



CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN

RABBIS:

J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

CANTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS:

Rabbi Brent Chaim Spodek • Chen Ben Or Tsfofi • Esther Lederman

קול ישורון KOL JESHURUN

VAYISHLAH

TORAH: ANNUAL Genesis 32:4 - 36:43

TRIENNIAL Genesis 32:4 - 33:20

HAFTARAH Ovadiah 1-1:21

NEXT WEEK: **VAYESHEV**

TORAH: ANNUAL Genesis 37:1 - 40:23

TRIENNIAL Genesis 37:1 - 37:36

HAFTARAH Amos 2:6 - 3:8

November 23 - 30, 2007

13 - 20 Kislev, 5768

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

BJ OFFICE CLOSED

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

5:45 PM - 88th St.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:15 PM - 88th St.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Shabbat Services

9:30 AM - 86th St.

Children's Services

10:45 AM - 86th St. Chapel and Parlor

Naming

Aidan Lee Weinberger

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM - 88th St.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: Introduction to Judaism*

7:00 PM - BJ Office

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: The Book of Genesis*

8:10 AM - 88th St.

Limud: Learning the Liturgy*

7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

Limud: Heschel's Heavenly Torah*

6:30 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY

• Hanukkah: A Festival of Eternal Lights

Environmental Expo and Dedication of Solar-Powered Ner Tamid

Monday, December 10, 7:00-9:00PM, 88th Street: Join us as we rededicate the Ner Tamid, a true Eternal Light powered by the sun, recalling the Hanukkah miracle of the sacred oil that lasted for eight days and symbolizing BJ's commitment to environmental sustainability through the Greening BJ initiative (www.bj.org/green). The festivities will include Hanukkah candle-lighting, latkes, music, activities for children, and door prizes. The Expo will feature numerous exhibits by organizations and companies promoting sustainable energy and other environment-friendly practices and products to help us all live greener lives. The event is free of charge and open to all. RSVP: Please contact BJGreenHevra@yahoo.com to let us know you are coming. For more information, call x259.

• Donate New: Warm Socks, Scarves and Gloves!

Every year the Judith Bernstein Lunch Program provides our guests with a lovely holiday gift bag. We are asking for your much needed help in providing NEW warm men's and women's hats, scarves, gloves, and socks. Please bring your contributions to the BJ office or to a special collection box at services before December 17. Questions? Please contact Susan Samuels at ssamuels@aol.com.

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

Announcements

HA-MAKOM YENAHM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to Leslie Cooper and her family on the death of her beloved aunt, Stella Miller.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Debra Weinberger on the naming of her daughter, Aidan Lee Weinberger.

- Mike, Christina and Billy Gantcher on the birth of their son and brother, Benjamin Thomas Gantcher.
- Bob Gruenspecht on his recent engagement to Dr. Carla Lewis.
- Karel Littman, who has been awarded the Legion of Honor Award of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains by the nation's U.S. Marine Corps League for her service to the community and interfaith work.
- Jerry Goldfeder on the publication of his new book, *Goldfeder's Modern Election Law*.

Community Activities

• Friday Night Off-Broadway: Shabbat at BJ

Friday, December 7, following the late service, 88th Street: Gather with old and new friends as we celebrate Hanukkah and Shabbat together! The BJ Shabbat Onegs are designed to create a welcoming community for all, taking us on a journey through the powerful beauty of Shabbat with traditional rituals, live music, joyous dancing, singing and light food. As the Sanctuary fills with the sounds of Shabbat and Hanukkah melodies, played by Basya Schechter with the popular Jewish band Pharaoh's Daughter, an intimate and sacred time and space is created.

• Sulha Peace Project

Wednesday, December 12, 7:00-8:30PM, 88th Street: Help us support the grassroots spiritual activism in Israel/Palestine by attending the showing of a short Sulha movie, followed by questions and answers and live music. Facilitated by Gabriel Meyer, Sulha Peace Project co-founding director, and Senegalese Sufi Sheik Fara Gaye, Sulha Spirit holder who was present at Sulha's private audience with HH Dalai Lama in Dharamasala, India, 2005. Cost: \$20 at the door, with all proceeds going to Sulha Peace Project.

• Community Shabbat Dinner with Hazzan Ari Priven

Friday, December 14, following the early service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join the B'nai Jeshurun community and Hazzan Ari Priven for a harmonious,

rythmically charged Shabbat dinner. Registration is first-come, first-served. To register for Shabbat dinner, please contact Yael at x255.

• Introducing Services Match—you don't have to attend BJ alone!

If you plan to attend Friday night services for the first time or just want to get re-acquainted with BJ, we will pair you up with a BJ member. He or she will meet you before services and guide you through BJ's one-of-a-kind experience. To request a "Service Match," contact bj servicematch@yahoo.com and include 1. the date you plan to attend and whether you prefer the early or late service, 2. your contact information, and 3. a short description of yourself.

