



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

PEKUDEI

SHABBAT SHEKALIM

ROSH HODESH

TORAH: ANNUAL Exodus 38:21 - 40:38

TRIENNIAL Exodus 38:21 - 39:21

SECOND SCROLL Numbers 28:9-15

MAFTIR Exodus 30:11-16

HAFTARAH II Kings 12:1-17

NEXT WEEK: **VAYIKRA**

SHABBAT ZAKHOR

TORAH: ANNUAL Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26

TRIENNIAL Leviticus 1:1 - 2:16

MAFTIR Deuteronomy 25:17-19

HAFTARAH I Samuel 15:2-34

SERVICE TIMES CHANGE ON MARCH 14

Kabbalat Shabbat Service:

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME!

Beginning **Friday, March 14**, 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

• **No—you can't get married, you're straight.**

It's hard to imagine anyone actually saying that to you. However, thousands of LGBT couples in New York State hear that every day.

Tuesday, April 29: Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and members of the Marriage Equality Hevra in Albany as we lobby the Senate in support of Marriage Equality. Add your name to the list of BJ members who believe that same-sex couples in New York State deserve the right to marry. Add your name to the list of BJ members who believe that our core Jewish values compel us to support the right of same-sex couples to marry in New York State. Help us keep the pressure on. Please email Amy Lavine at amylavine@nyc.rr.com or Marlene Halpern at jacobhw@msn.com or call Guy Austrian at the BJ office at x259 and say you'll come to Albany on April 29.

March 7-14, 2008

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Wandering Minyan

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Friday Night Off-Broadway: Oneg Shabbat with AGADA (Dan Nadel's Trio) and Audrey Babcock

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Shabbat Services

Naming

Bar Mitzvah

Bat Mitzvah

Children's Services

Concert: The Music of the BJ Musicians

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

Morning Minyan

MONDAY, MARCH 10

Morning Minyan

Limud: Introduction to Judaism*

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

Morning Minyan

Limud: The Book of Genesis*

Limud: Women in the Palace and the Synagogue*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Morning Minyan

Limud: Ad-delo-yada: Preparing for Purim*

Opening Our Hearts: Bikkur Holim

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Morning Minyan

Judith Bernstein Lunch Program

Annual Interfaith Lecture: Bonhoeffer

Limud: Parashat HaShavu'a*

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Morning Minyan

Frankel Fridays Pre-Purim Celebration

30 Adar I-7 Adar II, 5768

ROSH HODESH ADAR II

5:45 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

5:45 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall

7:15 PM - 88th St. Sanctuary

Following 7:15 PM Service - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

ROSH HODESH ADAR II

9:30 AM - 86th St.

Sarah Mila Begun

Jonah Eastzer

Samantha Lubliner

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

8:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

Daylight Saving Time begins

9:30 AM - 88th St.

7:30 AM - 88th St.

7:00 PM - BJ Office

7:30 AM - 88th St.

8:10 AM - 88th St.

7:00 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.3)

7:30 AM - 88th St.

6:30 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)

7:30 PM - 88th St. (SEE P.2)

7:30 AM - 88th St.

12:00 PM - 88th St. Frankel Hall

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

7:00 PM - BJ Office

7:30 AM - 88th St.

10:30 AM - 88th St. Frankel Hall (SEE P.3)

* 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 the following members and their families:

- Virginia Bayer and Robert Hirt on the death of Virginia's beloved mother, Molly Jeane Bayer.
- Sasha Frank on the death of her beloved brother, Alan Ira Frank.
- Jeffrey, Hilah, Evan and David Krasner and their loved ones on the death of their mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Sonya Krasner.

MAZAL TOV

To the following members and their families:

- Samantha Lubliner and Ilene Marcus on Samantha becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

- Jonah and David Eastzer and Susan Hyman on Jonah becoming a Bar Mitzvah.
- Daniel and Caren Begun on the naming of their daughter, Sarah Mila.
- Marshall T. Meyer Fellow Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt and Ari Holtzblatt, and Marjory Thomas, on the birth of their daughter and granddaughter, Noa Sasha Blu Holtzblatt.
- Layla Horan and George Herzog on their recent wedding.

