest mitzvah of them all! We are blessed to perform this mitzvah in partnership with our friends at the Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew.

Help us to keep our attendance high, so that BJ can remain a donation site for the New York Blood Center! Sign up early and ask a friend or colleague to do so too.

Make an appointment for a particular donation time by emailing TrudiL531@aol.com or calling x373. Either Sharon Messitte or Trudi Levine will call you back to confirm. For info about who can donate and how to eat right in the days before the blood drive, see [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).

"For the blood is the life" (Deuteronomy 12:23)

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

## FRIDAY, MAY 11

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM – 88th St.

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

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 39 (Netzah Shebeyesod)

## SATURDAY, MAY 12

Shabbat Services 9:30 AM – 86th St.

Children's Services 10:45 AM – 86th St. Parlor and Chapel

Naming Shira Elisheva Kirschner

Community Kiddush Following Services – 86th St. Social Hall

Ledor Vador Shabbat Luncheon Following Services – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)

Limud: Study With

Dr. Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg\* 5:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall (SEE P.2)

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 40 (Hod Shebeyesod)

## SUNDAY, MAY 13

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 41 (Yesod Shebeyesod)

## MONDAY, MAY 14

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 88th St.

Limud: Introduction to Judaism\* 7:00 PM – BJ Office

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 42 (Malkhut Shebeyesod)

## TUESDAY, MAY 15

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

Limud: Gems of Genesis\* 8:10 AM – 88th St.

Limud: Tzedakah and Gemilut Hasadim\* 7:00 PM – 86th St. Chapel

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

Screening of *Encounter Point* 7:00 PM – 88th St (SEE P.2)

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 43 (Hesed Shebemalkhut)

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

Kesharim 2:00 PM – 88th St.

Limud: On The Path To Shavuot\* 7:00 PM – 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 44 (Gevurah Shebemalkhut)

## THURSDAY, MAY 17

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

Women's Rosh Hodesh Group 7:00 PM – 88th St. (SEE P.2)

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter 7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 45 (Tiferet Shebemalkhut)

## FRIDAY, MAY 18

## ROSH HODESH SIVAN

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.

■ OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 46 (Netzah Shebemalkhut)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HA-MAKOM YENAHEM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Leonard Brauner and Beth Moritz and their entire family on the death of their beloved father and father-in-law, Jack Brauner.

### MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Deborah and Lowell Kirschner on the naming of their daughter, Shira Elisheva.

- Harriet and Marc Suvall on receiving this year's American Jewish Committee Service Award.

### TODAH RABBAH

- This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by the Kirschner and Cantor families in honor of the naming of Shira Elisheva.
- To Marcia Annenberg for her Pesah seder hospitality.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- **19th Annual Renee Kaufman Memorial Lecture: Screening of the Award-Winning Documentary *Encounter Point***  
**Tuesday, May 15, 7:00PM, 88th St.:** In memory of Renee Kaufman, Norman Kaufman and his family welcome the screening of *Encounter Point*, followed by a discussion with the movie's creator, Ronit Avni. *Encounter Point* is about a former Israeli settler, a Palestinian ex-prisoner, a bereaved Israeli mother and a wounded Palestinian bereaved brother who risk their lives and public standing to promote a nonviolent end to the conflict. The film explores what drives them and thousands of other like-minded civilians to overcome anger and grief and work for grassroots solutions—a film about the everyday leaders in our midst. Cost: Free, registration not required.

- **Bikkur Holim Teaching: "The Meaning and Method of Bikkur Holim: Insights for Today from a 16th C. Manual"**  
**Tuesday, May 31, 7:30PM, 88th St.:** Join Bikkur Holim Committee members for a teaching with Rabbi Simkha Weintraub, LCSW, Rabbinic Director of the JBFC/S/ New York Jewish Healing Center. Free, registration required. To register, contact the BJ Bikkur Holim phone line at x308 with your name and telephone number.

- **Tikkun Leil Shavuot at BJ: "Whose Torah Is It Anyway? The Search for Individual and Communal Meaning"**  
**Tuesday, May 22, 9:00PM–midnight, 88th St.** (following Shavuot services at 8:30PM): An exciting evening of Torah study with Rabbis Ebn Leader and Or Rose and students from the Hebrew College Rabbinical School in Boston. The learning will focus on the relationship between the individual interpreter and the Jewish community in classical Jewish sources. Through an examination of various rabbinic and mystical texts, we will explore questions about the nature of revelation, the authority of the Hebrew Bible and other classical texts, and the creative power and limits of the interpreter. Followed by all-night study with the BJ rabbis.

For her Mitzvah Project, Beth L. Weinsbank, who will become a Bat Mitzvah on May 19, is collecting teddy bears to help soothe the children of Israel who have been traumatized by war, violence and abuse. She is working with Bears from Bergenfield to collect 180 and more. If you are able to, please bring a small bear (from five to nine inches) of any color to services on Shabbat morning, May 19.

