



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

TETZAVEH

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 27:20 - 30:10

TRIENNIAL Exodus 27:20 - 28:30

HAFTARAH Ezekiel 43:10-27

NEXT WEEK: KI TISSA

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 30:11 - 34:35

TRIENNIAL Exodus 30:11 - 31:17

HAFTARAH I Kings 18:20-39

! SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY

• Intro 104—Electronics Recycling Bill Passes City Council

The bill passed on Wednesday, February 13. Yasher Koah to the Environmental Action Hevra, which has worked hard to support the bill together with Natural Resources Defense Council. The bill compels electronics manufacturers to take responsibility for highly toxic e-waste by improving their programs for collection and recycling of used appliances from consumers. Mayor Bloomberg has threatened a veto of this bill, so stay tuned for further action!

February 15-22, 2008

9-16 Adar I, 5768

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Community Shabbat Dinner

5:45 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary
Following 5:45PM Service -
88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.2)

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:15 PM - 88th St.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Shabbat Services
Junior Congregation
Children's Services

9:30 AM - 86th St.
10:30 AM - 86th St. Social Hall
10:45 AM - 86th St. Chapel and Parlor

Ledor Vador Shabbat Luncheon

Following Services - 88th St. Frankel Hall
(SEE P.2)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Morning Minyan

9:30 AM - 88th St.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

BJ OFFICE CLOSED • BJHS CLOSED

Morning Minyan
Limud: Introduction to Judaism*

President's Day

9:30 AM - 88th St.
No class this week

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Morning Minyan
Limud: The Book of Genesis*

7:30 AM - 88th St.
8:10 AM - 88th St.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Morning Minyan

7:30 AM - 88th St.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

BJHS CLOSED

Morning Minyan
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program
Limud: The Rabbinic Mind/Revelation at Sinai*
Limud: Introduction to Christianity*
Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a*

7:30 AM - 88th St.
12:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall
12:30 PM - BJ Office (SEE P.3)
7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.3)
7:00 PM - BJ Office

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Morning Minyan
Frankel Fridays

7:30 AM - 88th St.
10:30 AM - 88th St. Frankel Hall

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

Announcements

HA-MAKOM YENAHM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our beloved member Sheila Dekel, and extends sincere condolences to her family and all her loved ones.

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

- Jimena Martinez and Michael, Amalia, and Gabriel Hirschhorn on the death of Jimena's beloved father, Edgardo Martinez.
- Lisa, Steven, Alex, and Teddy Owen on the death of Lisa's beloved father, Richard Mednick.

Community Activities

Community Shabbat Dinner

Friday, February 15, after the early service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Registration for this Shabbat dinner is now closed. Please join us at our next Shabbat B'Yahad dinner on March 14 with scholar-in-residence Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller.

BJ/SAJ Contemplative Practice Meditation Service at the SAJ

Friday, February 29, 6:30PM, Society for the Advancement of Judaism (SAJ), 15 West 86 Street (between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue): Welcome Shabbat with a mixture of contemplative meditation, niggun, singing, and a little bit of liturgy and kavannot. Services will be led by Rabbis Michael Strassfeld and Marcelo Bronstein. Potluck dinner to follow (A-L bring a main dish, M-Z bring an appetizer, side dish salad or dessert). Contact Naomi at ngoodhart@bj.org or x240.

It's not too late to register! BJ's Summer Israel Trip, June 12-22, 2008: Celebrating Israel at 60 through Social Action and Social Justice

Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and BJ community members to explore the Israeli social justice issues of pluralism, civil rights, grassroots coexistence, the environment, immigration, poverty, labor and more! Hear from expert voices in the field, and engage in study and direct service opportunities. Celebrate Israel at 60 with BJ and explore the dreams and challenges of Israel's future. **Registration deadline has been extended to March 1, and significant scholarships are available.** Contact Ivy at ischreiber@bj.org or x225 for more info.

Third Annual Concert: The Music of the BJ Musicians

Saturday, March 8, 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 and seniors, available at the door.