B'RUKHIM HABA-IM

- Rabbi Shoshana Nyer and Bess Wohlner and Confirmation and Post-Confirmation Classes, Temple B'nai Shalom, Fairfax Station, Virginia.
- Cantor David Rosen and lay leaders, Beth Radom Congregation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Community Activities

Friday Night Off-Broadway: Shabbat at BJ

Friday, March 7, following the 7:15PM service, 88th Street: Gather with old and new friends to celebrate Shabbat! 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, intimate and sacred time and space are created. AGADA (Dan Nadel's trio) and Audrey Babcock will perform. Feel free to bring wine to share.

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.

Opening Our Hearts to Others in Times of Illness and Struggle: Bikkur Holim, the Jewish Response

Wednesday, March 12, 7:30PM, 88th Street: Please join us to learn how the Bikkur Holim mitzvah of visiting the sick affirms that "Nothing is more whole than a broken heart." Rabbi Mychal B. Springer, Chaplain and Associate Dean of Jewish Theological Seminary together with Rabbi Pamela Wax, Spiritual Care Coordinator of Westchester Jewish Community Services, will lead us in an exploration, study and training that will take us to the heart of this powerful experience for the visitor, for the recipient and for each one of us as a member of this kehilla kedosha. The evening is open to the entire community with break-out training and sharing groups appropriate for those new to Bikkur Holim as well as experienced Bikkur Holim volunteers. Please R.S.V.P. by Sunday, March 9 to bikkurholim@bj.org or x308.

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 with archival and family film footage as well as interviews with some of Bonhoeffer's former students and family members. Admission free; please register at x379.

Shabbat B'Yahad Dinner with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

Friday, March 14, following the 6:00PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Please join the BJ community and Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller for Shabbat dinner. Rabbi Seidler-Feller will teach at the dinner. Cost: \$40 members/\$45 non-members. To register, please visit www.bj.org or contact Yael at x255. Registration will close on Tuesday, March 11.

Purim Celebration at BJ

Thursday, March 20, 7:15PM service, 88th Street: Join the BJ community for an unforgettable reading of the Megillah! Count on dancing, DJ, delicious food and drinks. Come one, come all—in costume and dancing shoes! It happens only once a year, don't miss out!

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 at bikkurholim@bj.org or x308 to get involved.

Service Match

If you plan to attend Friday night services and would like someone to help walk you through the service, we are happy to pair you with a BJ member. He or she will meet you before the service and guide you through BJ's one-of-a-kind experience. To request a "Service Match," contact bj servicematch@yahoo.com with the date you plan to attend, whether you prefer the early or late service, and your contact information. We look forward to getting to know you!

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 in a major way. **For more information on how you can be involved in planning this event, please contact Channa Camins at ccamins@bj.org or x261.**

Social Justice Brunch and Text Study

Sunday, March 23, 10:30AM-12:00PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Following morning minyan, join us for bagels, lox, and a class with dynamic guest teacher, Rabbi Or N. Rose. Rabbi Rose is Associate Dean of the Rabbinical School at Hebrew College, and co-editor of the new anthology, *Righteous Indignation: A Jewish Call for Justice*.

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YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

• Junior Congregation

Saturday, March 15, 10:30AM, 86th Street Social Hall: We hope all children in second to seventh grade will join us at our next Shabbat morning Junior Congregation. We are also looking for leaders and participants. 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 rosenthal@bj.org or x243. In addition to March 15, we have added a bonus Junior Congregation on March 29.

• Purim Festivities for Families

There are many exciting activities for families in celebration of Purim.

Friday, March 14, 10:30-11:00AM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join Frankel Fridays and the youngest members of our community for a pre-Purim celebration with music, art and some hamentashen.

Sunday, March 16, beginning at 12:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Second annual Purim Carnival and World Famous Purim Play. Come in costume, play games, win prizes and watch the play, which starts at approximately 1:45PM.

Thursday, March 20, 5:45PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: All families are invited. More information: Rebecca Rosenthal at rosenthal@bj.org or x243.