## UPCOMING LIMUD

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

### CLASSES IN PROGRESS:

- **On The Path To Shavuot: Opening The Heart Through Song**  
Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon  
**4 Wednesdays (remaining class May 16)** • 7:00–8:15PM • 88th St. Frankel Hall • Cost: Free, registration required. As spiritual preparation to receive the Torah on Shavuot, we will learn texts as well as piyutim (liturgical poems) and verses from the book of Psalms set to melodies from different parts of the Jewish dispersion.
- **Jewish Practice Skills Workshop: Tzedakah and Gemilut Hasadim**  
Marshall T. Meyer Fellows Rabbi Dara Frimmer and Brent Chaim Spodek  
**2 Tuesdays (remaining class May 15)** • 7:00–8:30PM • 86th St. Chapel  
• Cost: Free, registration required. What is tzedakah? In what manner are we expected to give? How much? How often? To whom? And what about giving of ourselves beyond money? This class will explore the nature of giving based on our Jewish textual tradition and the practices of our modern Jewish community.

### UPCOMING CLASSES:

- **Teacher in Residence Shabbat: Dr. Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg In Memory of BJ Member Ceil Merritt z"l**  
**Lecture: The Pit & the Rope: Joseph and Judah**  
**Saturday, May 12** • 5:00PM • 86th Street Social Hall  
Cost: Free; registration not required.  
**Dr. Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg** holds a B.A. and Ph.D. in English Literature from Cambridge University. She has developed an original approach to the learning of Torah, weaving literary, psychological, and philosophical elements into her reading of the Biblical and Midrashic narrative. Dr. Zornberg lectures widely and is the author of two books: *Genesis: The Beginning of Desire* (JPS), which won the National Jewish Book Award in 1995, and *The Particulars of Rapture: Reflections on Exodus* (Doubleday).
- **Women's Rosh Hodesh Group for Sivan**  
Rabbis Dara Frimmer and Lauren Holtzblatt  
**Thursday, May 17** • 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

• **Register Now to join BJ in the AIDS Walk!**  
**Sunday, May 20, 9:00AM–12:00PM:** Join BJ and our sister congregation Tehillah of Riverdale for AIDS Walk New York 2007. This is BJ's 15th year in this annual event that raises money for HIV/AIDS organizations—let's show our spirit and commitment in a major way! Register now and start raising money from family, friends and neighbors! You can register online at [www.aidswalk.net/newyork](http://www.aidswalk.net/newyork) under the team name "Congregation B'nai Jeshurun/Tehillah" (Team #1017). For more info contact BJ team leader Ellen Corenswet, [ecorenswe@cov.com](mailto:ecorenswe@cov.com) or call Guy at x259. We will contact you to tell you where the BJ/Tehillah Team will meet.

• **The Bread Runners: Heroes for Our Time!**

A heartfelt thank you to Hillel and Jonathan Dershowitz, who for six years have served our community by picking up bread donated by Zabar's, every Tuesday night, and bringing it to BJ for the Judith Bernstein Lunch Program. Needed: a new volunteer to make the bread run and help feed our hungry neighbors. Please contact Susan Samuels, [ssamuels@aol.com](mailto:ssamuels@aol.com), x338.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• **BJ Hebrew School Prospective Parents Night**  
**Wednesday, May 16, 7:00PM:** Join at BJ's offices in the Ansonia Building to learn about our after-school Hebrew School program. Please RSVP to [bjhs@bj.org](mailto:bjhs@bj.org)

• **Junior Congregation**

**Saturday, May 19, 10:30AM:** We're 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!

## TZE'IRIM: 205/305

• **Last Limmud Salon Before Summer**  
**Wednesday, May 16, 7:30–9:30PM:** As we count the final week of the Omer and prepare to celebrate receiving the Torah anew on Shavuot, join us for a little spiritual preparation at the next Tze'irim Limmud (Learning) salon. Led by our very own Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt, we'll spend the evening looking at some midrashim on Revelation and the gift of Torah, and sharing some kavannot for the upcoming holiday. Please RSVP to [tzlimmud@yahoo.com](mailto:tzlimmud@yahoo.com) for more details and the meeting address.

• **First-ever Eco-Shabbat Potlucks**

**Friday, May 18, following the 6:00PM service:** Guests are asked to bring eco-friendly dishes made with local and/or organic ingredients. Register online at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) and click on Tze'irim. Space is limited!

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

**Monday, May 28, 6:00PM:** No cooking experience is necessary, and the cost of groceries will be split between all the volunteers (about \$8-10/person). Please RSVP to Susan and Rebekah at [tzvolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:tzvolunteers@yahoo.com). The next cooking date will be June 25.

• **Hosting Shabbat Dinners in 2007**

You do not need a large apartment, just the desire to open your home to a few fellow Jews. All you provide are the paper plates/utensils; your guests bring the rest. The Tze'irim Shabbat committee even helps with setup and cleanup! Email [Shabbatwithoutchairs@yahoo.com](mailto:Shabbatwithoutchairs@yahoo.com) to register.