• BJ Israel Trip, June 11-22, 2008: Celebrating Israel at 60 through Social Action and Social Justice

Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and members of the BJ community as we celebrate Israel at 60! Explore the social justice issues in Israel associated with poverty, minority populations, the divide between the religious and secular, the environment, and more! Discover what justice means, meet the people who pursue these goals, hear the voices in the field and engage in both study and direct service opportunities in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Make the commitment to help Israel reach its dream in the next 60 years and beyond! **For registration materials, please contact Ivy Schreiber at ischreiber@bj.org or x225.**

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

• Abraham Joshua Heschel's *Heavenly Torah*

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

7 Wednesdays (remaining classes November 28, December 5) • 6:30-8:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required. We resume our study of Rabbi Heschel's gigantic work on rabbinic thought in observance of his centennial year. *Heavenly Torah* explores the polarity in Judaism between transcendence and immanence, and between mysticism and rationalism. Please bring the book to class; no photocopies will be distributed. New participants are welcome.

• A MONTHLY LUNCHTIME ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Engendering Judaism: What Is At Stake?

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

6 Wednesdays (remaining classes December 5, January 9, February 6, March 5, April 2) • 12:15-1:15PM • BJ Office • Free; registration required. Meet monthly to discuss Dr. Rachel Adler's book *Engendering Judaism*, which raises the deep questions of what it means to sustain and create a Judaism that is alive, relevant and inclusive for both men and women, while acknowledging the complicated reality of the "tradition" which is patriarchal at its essence and yet what we've received over thousands of years.

• Learning The Liturgy: Feeling At Home With The Siddur

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

4 Tuesdays (November 27, December 4, 11, 18) • 7:00-8:30PM • 88th Street • Free; registration required. This class will explore the basic history of the compilation of the siddur, the structure of the liturgy and the rhythm of our davenning in order to help students unlock a deeper prayer experience because they will feel more at home with the siddur and its liturgy. The class will focus primarily on the Shabbat liturgy. The two middle classes will take place during Hanukkah and the Hanukkah will be lit in class.

• Rosh Hodesh Women's Group for Tevet

Facilitated by Rabbi Felicia L. Sol and Marshall T. Meyer Fellow Chen Ben Or Tsfofi

Monday, December 10 • 6:15PM • 86th Street Chapel • 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. In honor of Hanukkah and the lighting of our new solar-powered Ner Tamid, we will join with BJ's Environmental Action Hevra at "Hanukkah: A Festival of Eternal Lights" at 7:15PM.

Creating Kehillah

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

▪ Panim el Panim Community Conversations: A Gathering for Action

So far, we have had 8 house meetings attended by 74 members of the BJ community. We have learned about Panim el Panim together, shared our stories, and talked about vital issues affecting us, our neighbors, and our city. We would like to thank all of the hosts of the house meetings that have made this exciting process possible by opening their homes and providing the welcoming space for BJ's Community Conversations. And last but not least, we would like to thank the leaders of Panim el Panim who have given countless hours to arranging, planning, and facilitating the house meetings this month. Keep an eye out for more updates in December as we conduct the last 10 house meetings. For more info, contact conversation@bj.org or x432. *Hosts (as of November 19):* Valerie and Mark Gerstein, Larry and Eileen Butler, Jessica Feder and Alan Mantel, Susan and Larry Chinitz, Jennifer Sokoler and Jeffrey Siegel, Lisa Zucker, Sandi Borger and Alejandro Lacreu, Harriet Goren, Beth and Jonathan Kern, and Claire Hertz. *Facilitators (as of November 19):* Ben Ross, Rochelle Friedlich, Jenny Eisenberg, Amy Lavine, Carol Schiffman-Durham, Judith Trachtenberg, Susan Olderman, Marlene Halpern, Joan Westreich, Linda Golding, Channa Camins.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

▪ 7th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, November 30, following the 5:45PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join 7th Grade B'nai Mitzvah families for Shabbat dinner following the early Kabbalat Shabbat service. RSVP to Theresa at twilliams@bj.org or x260.

▪ Junior Congregation

Saturday, December 1, 10:30AM, 86th Street Social Hall: We are looking for leaders and participants for our next Shabbat morning Junior Congregation. You can sign up on www.bj.org—click on "Families" and then on the date that you want to lead. If you have questions, or would like help learning to lead a prayer, contact Rebecca Rosenthal at rrosenthal@bj.org or x243.

▪ Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah Learning Programs

Saturday, December 1, 9:30-10:30AM, 86th Street Chapel: All 6th grade students (and their parents) who will become Bar/Bat Mitzvah at BJ are invited to join Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein to study about the choreography of the Torah service. Contact Ivy at ischreiber@bj.org or x225.

Sunday, December 2, 4:00-6:00PM, 88th Street: Join Rabbi Roly Matalon, Ivy Schreiber, and other 5th grade B'nai Mitzvah students and their parents for an afternoon of learning about the B'nai Mitzvah journey. Contact Ivy at ischreiber@bj.org or x225.

▪ Family Hanukkah Party

Tuesday, December 4, 4:00-6:00PM, 88th Street: Join us for an environmentally friendly Hanukkah party for school-aged children. We will have a scavenger hunt, do crafts and light the candles for the first night of Hanukkah. Price of admission is: plastic grocery bags, brown paper grocery bags, old magazines and empty soup cans to help us be environmentally friendly! Contact Rebecca at rrosenthal@bj.org or x243 with questions or to RSVP.