Save the Date: Bikkur Holim Training

Wednesday, March 12, 7:30PM, 88th Street: Please join us to learn more about the mitzvah of Bikkur Holim (visiting the sick). Rabbi Mychal B.

Creating Kehillah

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

SAVE THE DATE: Join BJ in the AIDS Walk!

Sunday, May 18, 9:00AM-12:00PM, Central Park: Join BJ for AIDS Walk New York 2008. This is BJ's fifteenth year in this annual event that raises money for the Gay Men's Health Crisis and over fifty other HIV/AIDS organizations—let's show our spirit and commitment this year in a major way.

SAVE THE DATE: BJ/SPSA Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 28, 4:00-9:00PM, 88th Street: Mark your calendars to donate blood at the next BJ/SPSA Blood Drive. Give the gift of life. This donation doesn't depend on your bank account and is the greatest mitzvah of them all!

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Woodlands Community Temple members, White Plains, New York.
- Rabbi Richard Rheins and congregants, Temple Sinai, Denver, Colorado.
- Debbie Zvibleman and Confirmation Class, Temple Shalom, Naples, Florida.

Springer, Chaplain, Associate Dean of the Rabbinic School at JTS, will lead us in an exploration, training and study that takes us to the heart of this powerful experience for the visitor, the recipient and for each one of us as a member of this kehilla kedosha. Open to the entire BJ community.

Annual Interfaith Lecture: Bonhoeffer Documentary with Guest Filmmaker Martin Doblmeier

Thursday, March 13, 6:30-9:00PM, 88th Street: The Interfaith Committee invites you to a special viewing of the feature-length documentary Bonhoeffer featuring a conversation with the filmmaker. As a young German Christian pastor and theologian who studied for one year at Union Theological Seminary in the 1930's, Dietrich Bonhoeffer played an important role in the opposition of the Nazi regime. He was among those who called for wider church resistance to treatment of the Jews in Germany during World War II. He joined the movement to overthrow the regime, was captured and died at the hands of the Nazis in 1945. Filmmaker Martin Doblmeier's documentary tells this dramatic story, presenting archival and family film footage and photographs, as well as interviews with some of Bonhoeffer's former students and family members. Admission free; please register at x379.

Volunteers Needed for Bikkur Holim (Visiting the Sick)

Participate with us in reaching out to members of our BJ community who are ill or incapacitated and members who may be alone, elderly, or frail. If you can make a phone call, then you can do this great mitzvah! Contact the BH Committee voicemail at x308 to get involved.

Community Kiddush Sponsorship

Have an occasion to celebrate? Make it extra special and sponsor a BJ Community Kiddush! We would love to have a Kiddush on as many Shabbatot as possible. Kiddush sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2nd and 4th Shabbat of every month through the middle of June, 2008. There are sponsorship options to fit every budget from coffee, tea and cake to a full luncheon. Please contact Yael at yhammerman@bj.org or x255 for more info and to make Kiddush arrangements.

For more information on how you can be involved in planning the two events listed at left, please contact Channa Camins at ccamins@bj.org or x261.

Shabbat Luncheon—An Inter-generational Perspective on the Environment: Living a Green Life

Saturday, February 16, following Shabbat morning services, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Ledor Vador in collaboration with the Environmental Action Hevra invites you to join us for a special Shabbat luncheon. Susan Bodnar, Vivian Yale, Les Judd, Rob Daley, Ronen Schatsky and other BJ members will share personal stories and insights about being green. Please R.S.V.P. at x334,

(continued on page 3)

Creating Kehillah (continued from page 2)

leaving the names of those attending, and send a check for \$15/members or \$18/non-members with "Ledor Vador 2/16" on the memo line. Children under 18, free of charge.

YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

Frankel Fridays

Friday, February 15, 10:30-11:30AM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Families with babies and toddlers are invited to join us at an informal playgroup on the second and fourth Friday of the month. Bring some toys to share and we will provide a light breakfast and wonderful company. Remaining dates for 2008 are February 22, March 14 and 28, April 11 and May 9. Contact Rebecca Rosenthal, rrosenthal@bj.org for more information.