• 2nd Grade Families Cooking for the Shelter

Tuesday, March 11, 5:00-6:30PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: ALL of BJ's second graders, no matter where they receive their Jewish education, are invited to prepare a meal for the guests of the shelter. Please contact March coordinator Lisa Zucker at lzucker@nyc.rr.com to R.S.V.P.

• 5th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Dinner

Friday, March 14, following the 6:00PM service, 86th Street Social Hall: Join all 5th Grade Bnai Mitzvah students and their families for Shabbat dinner. R.S.V.P. to Theresa Williams at twilliams@bj.org or x260.

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: 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. Contact tzlimmud@yahoo.com to R.S.V.P.

• Shabbat Without Chairs Potluck Dinner

Friday, March 14: This dinner will be home-hosted in a few locations. To R.S.V.P., contact Shabbatwithoutchairs@yahoo.com with (1) your name and (2) your birthday with year no later than Wednesday, March 12.

BEKEF: 35+

• Havdalah, Wine and Cheese

Saturday, March 29, 6:30 PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Join other 35+ singles for wine, cheese and Havdalah. Please bring your favorite wine and "good spirits" to share with old and new friends. BJ musicians Basya Schecter and Matt Turk will share their music and join us for singing and Havdalah as Shabbat turns into the new week. Please R.S.V.P. to bekef@bj.org by Monday, March 24. BJ members and non-members are welcome.

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

• Women in the Palace and the Synagogue

Chen Ben Or Tsfofi, Marshall T. Meyer Fellow

4 Tuesdays (remaining classes March 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-delo-yada*: Preparing for Purim through Study and Song

Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon

4 Wednesdays (remaining classes March 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

• Teacher-in-Residence Shabbat: March 14-15

Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller has worked as Director at UCLA Hillel for over twenty-five 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. Rabbi Seidler-Feller will speak at Shabbat morning services on March 15 and also offer two lectures:

Friday, March 14, Shabbat B'Yahad dinner, following the 6:00PM service, 88th Street Frankel Hall: "God may not be great and neither are you—a response to Christopher Hitchens on why we need religion today"

Saturday, March 15, 4:30PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: "The victory of mysticism and magic over rationalism and reason in contemporary Jewish life"

Shabbat B'Yahad dinner: \$40 members/\$45 non-members. To register, please visit www.bj.org or contact Yael at x255. Registration will close on Tuesday, March 11. Saturday afternoon lecture: free, no registration 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.

• A MONTHLY LUNCHTIME ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Engendering Judaism: What Is At Stake?

Rabbi Felicia L. Sol

7 Wednesdays (remaining classes April 2, May 7) • 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.

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.

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.

Ha'Ulpan – A Hebrew Lesson

Film Review by Robin Fleischner

David Ofek and Ron Rotem's beautiful documentary, *Ha'Ulpan (A Hebrew Lesson)*, portrays the diversity of Israeli society through the stories of students in an ulpan, a Hebrew language immersion class. By turns funny and sad, the film chronicles the often painful experiences of outsiders in Israel and offers a unique view of Israel through the eyes of outsiders. Chin begins her life in Israel as a maid for a wealthy Tel Aviv resident, Ehud, marries her boss, and struggles to bring her daughter from China to live with them. Dong Dong, a filmmaker from China, films a heart-rending documentary about the deportation of an illegal Chinese worker who makes terrible sacrifices to send funds back home so that his daughters can gain access to a better life. Anabel, a German national, and her boyfriend, Yoav, fight about her refusal to convert to Judaism, a key to full acceptance in Israel. Marisol, a dynamo from Peru, becomes pregnant and is jilted by her Israeli soldier boyfriend. Sasha follows his young daughter from Russia to Israel and frustratingly fights in Israel's courts to establish paternity and gain visitation rights in the face of her mother's refusal to permit him access. Drawing these students together is their dynamic teacher, Yoela, herself an immigrant from Iraq, whose passionate teaching and compassion for her students' struggles form the heart of the ulpan as a worthy, but imperfect model for multiculturalism and absorption into Israeli society.

Ha'Ulpan opened the 2008 New York Jewish Film Festival and was featured at the JCC in Manhattan's Nonstop Israel festival. It was co-produced by David Ofek, Elinor Kowarsky, and Ron Rotem.

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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.