

**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 • Rabbi Brent Chaim Spodek • Chen Ben Or Tsfonti

May 18-25, 2007

1-8 Sivan, 5767

**BEMIDBAR****TORAH** Numbers 1:1 - 4:20**TRIENNIAL** Numbers 3:14 - 4:20**HAFTARAH** Hosea 2:1 - 22NEXT WEEK: **NASO****TORAH** Numbers 4:21 - 7:89**TRIENNIAL** Numbers 7:1 - 7:89**HAFTARAH** Judges 13:2 - 25

### 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.

New this year—everyone who comes will be automatically entered in a raffle featuring special prizes including a copy of *Diaspora*, Frederic Brenner's stunning photographs of Jews around the world.

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 18**

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:00 PM – 88th St.

B'nai Mitzvah '06-'07 Class Family Dinner

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

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:30 PM – 88th St.

■ **OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 46 (Netzah Shebemalkhut)****SATURDAY, MAY 19**

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

Bat Mitzvah

Beth L. Weinsbank

Bar Mitzvah

Joshua A. Wetzler

■ **OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 47 (Hod Shebemalkhut)****SUNDAY, MAY 20**

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM – 88th St.

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

■ **OMER COUNT: Tonight begins DAY 48 (Yesod Shebemalkhut)****MONDAY, MAY 21**

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 49 (Malkhut Shebemalkhut)****TUESDAY, MAY 22**

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

*Limud: Gems of Genesis\**

No class this week

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

Shavuot Evening Service

followed by Tikkun Leil Shavuot:

8:30 PM–Midnight – 88th St. Sanctuary

Midnight–5:30 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

(SEE P.2)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 23**

BJ OFFICE CLOSED

Sunrise Services

5:30 AM – 88th St.

Morning Services

10:00 AM – 88th St.

Children's Services

11:15 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

Community Picnic (*weather permitting*)

1:00 PM – Riverside Park

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

Shavuot Second Evening Service

9:00 PM – 88th St.

**THURSDAY, MAY 24**

BJHS CLOSED • BJ OFFICE CLOSED

Morning Services (Yizkor)

9:30 AM – 88th St.

Children's Services

10:45 AM – 88th St. Frankel Hall

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program

Cancelled this week

*Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a\**

No class this week

BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

7:00 PM – 86th St. Social Hall

**FRIDAY, MAY 25**

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM – 88th St.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HA-MAKOM YENAHEM

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

- David, Sam, and Anna Blum and Terri Minsky on the death of their beloved father, grandfather, and father-in-law, Albert Blum.
- Eric Schlagman on the death of his beloved mother, Phyllis Schlagman.

### MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Beth, Richard and Charles Weinshank and Karel Littman on Beth becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Joshua, Scott and Graciela Wetzler on Joshua becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Alexander, Mitchell, Jason and Rebecca Winter and Lisa Kassel on Alexander becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

### B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Sisterhood of Congregation Emanu-El, Wichita, Kansas.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### • 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.

### • 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/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.

### • Contemplative Practice: Making Room for Quiet

**Friday, June 1**, 6:00PM, 86th Street: Join us for a special Contemplative service and potluck dinner. The davening will include chanting, kavanot and silence. **SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, June 24**, 11:00AM, meet at the Park entrance at 85th St. and Central Park West: Join us for a silent nature walk in Central Park. For additional information and to join the Contemplative email list, please contact Naomi Goodhart at [ngoodhart@bj.org](mailto:ngoodhart@bj.org).

### • SAVE THE DATE: BJ Annual Meeting

**Thursday, June 7**, 6:00 or 7:00PM, 88th St.: Celebrate our achievements and meet other congregants, our new Rabbinic Fellows, and Board members... hear about the theme for this year's Yamim Nora'im... and learn about an exciting real estate prospect for BJ! The formal meeting will begin at **7:00PM** to elect new members to BJ's Board of Trustees but, in a new format, we will begin informally from **6:00–7:00PM** so as to provide an opportunity for socializing as well as deepening your involvement in our exciting programs and projects for next year. During this first hour, BJ committee chairs, membership representatives, trip participants, and members of the newly formed Creating Community Steering Committee will be available. For more information, contact [dpinsky@bj.org](mailto:dpinsky@bj.org)

For her Mitzvah Project, Beth L. Weinshank, 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.

## SHAVUOT SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### TUESDAY, MAY 22

#### Erev Shavuot

Evening Service followed by Tikkun Leil Shavuot:

8:30PM – midnight . . . . .88th St. Sanctuary

midnight – 5:30AM . . . . .88th St. Frankel Hall

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

#### First Day Shavuot

Sunrise Services, 88th St. Sanctuary . . . . .5:30AM

Morning Services, 88th St. Sanctuary . . . . .10:00AM

Children's Services, 88th St. Frankel Hall . . . . .11:15AM

Community Picnic,

Riverside Park (weather permitting) . . . . .1:00PM

#### Second Evening Shavuot

Evening Service, 88th St. . . . .9:00PM

### THURSDAY, MAY 24

#### Second Day Shavuot

Morning Services (includes Yizkor), 88th St. . . .9:30AM

Children's Services, 88th St. Frankel Hall . . . .10:45AM

**SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE**

• **Environmental Action Hevra presents GreenTip #1: Ask the experts for an energy audit of your home**  
A home energy audit, which your utility provider may do free of charge, will tell you the amount of power your household consumes and what you can do to make your home more energy-efficient. The average American releases 50,000 lbs. of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year, and most of it comes from our homes—an energy audit can help a family cut 1,000 lbs. of it each year. Learn what you can do and find lists of home auditors at [www.hometuneup.com](http://www.hometuneup.com), [www.time.com/laudit](http://www.time.com/laudit), and [www.powerisinyourhands.org](http://www.powerisinyourhands.org). This is one time you might actually want to be audited!