Junior Congregation

Saturday, February 16, 10:30AM, 86th Street Social Hall: We hope all children in second to seventh grades will join us at our next Shabbat morning Junior Congregation. We are also looking for leaders and participants for Junior Congregation. You can sign up at 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.

TZE'IRIM: 20s/30s

I And Tao: Martin Buber's Encounter With Eastern Thought

Wednesday, March 12, 7:30PM, home of Tze'irim member, R.S.V.P. for location: Few of us know that ten years before he wrote *I and Thou*, the Existentialist Jewish philosopher Martin Buber was translating Taoist texts into German. In this single-session seminar, Rabbi Andrew Hahn, the Kirtan Rabbi, will lead us through an exploration of the connection between Buber's relational philosophy and body-based, non-dualistic meditative practices. The evening will consist of text study as well as offer opportunities for low-impact movement, including gentle (and fun) partner-work. Please wear light clothing. Contact tzlimud@yahoo.com to R.S.V.P.

BJ BOOK CLUB

BJ Book Club/Havurah

Saturday, March 1, 2:00PM: Please join us for a continuing discussion of the great Russian/Jewish 20th century writer Isaac Babel, and to read "The Odessa Stories" in *The Complete Works of Isaac Babel*, edited by N. Babel with an introduction by Cynthia Ozick. Please contact dsdresner@aol.com or zscharney@verizon.net for details.

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

The Rabbinic Mind and the Revelation at Sinai

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

6 Thursdays (remaining classes February 14, 21, 28) • 12:30-1:45PM • BJ Office • Free; registration required. Beginning with a close read of the biblical story, we will take a step-by-step look at three different midrashic texts on the revelation on Mount Sinai: Pirke deRabbi Eliezer, Mekhilta deRabbi Ishmael and Exodus Rabbah. No Hebrew reading necessary.

Second Annual Stuart Polly Interfaith Study: Introduction to Christianity

Hal Taussig, Visiting Scholar

4 Thursdays (remaining classes February 21, 28) • 7:00-9:00PM • 88th Street • Free; registration required. Study the history of the beginnings of the Christian movement, including the Christian New Testament and other historical documents. It is offered without charge thanks to a grant in memory of Dr. Stuart Polly z"l given by his widow, Carole Polly.

Women in the Palace and the Synagogue

Chen Ben Or Tsfoni, Marshall T. Meyer Fellow

4 Tuesdays (February 26, March 4, 11, 18) • 7:00-8:30PM • 88th Street Sanctuary • Free; registration required • Code: 805. The Book of Esther is one of the few times in the Bible when a woman is featured as the central character. In this class we will read the Esther through a woman's eyes and examine women's roles. What is Esther's "dance"? Who is Vashti? And what does the Talmud say about them? This class is for women and men.

Ad-de-lo-yada*: Preparing for Purim through Study and Song

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

4 Wednesdays (February 27, March 5, 12, 19) • 6:30-8:00PM • 88th Street Frankel Hall • Free; registration required • Code: 834. "When all the other festivals will be abolished [in Messianic times], Purim will remain." (*Midrash Mishle* 9:2). We will get ready for Purim by studying midrashim and other classical texts, as well as the customs and music related to this most intriguing, irreverent and liberating of our holidays.

*until we can no longer distinguish

A MONTHLY LUNCHTIME ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Engendering Judaism: What Is At Stake?

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

6 Wednesdays (remaining classes 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.

Teacher-in-Residence Shabbat: March 14-15

Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

Rabbi Seidler-Feller has worked as Director at UCLA Hillel for over 25 years. He is a lecturer in the Sociology Department at UCLA, an instructor in Kabbalah and Talmud at the University of Judaism, a Fellow of the Shalom Hartman Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, and a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Wilstein Institute for Social Policy. He was ordained at Yeshiva University, where he also earned a Masters Degree in Rabbinic Literature.

Friday, March 14 • Following the 6:00PM service • 88th Street Frankel Hall: Shabbat B'Yahad dinner. Registration information to come.