## LEDOR VADOR

• **Ledor Vador Shabbat Luncheon: Teens in Action**  
**Saturday, May 12, following Shabbat morning services, 88th Street Frankel Hall:** BJ's teen program is based around the concepts of building Jewish identity, social action and experiential education. Join us as students share photos, stories and challenges from two of this year's programs—the 8th and 9th grade program with JFSJ in Louisiana and the 10-12th grade program with AJWS in Mexico. Alums of last year's program in El Salvador will also be in attendance. Please RSVP at x334, leaving the names of those who will be attending. Register online or send a check for \$15/member or \$18/non-member with "Ledor Vador 5/12" on the memo line. Children under 18 are welcome to attend free of charge.

## BJ BOOK CLUB

• **Allegra Goodman's *Intuition***  
**Monday, June 3, 7:00PM, 88th St. Frankel Hall:** Join us for a reading of Allegra Goodman's *Intuition* a modern epic, a suspenseful version of a 19th-century classic, a narrative about large social forces, and a novel of many strands in which ethnicity, economics, science, love and passion are all part of the tableau.

## AFFILIATES

• **Pharaoh's Daughter Record Release Party! "Haran"**  
**Monday, May 14, 8:00PM, Highline Ballroom, 431 W. 16th Street, between 9th & 10th Avenues:** Mystical and Kabbalistic texts with psychedelic, Middle Eastern and African-inspired new melodies. \$25 (free CD with concert ticket purchase). Tickets available at [www.highlineballroom.com](http://www.highlineballroom.com) (through the calendar) or through [www.pharaohsdaughter.com](http://www.pharaohsdaughter.com). Basya Schechter of Pharaoh's Daughter is a BJ Shabbat musician.

• **Join us at the Soaringwords 5K Walk/Run on the BJ team in honor of Denyse Dolny z"l**

**Tuesday, May 15, 5:30–8:30PM, Riverside Park at 96th Street:** Invite your friends, family and colleagues. Pray with your feet. Win amazing prizes (free airfare). Enjoy great kosher food, a beautiful summer's night, music and laughter. 100% of your donations will benefit Soaringwords Hospital Outreach programs at Beth Israel Hospital, NYU Medical Center, and the Children's Hospital of New Orleans. Register at [www.active.com/donate/soaringwords5K/BJ](http://www.active.com/donate/soaringwords5K/BJ)

• **"East of the River" (Daphna Mor and Nina Stern) CD Release Party**  
**Sunday, May 20, 9:30PM, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater:** Join Mor (a BJ Shabbat musician) and Stern as they perform traditional music of the Balkans and Armenia and dances of Medieval Italy in celebration of the release of their new CD, "East of the River." The duo collaborate on this CD with leading jazz and world music musicians including virtuoso bassist Omer Avital, Yo Yo Ma's "Silk Road Ensemble" percussionist Shane Shanahan, accordionist/composer Uri Sharlin, and special guest Basya Schechter of Pharaoh's Daughter. Tickets: \$15.

## 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 7:30PM 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.*

**"God's relation to man is not an indiscriminate outpouring of goodness, oblivious to the condition and merit of the recipient, but an intimate accessibility, manifesting itself in His sensitive and manifold reactions."**  
—*The Prophets*

**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.

## 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.*

*Elizabeth Langer and Richard Chused spent a sabbatical in Jerusalem from September 2004 through February 2005. A photo exhibit is on display in Frankel Hall, 88th Street. This is the second in a series, chronicling their life in Israel.*

### JERUSALEM DIARY 3: OCTOBER, 2004

Dear Family and Friends,

Last week there was a suicide bombing three blocks north of our apartment on French Hill. There was a very loud bang, then sirens.

There are many noises in Jerusalem, and after a few weeks here, we had grown accustomed to them. Because we live close to Hadassah Hospital, the noise of ambulance sirens in the street below is familiar. Several weeks ago, we heard the Israeli National Opera perform arias outdoors at the Machane Yehuda market. During the performance, there was a loud explosion and a great flash of light in the sky. A fireworks extravaganza in honor of the performance. But last Wednesday the bang was much louder. Less than two minutes later, I heard sirens—many sirens. In a few more minutes, Israeli television had sketchy details of the bombing. I called Richard, who had walked to his Hebrew University office, to check on him. We were safe. Not so for the two Israeli soldiers, age 19 and 20, who caught and began to disarm the 18 year old suicide bomber as she detonated the explosives.

News reports emphasized this event, not as a failure of security, but as an achievement—only two fatalities, both soldiers. The bomber had detonated the explosives outside, only after having been apprehended by boarder security. Her apparent plan was to board a public bus first, and then set off the bomb. The force of the explosives is known to be far greater in an enclosed area.

Immediately after the bombing, there were phone calls from friends in Israel and a few emails from the U.S. Then, remarkably, there was no mention of the bombing here. Not at the French Hill Hyatt Regency health club on Thursday morning, not at the Shabbat dinner with friends preceding the Kol Nidre service, not at Yom Kippur services at Ramot Zion, not at the break fast with French Hill neighbors Saturday evening. When we finally asked members of our French Hill shul why no one had mentioned the incident, we were told that it was part of life here. A deeply regrettable loss of life, a risk one takes in living here and not too different from an automobile accident. Not something generally talked about. What is there to say?

L'hitraot and Shalom,

Elizabeth and Richard

*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