• **Stonewall Seder featuring Lisa Kron!**  
**Sunday, June 17, 5:00–8:30PM, 88th Street:** Register now for this ritual celebration of GLBT pride, a unique evening of sacred activism. Featuring special guest, playwright and actor Lisa Kron. Brought to you by BJ's Marriage Equality Hevra. The evening will feature a kosher dinner with choice of fish or vegetarian entrée. Cost: \$35 members, \$40 non-members, limited number of reduced rate tickets available. Register online at [bj.org/stonewall\\_seder\\_061707.php](http://bj.org/stonewall_seder_061707.php), or call Barbara Fonseca in the BJ office, x250.

**YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION**

• **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!

• **Shavuot Children's Services**  
There will be children's services for the first and second days of Shavuot. On **Wednesday, May 23**, services begin at 11:15AM and on **Thursday, May 24** they begin at 10:45AM. Both services will take place in Frankel Hall. On the first day of Shavuot it is our tradition to make baskets of fruits and flowers to donate to the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter. **Please bring your own baskets (or bags) and fruit and BJ will provide the flowers.** Contact Rebecca Rosenthal at [rrosenthal@bj.org](mailto:rrosenthal@bj.org) with questions.

**TZE'IRIM: 20S/30S**

• **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.

• **Tze'irim Goes Hiking**  
**Sunday, June 3, time TBA:** Join Tze'irim members on a full-day hike on the Hudson Highlands Breakneck Ridge Loop. It will be an 8 mile, 6-hour hike with some steep climbs and beautiful scenery. This hike is challenging, so please be in good shape. RSVP to Mark at [greeny800@hotmail.com](mailto:greeny800@hotmail.com).

• **End-of-Year Shabbat Celebration**  
**Friday, June 22,** following the 7:00PM service: Join us at SPSA for another night of Shabbat celebration with 20s and 30s. Sign-ups for appetizers, drinks and desserts will be available on the web. Last month's dinner welcomed 150. Save the date and join us in June!

**BJ BOOK CLUB**

• **Allegra Goodman's Intuition**  
**Sunday, 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. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to [dsdresner@aol.com](mailto:dsdresner@aol.com).

**AFFILIATES**

• **"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 collaborates 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.

• **Hazzan Dr. Ramón Tasat In Concert**  
**Sunday, May 20, 7:00PM, Congregation Ansche Chesed, 251 W.100th Street at West End Avenue:** Come to a wonderful evening with renowned vocalist and leading performer of Sephardic music Hazzan Dr. Ramon Tasat as he presents a rich tapestry of songs from the Mediterranean and Middle East. Also featuring virtuoso musical ensemble Fiesta Sefarad (flute, percussion, mandolin, guitar, and piano), Hazzan Natasha J. Hirschhorn, and the Shirei Chesed Community Chorus. Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Children under 13 free. Online ticket sales at [ramontasat.eventbrite.com](http://ramontasat.eventbrite.com). To purchase tickets by phone, call 212-865-0600, x202.

**TekiYah—Echoes of the High Holy Days at BJ**

Celebrate the Yamim Nora'im with the beautiful and profound music of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This CD features our cantor and rabbis and a cast of acclaimed instrumentalists and singers praying and singing and engaging our hearts. The CD and congbok are \$18.00 each (price does not include shipping and handling). Available at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org) (click on "BJ CDs & Songbooks").

## 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 4: ABSORPTION

Dear Family and Friends,

Shortly after our arrival, we were told to report to the Absorption Officer at Hebrew University. "Absorption?" I had an image of paper towels and thought it had to be a joke. No, absorption is a very serious undertaking. Israel has an Absorption Ministry, and so does Hebrew University. Sheila Boofy's entire job description consisted of welcoming new faculty members and facilitating their entry into Jerusalem and the University community. She inquired about our apartment and our needs, explained the procedures for obtaining cable TV and internet service. She reviewed security procedures at the University and introduced us to Meiersdorf, the Faculty Club. She recommended shops, explained parking procedures and offered assistance in locating a suitable synagogue. Our final gift from Sheila was the most useful book we received during our stay—a very scarce copy of the local Yellow pages in English. (Until my arrival in Jerusalem, I had no idea how difficult it was to navigate a Hebrew phone book.)

Our welcome to Israel went far beyond our most optimistic expectations. On our first visit to the Hebrew University Law Faculty, the Assistant Dean spent the better portion of the afternoon helping us with the myriad details of settling in. She went so far as to give us all three of her phone numbers—office, cell and home—with the stern and loving command: "Call me any time of the day or night—just remember I am Orthodox, and I don't answer the phone on Shabbat."

After several hours of orientation, the Dean of the Law Faculty came by to say hello. Soon, at least half a dozen faculty members crowded into the small office to greet us. Their delight was evident. Never have we felt so appreciated and well cared for. We later learned that, since the Second Intifada, very few American academics had come to teach at Hebrew University. The faculty was well aware of the bad "press" the suicide bombings had received in the United States and abroad. They called us "brave" for coming to Israel, and they showered us with attention. Many lunch and dinner invitations ensued, and, despite the significantly lower faculty salaries in Israel, not one of them ever allowed us to pick up, or even share, a restaurant check.

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