▪ Hanukkah PJs and Havdalah

Saturday, December 8, 5:00-6:00PM, 86th Street Social Hall: Families with young children are invited to join us for some singing, candle lighting and havdalah—all in your pajamas! Contact Rebecca at rrosenthal@bj.org or x243 with questions.

▪ Kids' Purim Play Auditions, Rehearsal and Lunch

Sunday, January 6, 11:00AM, 88th Street: we invite everyone who wants to participate in the play to join us for an entire cast rehearsal to kick things off!

Followed by lunch and auditions. Please email Michael at kelberg@aol.com and include "Subject: Purim" for full details.

▪ Kids' Purim Play: Looking for Stage Manager

We are looking for someone to help stage manage the show. Prefer a 10th grader or older who has participated in past shows. A small stipend is available for your commitment. Contact Michael at kelberg@aol.com with your interest and a brief explanation as to why you would make a great stage manager!

▪ Kids' Purim Play: Looking for Parents

If you have vocal, sound, costume or set skills we are looking to line up some extra hands to help during rehearsals. We also need a few parents to help us with our younger cast members and to coordinate lunches for Sunday. If you are interested in any of these areas, please email Michael at kelberg@aol.com.

TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s

▪ Cooking for the BJ/SPSA Homeless Shelter

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

▪ Chanukah Chanagan at The Parlour

Tuesday, December 4, 8:00-10:00PM, The Parlour, 86th Street between Broadway and West End Ave.: Open bar featuring wine, beer, soda and special Hanukkah treats. Bring your friends, order your "gin and tonicah" and celebrate Hanukkah at Tze'irim's favorite local hangout. Cost: \$20 at the door.

▪ Tze'irim Limud Salon: When is Everyday Life Like Torah?

Wednesday, December 19, 7:00PM: The inaugural session of the 2007-2008 Tze'irim Limud Salon series, taught by Matthew Blumberg, will focus on several methods of interpreting Judaism's sacred texts. Then we will discuss ways of applying them to everyday activities, feelings, and thoughts. RSVP to tzlimud@yahoo.com and you will receive a confirmation email with the event location.

HAVUROT

▪ Havurah 40Plus Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, November 30, 7:40PM, Upper West Side: The 40+ Havurah is a group of men and women, single and married, established to promote sharing of friendship, social activities, spirituality and Jewish religious events. It is intended to provide an opportunity to meet, network and connect with like-minded individuals to create the spirit of havurah encouraged by BJ. To sign up and for location information, contact havura40plus@yosefa.galchen.com.

BJ BOOK CLUB

▪ BJ Book Club and Literary Havurah

Saturday, December 8, 2:00PM, RSVP for location: We will meet to discuss Philip Roth's controversial novel *Everyman*. Please RSVP to zsucharney@verizon.net or dsdresner@aol.com for location.

AFFILIATES

▪ "Eight Tales for Eight Nights"

Sunday, December 9, 2:00PM, AISH NY, 313 West 83rd Street (between West End and Riverside): BJ member Peninnah Schram will be presenting a storytelling program, "Eight Tales for Eight Nights: Stories for Chanukah." Tickets: \$18 per family/\$8. per adult. Peninnah will sign her folktale books and CD after the performance. Registration: nraphael@aish.com or 646-456-8881.

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 please 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.

"We are the harp, and David is playing."

—*I Asked for Wonder*

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.

Nigun HaLev Celebrates Bar Mitzvah with Torah Donated by BJ

Dear Congregation B'nai Jeshurun,

On Shabbat my son, Gahl, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at Nigun HaLev. My husband Doron and I want to personally thank all of you for Nigun HaLev's Torah. Gahl was honored to be the first Bar Mitzvah boy to use the new Torah! Doron and I also studied up and learned to read the Torah and chanted a part of the weekly Torah portion. The event was truly a wonderful Simcha. Nigun HaLev in Nahalal was filled to capacity as friends and family from throughout Israel joined us for the celebration. Our guests from all sides of the religious spectrum—from staunch secularists to my ultra-Orthodox sister—all loved Nigun HaLev's unique style and the wonderful atmosphere. After the service an enthused family friend from Tel Aviv said, "I didn't know that Judaism could be like this!"

As a Nigun HaLev board member, I thought I knew the congregation well, but I was surprised by the outpouring of communal spirit and the endless help from Nigun HaLev members who organized and baked for the Kiddush and helped set up and clean up after the event. I was especially proud of the Nigun HaLev Bar Mitzvah graduates who also took part in reading the Shabbat Torah portion.

Thank you once again for enabling us to make Nigun HaLev, with its unique style of Israeli Jewish tradition, an established part of the Jezreel Valley.

Thank you.

Nancy Porat

The "Focus on Israel" column is edited by Robin Fleischner, a Vice President of BJ's Board of Trustees and Co-Chair of BJ's Israel Steering Committee.