Saturday, March 15 • During Shabbat morning services • 86th Street and 4:30PM • 88th St. Sanctuary • Free; registration not required.

Opening The Gateway of Prayer

Danny Mond

Sunday and Wednesday (March 23 and 26) • Sunday: 1:00-6:30PM; Wednesday, 6:30-9:30PM • 88th Street • \$50members/\$60 non-members. Do you ever feel "locked out" of the prayer service because you lack the Hebrew skills to participate? Come take your first steps into the Gates of Prayer in a two session-long Hebrew marathon. Students will start from ground zero and learn everything they need to read any part of the siddur (the Jewish prayer book)! Danny Mond, a Jerusalem Fellow and master teacher, has spent years developing courses to teach absolute beginners how to read Hebrew, and beginning Hebrew-readers how to understand the prayer book. Space is limited to 20 students. Members will be given priority. Register now to guarantee your spot. Registration will close March 14. To register, call x233.

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:** You've attended services, you're inspired by social action, and you love the community... now consider joining BJ as a member! With membership packages for local and out-of-town visitors alike, there is one that is right for you. Special new member orientation included! Visit the BJ website, www.bj.org, or contact Belinda Lasky, Director of Membership at x224 or blasky@bj.org for more information.

• **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.

Green Tip: GET OFF JUNK MAIL LISTS

Besides being annoying, the environmental impact of junk mail is enormous. According to the most recent annual statistics, over 100 billion pieces—41 pounds to every adult—of junk mail were sent. More than 75 million trees were cut and 40 billion gallons of water were consumed to produce it. Nearly half goes unread directly into the garbage, and almost all of it ends up in landfills. Americans spend over \$275 million a year to dispose of junk mail. The environmental impact of ceaseless advertising of consumer products is both physical and spiritual. This wasteful junk mail is polluting our mental environment also. You can relieve the annoyance and strike a blow for the environment by getting off junk-mail lists. Here are a few resources to make it easy: New American Dream (www.newdream.org/junkmail/), Catalog Choice (www.catalogchoice.org), Privacy Rights Clearing House (www.privacyrights.org/fs/fs4-junk.htm), Center for Development of Recycling (recyclestuff.org/JunkMail.asp).

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.

Snapshot of Jerusalem, 1972

By Joanne Palmer

In Israel in the summer of 1972 most boundaries seemed permeable, especially if you were young.

Rich Moline was there for the first time. He was one of those hardcore Jewish kids, in Israel on Ramah Seminar, about to be elected United Synagogue Youth international president, and he was to grow up to direct Koach, United Synagogue's program for college students.

It was Shabbat in Jerusalem, and the kids were encouraged to break into small groups to daven in one of the city's exuberance of minyanim.

As they walked, they passed the president of Israel's official residence and they saw men carrying tallis bags walk through the gates. "I'm going to daven with the president," Rich said.

Most of the group walked on, but he and two friends went over to the guardhouse, asked about the minyan in what he says now was "teenage broken Hebrew," and were waved on in.

The girl in the group was sent off behind a mehitza—some boundaries remained—but the boys were motioned to seats. Then everyone stood, and Zalman Shazar walked in.

The Israeli president sat next to the hazzan, who always made sure he was finished before moving on, and it was Shazar who distributed the honors. When it was time for hagba President Shazar pointed to Rich, who might have been "nervous and shaking" but managed not to drop the Torah.

At the kiddush, Shazar talked to everyone in the room, playing Jewish geography with the Ramahniks. ("You're from Chicago?" he asked Rich. "Do you know my friend Rabbi Hecht?")

It was late when the kids left—one rule was that no one could leave until after Shazar was ready to go—but they left with a story and a sense of infinite possibilities.

As always, in loving memory of Shira Palmer-Sherman.

Joanne Palmer works for United Synagogue, where she edits *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*.

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.

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR MORE INFO: Welcome to BJ • Membership at BJ • Membership Packets • BJ Annual Catalogue • Bikkur Holim

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